
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Piney Parish



The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2020

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Officiant From the small to the great,
and from the great to the small,
sing to God, for God has done marvelous things.

All Let the electrons circle their nuclei,
Let the earth spin on its axis,

Officiant Let the moons orbit the planets,
All **Let the planets orbit the Sun,**

Officiant Let the Sun spiral in its galaxy,
All **Let the galaxies revolve around their Creator,
Together for joy!**

Officiant From the small to the great, and from the great to the small,
sing to God, for God has done marvelous things.

PRAYER FOR PURITY

Officiant Let us pray.

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

vv. 1,3

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of Love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother;
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Author of creation: In wisdom you brought forth all that is, to participate in your divine being, and to change, adapt, and grow in freedom. You make holy the matter and energy of the universe that it may delight you and give you praise. We thank you for gathering all creation into your heart by the energy of your Spirit and bringing it through death to resurrection glory; through the One in whom all things have their being, Jesus Christ, your Wisdom and your Word. **Amen.**

YOUNG DISCIPLES MOMENT

Isaac is Born

Don't you know? Haven't you heard?
 Wasn't it announced to you from the beginning?
 Haven't you understood since the earth was founded?
 God inhabits the earth's horizon—
 its inhabitants are like locusts—
 stretches out the skies like a curtain
 and spreads it out like a tent for dwelling.
 God makes dignitaries useless
 and the earth's judges into nothing.
 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
 scarcely is their shoot rooted in the earth
 when God breathes on them, and they dry up;
 the windstorm carries them off like straw.
 So to whom will you compare me,
 and who is my equal? says the holy one.
 Look up at the sky and consider:
 Who created these?
 The one who brings out their attendants one by one,
 summoning each of them by name.
 Because of God's great strength
 and mighty power, not one is missing.
 Why do you say, Jacob,
 and declare, Israel,
 "My way is hidden from the LORD,
 my God ignores my predicament"?
 Don't you know? Haven't you heard?
 The LORD is the everlasting God,
 the creator of the ends of the earth.
 He doesn't grow tired or weary.
 His understanding is beyond human reach,

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM *Psalm 98:1-3*

(in unison)

- ¹ **Sing a new song to God,*
Who has done marvelous things.**
- ² **With your right hand, O God, and your holy arm,*
you have won for yourself the victory.**
- ³ **You have made known your victory; *
your righteousness have you openly shown in
the sight of the nations.**

THE GOSPEL

John 3:16-17

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Maria Kane

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Officiant Let us affirm our faith in the Triune God: The One who was, and is, and is to come.

All **You, O God, are supreme and holy.**

You create our world and give us life.

Your purpose overarches everything we do.

You have always been with us.

You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.

You came to us before we came to you.

You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again.

You are with us now.

You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.

You empower us to be your gospel in the world.

You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We worship you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Troy Pettersen

Officiant

Caring God, we thank you for your gifts in creation:

for our world,

the heavens tell of your glory;

for our land, its beauty and its resources,

for the rich heritage we enjoy.

We pray:

for those who make decisions about the resources of the earth,

that we may use your gifts responsibly;

for those who work on the land and sea, in city and in industry,

that all may enjoy the fruits of their labors and marvel at your creation;

for artists, scientists and visionaries,

that through their work we may see creation afresh.

Silence

We thank you for giving us life;

for all who enrich our experience.

We pray:

for all who are deprived of fulness of life,
for prisoners, refugees, and those who are sick;
for those in politics, medical science, social and relief work, and for your Church,
for all who seek to bring life to others.

Silence

We thank you that you have called us to celebrate your creation.

Give us reverence for life in your world.

We thank you for your redeeming love;
may your word strengthen us to love as you love us.

Silence

God, Creator, bring us new life.

Jesus, Redeemer, renew us.

Holy Spirit, strengthen and guide us.

(Please add your intercessions and thanksgivings, silently or aloud.)

The Officiant will add a concluding collect.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant As Christ teaches us, we pray:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you.
We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation:
teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.
We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life.
We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control.
We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection.
Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

PRAYER FOR A BIRTHDAY

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants *she/he/they* begin another year. Grant that *she/he/they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his/her/their* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her/their* life(ves); through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ANNIVERSARY

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

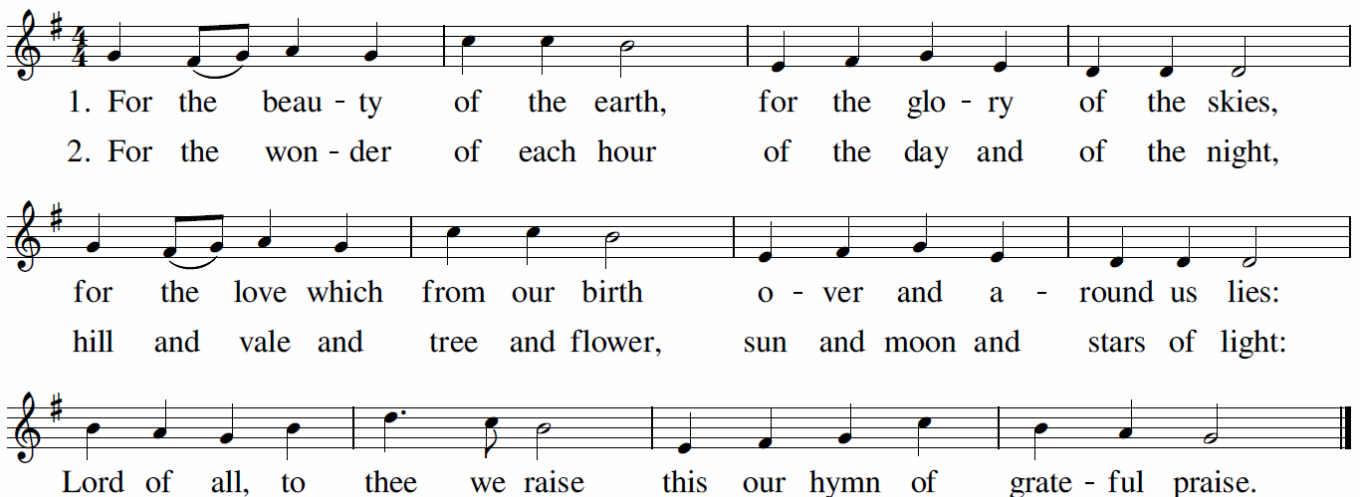
PRAYER FOR STEWARDSHIP

Officiant During this time in which we cannot gather to celebrate the great sacrament of Holy Communion, let us offer our selves, souls, and bodies to God in this prayer for spiritual communion.

All Creator God, life is your gift to us. Through Baptism you invite each of us to share the gift of life in service to others. Hear our prayers as we strive to be good stewards. Open the minds and hearts of the people of our parish so that we may accept your challenge to use all our gifts in service to You and in communion with one another to build your Kingdom on earth. Make us keenly aware of all the blessings of our rich lives. Help us to be good stewards of our time by putting prayer first in our lives. Help us to be good stewards of our talent by putting ourselves at the service of each other. Help us to be good stewards of our treasure by sharing our financial means to build up our Church and aid those in need. Make your love the foundation of our lives. May our love for you express itself through our eagerness to use our time, our talent and our treasure to serve You, your Church and one another. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth



1. For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2. For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Household Prayer: Morning

On this new day, O God, I thank you for clean air that fills my lungs, for water to drink and stream over the rocks, for light that creates life and shines on my path, for soil that grows fruits and vegetables, fashions hills and valleys, and makes homes for creatures in burrows and trees. Let me see Earth today with gratitude and feast my senses on its beauty; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

As this day is ending and I lie down to sleep, gracious God, I thank you for this day. I am mindful of the work I have done, the tasks I have not yet accomplished, the moments of blessing between me and those with whom I shared some hours, the joys of friendship and family, and all the hopes I have for tomorrow. Give me good sleep and keep me safe; in Jesus' name. Amen.

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