**Grace Episcopal Church**

**Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Sunday, September 27, 2020**

**PRELUDE For the Beauty of the Earth *Evans/Kocher, ab.***

**Morning Prayer II**

**Hymn 390 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty *Lobe den Herren***

**Opening Sentence (BCP p. 75)**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:2

**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. 80)**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**Psalm: Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16**

  ***Attendite, popule***

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \*
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, \*
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, \*
and the wonderful works he has done.

12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \*
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*
he made the waters stand up like walls.

14 He led them with a cloud by day, \*
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*
and gave them drink as from the great deep.

16 He brought streams out of the cliff, \*
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

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:  Exodus 17:1-7**

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord mong us or not?”

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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 19: The Song of the Redeemed

*Magna et mirabilia*

*Revelation 15:3-4*

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,

great deeds are they that you have done, \*

surpassing human understanding.

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*

O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,

and sing the praises of your Name? \*

for you only are the Holy One.

All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*

because your just and holy works have been revealed.

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.

**Second Reading:  Philippians 2:1-13**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

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 **Second Canticle (BCP p. 85)**

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah

Ecce, Deus Mason Martens

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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 21:23-32**

A Reading from Matthew.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

**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. 97)**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

**First Collect (BCP p. 98)**

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**Second Collect (BCP p. 98)**

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfullness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Third Collect (BCP p. 98)**

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Prayer For Mission (BCP p. 100)**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 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 Madrid Come Christians Join to Sing**

**POSTLUDE He Leadeth Me *Bradbury***

**Rector: Lydia Agnew Speller Lectors: Matthew Wallace**

**Deacon: Linda Crane Jeanette Ettin**

**Pastoral Associate: Shirley Seely Linda Crane**

**Music Director: Mike Yaros**

**Organ/Keyboard: Joan Redmond**

**Friendly Reminders . . .**

**Book Club: September 28th at 5:30 p.m. in the McPharlin garden. (If the weather is undesirable, we will meet at Grace in the Gathering Place) Our book is *The Hope Chest* by *Viola Shipman*. Please bring your mask, chair, jacket, and beverage of choice. Cindy Houska will be providing snacks. For more information, call Mary Gale at 810-987-5978. You are welcome to attend for the fellowship, even if you haven’t read the book.**

**Knit, Crochet & Crafting Group: Thursday, October 1st at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Donna G. (If the weather is undesirable, we will meet at Grace in the Gathering Place) Please bring your mask, chair, jacket, and beverage for social distancing in the yard, call Ann Brown to RSVP and for directions, 810-434-8396. You can bring a project or just come for the conversation.**

 **Change of Worship Service Time**

 **Starting Sunday, October 4th, worship service time at Grace,**

 **in the garden, will change. Service will now begin at 10:00 a.m.**

**SPECIAL NOTICE**

**Two neighborhood zoning requests are coming before the Port Huron Planning Commission at its October 6th meeting at 6:00 p.m., for a zoning variance for 1103 Seventh Street (former First Congregational Church), and 1230 Seventh Street (formerly Smith Family Funeral Home). If anyone is interested in learning more, the agenda packet should be posted on the City of Port Huron website soon.**

Blessing of the Animals



Grace Episcopal Church

*1213 6th Street, Port Huron*

will be hosting a

Blessing of the Animals Service

OCTOBER 4th at 2pm

in the parking lot.

All types of well-behaved animals are welcome

* furry, feathered, scaly or stuffed



**FOOD PANTRY**

**Grace Outreach, with the assistance of C4yourself Church, meeting the emergency food**

**needs of our seniors, neighbors, and school families. Last Spring Kevin Totty, with the assistance of a grant, spearheaded a food distribution program that responded to weekly unmet food needs of families and seniors in our community. Outreach food pantry, our good news garden, stone soup, and the soup kitchen supported this weekly effort. Our food pantry with the Garden News garden items packed food every Wednesday for his food distribution on Thursdays. Many weeks the distribution has averaged 4,000 lbs. of food going to those in need. In order to continue to support this effort and our school families, we are attempting to re-stock the food pantry. If you would like to donate items, the church office is open Tuesday – Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will also be placing boxes at the entries of our Sunday 9:15 a.m. service. Below you will find a list of the items we need. Thank you in advance for your generosity.**

 **Jam Chicken Noodle Soup Lotion**

 **Cereal Canned Spaghetti Spaghetti Sauce Laundry Soap**

 **Tissues Peanut Butter Canned Fruit Dish Soap**

 **Napkins Paper Towels Vaseline Hand Soap Toothbrushes Tooth Paste Juice & Juice Boxes Bar Soap**



**Volunteers needed on Saturday, October 17th at 2:00 p.m.**

**to help Pastor Kevin Totty at the Food Giveaway table in the Grace parking lot. Please see Pastor Kevin for more information, or call the church office.**

**Upcoming Event**

**Saturday, October 10th**

**11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**Drive up & drop off any donations to the Grace Episcopal Church Food Pantry.**

**Volunteers will be available to collect your donations right from your car, and add them to the food pantry at Grace.**