

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Hartwell, Georgia**

**Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25)
October 25, 2020**

Opening Song

O God our help in ages past
(words at end of bulletin)

Hymn 680

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

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.*

The Song of Praise (spoken)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

BCP 234

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

(read responsively by half verse)

- ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- ² Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves
that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.
- ⁴ It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- ⁶ For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Take my life and let it be
(words at end of bulletin)

Hymn 707

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (22:34-46)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Rev. Dr. Patricia Miller

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

BCP 392

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, especially Donald our President, Brian our Governor and Brandon and Larry our mayors of Hartwell and Elberton. We pray for members of the Armed Forces of the United States, for civilian first responders, all those who work in health care and those who support them in hospitals; and for all those who serve in harm's way protecting our nation.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; for all those suffering from COVID 19 and for their families, for those who have lost their jobs, and for those who are hungry.

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Robert and Don our Bishops, and Pat our Priest; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation: for Lyra, Bob and Garlene, Casie, Don, Joyce, Michael and those in our hearts;

(Silence - the People may add their own petitions)

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
(The People may add their own thanksgivings)

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
(Silence - the People may add their own petitions)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

(The celebrant continues)

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Announcements

Presentation of Gifts

Doxology

Hymn 380, v.3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 369

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy Lord

Hymn S130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Rachel, Sarah and Mary; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. (AMEN is sung)

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

Fraction Anthem

Christ Our Passover

Hymn S155

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Communion

The Invitation to Spiritual Communion

(source: Spiritual Communion Prayer from the National Cathedral, Washington, DC)

During this time of pandemic, we are not able to come together in-person to share the body and blood of our Lord. So you are invited to receive the sacrament spiritually. A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Let us pray together:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Procession

Rise up, ye saints of God!
(words at end of bulletin)

Hymn 551

Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

This week's hymns from The Hymnal 1982, Church Hymnal Corporation.

Opening Hymn # 680 - O God our help in ages past
Sequence Hymn # 707 - Take my life and let it be
Closing Hymn # 551 - Rise up, ye saints of God!

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WELCOME to St. Andrew's

Intercessions: *Pray for the sick or those with special needs:* Lyra, Bob & Garlene, Casie, Don, Joyce, Michael, and those in our hearts. Please email Carol or the church if you would like anyone added or removed to/from our prayer list.

Happy Birthday to Anne Porterfield (10/27)

Happy Anniversary to Dawn and Harvey Lemay (10/27)

Lectionary Readings for All Saints' Day, November 1

Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10,22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12

Contact Information for Mother Pat+ email is preferred - Revdrpat1@prodigy.net
for pastoral emergencies (sudden hospitalizations, death in the family) call her at 404-754-6980

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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*Vestry: Senior Warden: Bob Ridgway, Junior Warden: Helen Faye Neeley,
Rhea Dignam, Candy Pufall, Mary Alice Ray, Asa Wages, Michelle Wetherbee*

Interim Rector: The Rev. Dr. Patricia Miller

Choir Director: Candy Pufall

Treasurer: Carol Mohor

Assistant Treasurer: Allison Jackson

Rector Emeritus: The Rev. Herschel Atkinson

Organist: Richard Thompson

Clerk of the Vestry: Rita Smith

O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:**

**Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.**

TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

**Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moment and my days, let them flow in endless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,**

**Take my voice, and let me sing always, only for my King;
take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine,
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,**

RISE UP, YE SAINTS OF GOD!

**Rise up, ye saints of God! Have done with lesser things,
give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings.**

**Rise up, ye saints of God! His kingdom tarries long:
Lord, bring the day of truth and love and end the night of wrong,**

**Life high the cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod;
And quickened by the Spirit's power, rise up, ye saints of God!**