Welcome to our Sunday Worship
Please respect our safety and the safety of others:

- Wear your mask.
- Maintain a distance from others of at least six feet.
- Refrain from hand shaking or hugs.
- Refrain from singing. Humming is a safe alternative.
- Do not kneel in the pews or at the altar.

September 20, 2020      9:00 A.M.   EOW
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

I Love To Tell The Story
E.L. Ashford

(Please remain seated as we sing)

Surely the Presence
- Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
- I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
- I can hear the brush of angels’ wings, I see glory on each face;
- Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Call to Worship (Please stand)

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

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.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray: Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.
(Please be seated)

**The First Reading:** (Lector) A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

After their miraculous deliverance from slavery in Egypt, the Israelites pressed on into the wilderness. When faced with hunger, worrying about starvation, they complained to Moses. God responds faithfully setting up a common pattern during the 40 years of the Israelites “wilderness wanderings.”

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.” Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’” In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.” [16:2-15]

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 105:1-6, 37-45**

The story of God’s providence to the Israelites in the wilderness is recalled in this hymn of thanksgiving. The events have been idealized, cleansed of such distractions as the people’s waywardness and complaints. Nonetheless, the psalm teaches that God’s hand has guided them and provided for them.

Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.

Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.

Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
He led out his people with silver and gold; *
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them.

He spread out a cloud for a covering *
and a fire to give light in the night season.

They asked, and quails appeared, *
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.

He opened the rock, and water flowed, *
so the river ran in the dry places.

For God remembered his holy word *
and Abraham his servant.

So he led forth his people with gladness, *
his chosen with shouts of joy.

He gave his people the lands of the nations, *
and they took the fruit of others' toil,

That they might keep his statutes *
and observe his laws. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading: (Lector) A reading from the Letter to the Philippians.
This was probably the last of Paul's letters written from prison in Rome. The apostle's triumphant faith in the face of his impending trial and death rings through every sentence.

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

[1:21-30]

Lector:  Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People:  Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Celtic Alleluia

THE GOSPEL  (Please stand)
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People:  Glory to you, Lord Christ.
To our materialistic minds, this is a very troublesome parable. It seems so grossly unfair. But the parable has nothing at all to do with the money paid for work done. It is the kingdom of God—the absolute sovereignty of God's love—which is at issue. The currency of the kingdom is grace, not coinage. Grace comes to us as the gift of God totally unmerited in spite of all our worthy efforts.
Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

[20:1-16]

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gradual: Celtic Alleluia

SERMON (Please be seated)

NICENE CREED (Please stand)
We believe in one God, the Father the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and 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 IV (Please stand)
The Intercessor: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
Remember the Anglican Communion, especially the Diocese of South Sudan, and our Diocese.
Remember Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our presiding Bishop, Dabney our Bishop,
Tom our Rector, our clergy, vestry, staff and people, and bless our ministries.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Remember Donald our President, Ron our Governor, our county commissioners and those who advise them. Remember our soldiers who are in harm’s way.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for those having birthdays this week: especially Buddy Jackson, Van Geoghegan, Erika Bianchi, Jean Louis-Jean, Carl Wood, and Anthony Ciluffo, and all those celebrating anniversaries.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray especially for Lynne LaMarca, _____ and all those on our parish prayer list. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy [_____ and] all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives, that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enables to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*(Silence may be kept.)*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**THE PEACE**

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* And also with you.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS  (Please stand)

OFFERTORY  (Please be seated during hymn)
What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he’ll take and shield you, you will find a solace there.

Doxology  (Please stand)

EUCARISTIC PRAYER

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.
From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Celebrant & People say:
Holy, Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

(The people stand as the Celebrant continues)

Celebrant: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the
whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph, Blessed Paul, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

GREAT AMEN

THE LORD’S PRAYER
Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to 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 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD
Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.
For those unable to worship with us in person we pray:
O most blessed Savior, in union with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving, I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart; I unite myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Amen
People: Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart.

COMMUNION
All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you wish a blessing instead, please fold your hands across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing.
Celebrant: All things come of Thee, O Lord.
People: And of Thine own have we given thee.

COMMUNION HYMN
Instrumental

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (Please stand)
Celebrant and People: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN (Please stand)
O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art.”
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!

Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of St. Paul’s truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Celebrant issues the DISMISSAL
People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE
Trumpet Tune

Jerry McCory

Today’s 9:00 a.m. Worship Leaders: Celebrant & Homilist: The Rev. Dr. Thomas Thoeni, Eucharistic Minister: Betty Lentz, Lector & Intercessor: Van Geoghegan, Music Director / Organist: Eleanor Phelps, Usher: Dick Breithaupt.

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Other St. Paul’s Sunday Worship Services
5 pm Worship in Creole

St. Paul’s Staff
The Rev. Dr. Thomas Thoeni, Rector
The Rev. Panel Guerrier, Assisting Priest for Creole Worship
Eleanor J. Phelps, Music Director
Deb Avery, Parish Administrative Assistant
Janet Ross, Parish Comptroller

Saint Paul’s
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