

**The Liturgy of the Word**  
**The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**October 18, 2020**  
**Grace Episcopal Church**

## **Opening**

*Officiant* Christ has no body on earth now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on the world; yours are the feet with which he walks to do good; yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world. *Theresa of Avila*

**Prelude** *Trio Sonata No.1, Allegro* J.S. Bach

## **Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity**

Celebrant Blessed be the one, Holy and Living God.

**People** **Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

**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.**

**Song of Praise** *A Song of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 36:24-28* EOW 32

I will take you from among all nations; \*  
and gather you from all lands to bring you home.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you; \*  
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.

A new heart I will give you \*  
and a new spirit put within you.

I will take the stone heart from your chest \*  
and give you a heart of flesh.

I will help you walk in my laws \*  
and cherish my commandments and do them.  
You shall be my people, \*  
and I will be your God.

## **Collect of the Day**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

## The First Lesson

Isaiah 45:1-7

Thus 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: 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, I 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. For 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. I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so 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. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 96

1 Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

3 Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.

4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;  
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.

9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.

10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King!  
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.

13 He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

## The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because 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. And 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, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For 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. For 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, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

*All my hope on God is founded*

Hymnal 665

## The Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So 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. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They 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.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

## Sermon

The Rev. April Berends

## 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.**

### **Anthem**

*The eyes of all wait upon thee*

Berger

### **The Prayers of the People**

Intercessor:

Holy God, Creator of both heaven and earth, you have spread your abundance throughout the ends of the earth. We lift our prayers to you, O God.

**You are the hope of all creation.**

We pray for Donald, our president, the leaders of the nations, and all who make decisions as the peoples of the earth clamor for resources. Inspire us to do justice, preparing the way for your glorious reign. We lift our prayers to you, O God;

**You are the hope of all creation.**

Send your Spirit to disturb and challenge us, that we may wisely share the fruits of the earth, and pattern our common life in ways that honor your creation and promote sustainable communities and ecosystems. We lift our prayers to you, O God;

**You are the hope of all creation.**

Teach us to grieve with you, O Christ, the loss of all the beauty that is being killed, and give us the will to protect species in danger of extinction. May we embrace your charge to watch over and care for all the creatures of the earth. We lift our prayers to you, O God;

**You are the hope of all creation.**

For all who live in poverty, sickness, loneliness and grief, that you will wipe the tears from their faces. We pray especially for Roberta, Wanda, Emma, Andrea, Steve, Jim, Celeste, Judy, Bethann, Will, Breezie, Julie, Dwight, Angela, James and Barbara, Trevor, Emily, Ted, Deb, Michael, Chuck and Jason and their children, Tom, Jeanette, Jane, Bo and Mary Minor, Helen, Nancy, Charlotte, Tyler, Jeff, Rebecca, J.R., Marcia, Peggy, William, Timothy, Donald, Robert, Cooper, Sally, Charles, Jonathan, Steven, John, Libby, Elaine, Jean, Barbara, Elizabeth, John, Joyce, Jim, Mary Ruth, and Ann;

We pray for Wil, Jake, Kevin, Tripp, Mike, Alexander, Russel, Logan, Jim, Sean, Evan, and all of our Armed Forces, here and abroad;

We pray for Bren who is deployed as a nurse in the pandemic.

We pray for Angela, who is with child.

We pray for all whose homes are in peril or uprooted because of climate change, for all displaced because of hurricanes, fires or other disasters.

We pray for all who remain on the front lines of this pandemic: for health care providers, those who grow and process food, staff grocery stores, provide transit, transport supplies, care for the young and the aged and those who are sick. We pray for all suffering from illness, those who have died, and all who grieve as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We lift our prayers to you, O God;

**You are the hope of all creation.**

We remember before you those who are dying and those who have died. Give us strength in your victory over death to grow into your way of love, which does not know despair but sows seeds of hope. We lift our prayers to you, O God;

**You are the hope of all creation.**

Officiant      Creator of all, you have called us and chosen us to be your people. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we bear witness with joy and conviction to the good news of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

**Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you.**

**We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation:**

**teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.**

**We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life.**

**We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control.**

**We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection. Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Officiant*    Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

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

## **The Blessing**

### **Postlude**

*Capricco in D*

Georg Böhm

## **Worship Leaders**

Officiants	The Rev. April Berends, The Rev. David Burman
Preacher	The Rev. David Burman
Lectors	Dick McGee, Richard Lanham
Organist	Patrick Rice
Director of Music	David Long
Singers	Steven Hinkle, David Long, Elisabeth Schrock, Janelle Wagoner, Trevor Wagoner
Video	Richard Lanham, Janelle Wagoner

## Announcements

### Join Us for Online Worship at 9am & 10:45am Sundays

During this time of Social Distancing, we will continue to stream videos for Morning Prayer worship on our [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) at 9am and again at 10:45am. Bulletins for each week's service will be sent along with the Grace Notes weekend issue, and will be posted on the website alongside the video for the service. If you miss the 9am or 10:45am video streams, you can always go back and watch later.

### Outdoor In-Person Worship this Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> and October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30pm

Weather permitting, Grace will begin holding outdoor worship today, Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm. We will meet on the empty lot that was formerly the home of the Shiny Penny for a simple service of Holy Communion. In an effort to protect the health of our neighbors, participants must sign up in advance (look for the sign-up sheet for next Sunday, which will be sent out via Gracenotes), and we will be limited the attendance for these first service to 30 households that sign up. Each household unit is asked to keep 12-15 feet distance from your closest neighbor on the lawn. Please wear a mask, and bring your own lawn chair or blanket. Bug spray is highly recommended!

### Clergy Outdoor Office Hours

This week, the Rev David Burman will be in the courtyard from 1:00pm to 4:00pm today, Sunday, October 18th. The Rev. April Berends will hold office hours on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-11:30am. Wear a mask, and stop by for conversation or a prayer. Thanks to all who have visited so far; the priests of Grace have enjoyed catching up with you. As always, you may email either of the priests ([aberends@saygrace.net](mailto:aberends@saygrace.net) or [dburman@saygrace.net](mailto:dburman@saygrace.net)) to set up a time for a socially-distanced conversation if you'd prefer to meet outside of office hours.

### Sacred Ground Dialogues around Racial Healing

The Sacred Ground dialogue circle on racial healing meets Wednesdays at 7pm via Zoom. Sacred Ground focuses on issues of race and racism and the difficult, transformative conversations that we need to have around these issues. Sacred Ground sessions invite participants to understand the racial history of this country and the church in order to faithfully respond to the challenges around race that surround us today. Unfortunately, this group has reached capacity. Stay tuned for additional offering on racial justice and other topics.

### Morning Prayer and Compline

All are invited to escape from the madness and rest your mind and soul via Morning Prayer on weekdays and Saturday at 9:00 a.m., and services of Compline at 8:00 p.m. each evening. We all need reminders of essential realities that transcend the medical and political context in which we find ourselves.

Here are the links for Daily Morning Prayer and Compline:

[Weekday Morning Prayer](#)

[Weekday Compline](#)

### Community Care in Anxious Times

Grace check-in team leaders are continuing to contact parishioners via phone, text and/ or email. Please take a moment to pick up or write back to let them know if you're okay and/or if you need help, pastorally or physically. The leaders of these groups will be in close communication with our priests and our network of volunteers. If you are a new member of Grace and we do not have your information in the directory, please fill out the New Member form [here](#) and let us know if you would like to be added to a check-in group. If you have an urgent pastoral need, please call the parish office at (423)243-3250 and leave a message on the **main line**. We will be checking these messages regularly even if we aren't in the office.