THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
LITURGY OF THE WORD, PRAYERS AND SERMON
SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 - 10:00 A.M.

Bell Preludes

Organ Prelude

Meditation

Jean Langlais

All stand, as able

Opening Sentence
I was glad when they said unto me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Psalm 122:1

The Invitatory and Psalter

Lord, open our lips.
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
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.
1 At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
2 Hum-bled for a sea-son, to re-ceive a Name
3 bore it up tri-um-phant, with its hu-man light,
4 Name him, Chris-tians, name him, with love strong as death,
*5 In your hearts en-throne him; there let him sub-due
*6 Chris-tians, this Lord Je-sus shall re-turn a-gain,

1 ev-ery tongue con-fess him King of glo-ry now;
2 from the lips of sin-ners, un-to whom he came,
3 through all ranks of crea-tures, to the cen-tral height,
4 name with awe and won-der and with bat-ed breath;
5 all that is not ho-ly, all that is not true;
6 with his Fa-ther’s glo-ry o’er the earth to reign;

1 ’tis the Fa-ther’s plea-sure we should call him Lord
2 faith-ful-ly he bore it spot-less to the last,
3 to the throne of God-head, to the Fa-ther’s breast;
4 he is God the Sa-vior, he is Christ the Lord,
5 crown him as your Cap-tain in tem-pta-tion’s hour;
6 for all wreaths of em-pire meet up-on his brow,

1 who from the be-gin-ning was the might-y Word.
2 brought it back vic-to-ri-ous, when from death he passed;
3 filled it with the glo-ry of that per-fect rest.
4 ev-er to be wor-shiped, trust-ed, and ad-dored.
5 let his will en-fold you in its light and power.
6 and our hearts con-fess him King of glo-ry now.

Words: Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877), alt.
Music: King’s Weston, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.” Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**People** Thanks be to God.
Psalm 114  

In exitu Israel

Kitterman

All sing the refrain after the cantor and after each set of verses

1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt,*
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.
3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.
4 The mountains skipped like rams,*
and the little hills like young sheep. \textbf{REFRAIN}
5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?
7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,*
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring. \textbf{REFRAIN}
A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans 14:1-12
Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People Thanks be to God.

*All stand, as able*
Hymn

1. (Unison) Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; sing of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice. Roots hold me close; move in the hand, giving life shape of justice. Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

2. (SATB) Spirit of Life, come to me, come and sing in my heart, move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice. Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Words and Music: Copyright © 1981 Carolyn McDade. Used by permission.
Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ‘For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People Thanks be to God.

The Sermon
The Rev. Timothy Safford, Rector

Anthem Awake and Sing the Song of Moses and the Lamb
Music: Bruce Saylor
Words: William Hammond

Awake and sing the song
of Moses and the Lamb;
wake every heart and every tongue
to praise the Savior’s name.

Sing of his dying love,
his resurrection power;
sing how he intercedes above
for those whose sins he bore.

You pilgrims on the road
to Zion’s city, sing,
rejoicing in the Lamb of God,
in Christ the eternal King.

Soon shall each raptured tongue
his endless praise proclaim,
and sing in sweeter notes the song
of Moses and the Lamb.
All stand, as able
The Peace

Please be seated
Greetings

All stand, as able
Offertory Sentence
Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name.

Apostles’ Creed
The people may stand or kneel
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
May God be with you.
People And also with you.
Let us pray.

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 Suffrages
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
O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Collect for the Nation
Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; 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 Fruitful Seasons
Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Intercessions & Thanksgivings

A Collect for the Departed
Eternal Lord God, you hold all souls in life: Give to your whole Church in paradise and on earth your light and your peace; and grant that we, following the good examples of those who have served you here and are now at rest, may at the last enter with them into your unending joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.
A Prayer for Mission
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 of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

A General Thanksgiving
God our Creator, our center, our friend, we thank you for our good life, for those who are dear to us, for our dead, and for all who have helped and influenced us. We thank you for the measure of freedom we have, and the extent to which we control our lives; and most of all we thank you for the faith that is in us, for our awareness of you and our hope in you. Keep us, we pray you, thankful and hopeful and useful until our lives shall end. Amen.

Dismissal
Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.
1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, praising thee, their sun above,
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea,
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother: all who live in love are thine;

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee,
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.
The Worship has ended. The Service begins.

Hymns printed in this leaflet are by permission of copyright license OneLicense.net #A-701184.

**BELL RINGER**  Catherine Conybeare  
**ORGANIST**  Parker Kitterman  
**USHERS**  David Parke, Robin Parke  
**CHOIR**  Melissa Bilza, Peter Christian, Erica Johnson, Ryan Ordnung, Cecilia Wagner, Charles Wentz  
**READER**  Ken Oakes  
**LIVESTREAM COORDINATOR**  Nate Drew  
**CLERGY**  The Rev. Timothy Safford, Rector; The Rev. Susan Richardson, Assistant Minister

Please remember this week those in our parish family in need of healing: Adrian, Heather Badami, Lolly Bates, Cindy, John Binsfeld, Rick Bravo, Willy Friend, Kathy Frohlich, Tom Fulcher, Jackie Gorzynski, Sue Grogan, Don Hartz, Emily Hayes, Sherry Johnson, Gracie Kelsey, Barbara Kieran, Pat Oakes, Peggy Oakes, Courtney O’Dell, Lizunette Real, Hilde Reichert, Jonathon Rist, Sylvia Rodgers, Loretta Sejda, Janet Shodder, Matt Smith, Tom Spencer, Joanne Takata, Tiffany, Lila Vail, Patty Weikel.  

**LIFE AT CHRIST CHURCH**  
**Find your place within this community.**

**Offerings**

The vestry and staff of Christ Church are very grateful for all who are keeping their offerings and covenant giving current during this time of disruption. Offering checks may be sent to Christ Church, 20 N. American St. Philadelphia, PA 19106

For online giving, please go to [www.christchurchphila.org/give](http://www.christchurchphila.org/give). Christ Church relies on two different online giving methods: our Paypal email address is [give@christchurchphila.org](mailto:give@christchurchphila.org), or if using the PayPal mobile app, search for Christ Church Philadelphia. We also recommend the reliable, securely encrypted site: [Tithe.ly/give](http://Tithe.ly/give). No “.com” or “.org,” just “tithe.ly/give”. They also provide an easy, intuitive giving app for iOS or Android. Please download the app and search for Christ Church in Philadelphia. Follow the instructions for making a one-time or recurring gift from a bank account or debit/credit card. Questions? Contact [cwagner@christchurchphila.org](mailto:cwagner@christchurchphila.org).
TODAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

Sages Gather by ZOOM
The first virtual gathering of the Sages (55 and older) for the 2020-2021 season will be today at 11:15a.m. The topic will be Race and Justice. What do we mean when we talk about Justice? What does the Bible tell us about Justice? The presenter will be Mark Kaplan, a former work colleague of the Rev. Palmer Hartl and a consultant in the field of diversity. A link will be sent out by email in advance of the gathering. Questions? Please contact Palmer at kphartl@aol.com. Also, mark your calendars for October 18 as our speaker will be Christine Jacobs to talk about local elections and local issues for the election.

The Bridge Book Study, Fall 2020
We had such a great journey over this past year, with intentional, honest talk about faith questions and quandaries, along with solid biblical research. And while we miss meeting around the Kitchen Table, we transitioned easily to zoom. And the consensus is... we're continuing! If you'd like thoughtful, covenanted conversation that balances out all voices, and genuine connection around big life questions, email Susan to be on the list for the zoom link. Dates: Sept 13, Oct 4, Nov 1, and Dec 6, with a special Christmas-preparation on Dec 20. All meetings at 1 p.m. - meals and pets welcome on zoom!

THIS WEEK

Wednesday Noon Eucharist
A perfect midweek respite, this simple liturgy is no longer than 30 minutes and is in the church every Wednesday. If you would like to attend, please contact Cecilia at cwagner@christchurchphila.org

The Farmers Market has New Hours
The Farmers’ Market on Church Street is open each Wednesday 3-6pm through October.
**NEXT SUNDAY**

**Outdoor Worship**
We are planning to have our Sunday morning 10a.m. Service in the North Garden on **September 20** (weather permitting). If you would like to attend in person, please be in touch with Cecilia at cwagner@christchurchphila.org or 215.922.1695, ext 21.

**Journeys for Newcomers and Longtimers in 2020**
Want to join Christ Church? Or have you been here awhile and would enjoy a tune-up and a check-in? This fall's Journeys class opens up discussions about faith and life pathways, vocation and call, Anglicanism and the Episcopal history, and our next steps, especially in a time of Covid, which has reshaped the faith landscape for all of us. Meeting over the course of three Sundays on Zoom, members, newcomers, and clergy will journey together. Questions? Check with **Susan Richardson**. srichardson@christchurchphila.org

**Sun September 20, 12:00-1:30** - "Journeys become stories"
**Sun October 11, 12:00-1:30**: "The Journey of the Episcopal Church"
**Sun October 25, 12:00-1:30** - "Living faith"

**UPCOMING**

**Gardeners This Fall**
Dates are being coordinated on weekdays and weekends for gardening in small groups. If you are interested, please contact **George Niedermayer** at ghniedermayer@gmail.com. Newcomers are always welcome.

**Baptisms at Christ Church 2020-2021**
**November 1** (All Saints Day), **January 10** (The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ), **April 4** (Easter Sunday), **May 23** (Pentecost). If you would like to have a baptism for yourself or your child, please contact the **Rev. Susan Richardson** at 215.922.1695, ext 25.
CHRIST CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

Thirty-nine Philadelphia families, loyal to the Bishop of London and desiring to worship according to the rites of the Church of England, established Christ Church on November 15, 1695.

The original, smaller building lay at the heart of the current one, construction for which began in 1727 and concluded in 1744. The steeple, financed by a lottery managed in part by Benjamin Franklin, was completed in 1754, and eight bells from London’s Whitechapel foundry, which cast the Liberty Bell, were added. With its classic architecture in the Georgian spirit, Christ Church is possibly the finest building of its time in the colonies.

Christ Church and its clergy played a critical role during the Revolutionary era. In September 1774, the Rev. Jacob Duché, opened the first Continental Congress with prayers citing the 35th Psalm, Plead my cause, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me. John Adams recounted to his wife Abigail, “I must confess I never heard a better prayer; heaven had ordained that psalm to be read on that morning.”

During this time, influential Philadelphians heard sermons in Christ Church both supporting and discouraging Independence. On July 4, 1776, Christ Church struck King George’s name from the prayers in worship.

In 1790, Christ Church designated a large, double pew off the center aisle for the President of the United States to use for worship. President George Washington regularly attended, as did President John Adams while Philadelphia remained the capital of the United States. The pew is still so designated, but any worshipper may use it if not otherwise occupied.

Seven signers of the Declaration of Independence and five framers of the Constitution are buried in the sacred grounds of Christ Church. In 1948, Congress described Christ Church as a national shrine in legislation creating Independence National Historical Park.

After the Revolution, Christ Church was instrumental in organizing the Episcopal Church out of the remnants of the colonial Church of England. Buried in the chancel of Christ Church is the Right Rev. William White, ninth Rector of the parish, chaplain of the Continental Congress, first Bishop of Pennsylvania, and Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in its formative years. Bishop White articulated that the church in this nation could be independent yet still in communion with the Church of England, a fundamental tenet of Anglicanism. The first General Convention that unified the scattered, newly emerging Episcopal Church and approved the first American Book of Common Prayer gathered in this building in 1789.