**Grace Episcopal Church**

**Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Sunday, October 18, 2020**

**PRELUDE Holy, Holy, Holy *J. B. Dykes***

**Morning Prayer II**

**Hymn 423 Immortal, Invisible *St. Denio***

**Opening Sentence (BCP p. 78)**

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. ***John 4:23***

**The Invitatory and Psalter**

**Versicle (BCP p. 80)**

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| Officiant | Lord, open our lips. |
| People | And our mouth shall proclaim your praise. |

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

**Antiphon (BCP p. 80)**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.

**INVITATORY (BCP p. 82)**

**Jubilate Psalm 100**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise; \*

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;

his mercy is everlasting; \*

and his faithfullness endures from age to age.

**Psalm: Psalm 99**

1The Lord is King;  
 let the people tremble. \*  
  He is enthroned upon the cherubim;  
  let the earth shake.  
 2The Lord is great in Zion; \*  
  he is high above all peoples.  
 3Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*  
  he is the Holy One.  
 4“O mighty King, lover of justice,  
 you have established equity; \*  
  you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”  
 5Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God  
 and fall down before his footstool; \*  
  he is the Holy One.  
 6Moses and Aaron among his priests,  
 and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*  
  they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.  
 7He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*  
  they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.  
 8O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; \*  
  you were a God who forgave them,  
  yet punished them for their evil deeds.  
 9Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God  
 and worship him upon his holy hill; \*  
  for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**The Lessons**

**First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7**

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

1Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
  whose right hand I have grasped  
 to subdue nations before him  
  and strip kings of their robes,  
 to open doors before him—  
  and the gates shall not be closed:  
 2“I will go before you  
  and level the mountains,  
 I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
  and cut through the bars of iron,  
 3I will give you the treasures of darkness  
  and riches hidden in secret places,  
 so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,  
  the God of Israel, who call you by your name.  
 4For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
  and Israel my chosen,  
 I call you by your name,  
  I surname you, though you do not know me.  
 5I am the Lord, and there is no other;  
  besides me there is no god.  
  I arm you, though you do not know me,  
 6so that they may know, from the rising of the sun  
  and from the west, that there is no one besides me;  
  I am the Lord, and there is no other.  
 7I form light and create darkness,  
  I make weal and create woe;  
  I the Lord do all these things.”

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| Reader | Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. |
| People | Thanks be to God. |

**FIRST CANTICLE (BCP p. 85)**

Canticle 13: A Song of Praise (SUNG) R. Tomlinson

*Benedictus es, Domine*

*Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34*

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \*

you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \*

we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \*

on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \*

we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; \*

in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*

we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

1Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,   
  To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:   
  Grace to you and peace.  
  
  2We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly 3remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, 7so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. 9For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, 10and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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| Reader | Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches. |
| People | Thanks be to God. |

**Second Canticle (BCP p. 85)**

Canticle 11: The Third Song of Isaiah

Surge, illuminare

Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*

and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; \*

deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, \*

and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, \*

and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; \*

by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*

The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*

ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, \*

and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day; \*

by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light, \*

and your God will be your glory.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**Third Reading: Matthew 22:15-22**

A Reading from Matthew.

15Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. 16So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. 17Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” 18But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. 20Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” 21They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” 22When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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| Reader | Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. |
| People | Thanks be to God. |

**Homily**

**The Apostles’ Creed (BCP p. 96)**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The Prayers**

**Salutation (BCP p. 97)**

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| Officiant | The Lord be with you. |
| People | And also with you. |
| Officiant | Let us pray. |

**The Lord’s Prayer (BCP p. 97)**

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,

forever and ever. Amen.

**SUFFRAGES (BCP p. 98)**

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. We praise your Name for ever.

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. For we put our trust in you.

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. And we shall never hope in vain.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 98)**

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS (BCP p. 98)**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A COLLECT FOR PEACE (BCP p. 99)**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR MISSION (BCP p. 101)**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen*.

**The General Thanksgiving (BCP p. 101)**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,

that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,

not only with our lips, but in our lives,

by giving up our selves to your service,

and by walking before you

in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

**A Prayer of St. Chrysostom (BCP p. 102)**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

**Concluding Versicle (BCP p. 102)**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Concluding Sentence (BCP p. 102)**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21

**Hymn 594 God of Grace and God of Glory *Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes***

**POSTLUDE Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing *arr. Fedak***

**Rector: Lydia Agnew Speller Lectors: Cindy Minnie**

**Deacon: Linda Crane Pat Stacey**

**Pastoral Associate: Shirley Seely Shirley Seely**

**Music Director: Mike Yaros**

**Organ/Keyboard: Joan Redmond**

**ALL SAINTS DAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st**

**Please send in the names of those who have died whom you would like us to remember on**

**All Saints Day, Sunday, November 1st.**

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**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**

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| |  | | --- | | **TOGETHER FOR JOY**  Stewardship Campaign | |

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When the Psalmist imagined the world giving praise to God, she imagined each thing praising in its own way. The sea roaring, the earth breaking out into harmony, the waves of the ocean clapping against the shore. Each thing does what it does, in its own way, to praise God.

And the people? The people do what people do. They raise their voices in song, they make music with harps and horns.

But of course, that’s not all people do to praise their Creator. We don’t just make music for God, we imitate God as well. And for Christians, the thing that God is best known for is love, a love that pours itself out in generosity and grace. There are lots of ways to imitate God in that, and one of them is upon us now.

Over the next few upcoming weeks, we will be asking you to prayerfully ask what God’s hopes are for your 2021 giving, to ask God to make you part of this church’s great outpouring of generosity.

**IMPORTANT DATES: OCTOBER 25 10:00 A.M. INGATHERING OF PLEDGES**

**NOVEMBER 1 10:00 A.M. BLESSING OF THE PLEDGES**

**(All Saints Day)**

**FORWARD DAY BY DAY**

The new November / December 2020 and January 2021 daily devotions booklets have arrived. Please stop by whenever the church office is open to pick up your copy.

You may also call the church office and ask for someone to deliver a copy to you.