

The Liturgy of the Word
The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost ~ The Feast of All Saints
November 1, 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 *Allein Gotta, BWV 771* 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 God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen**,

The First Lesson

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. "For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Reader Let us read together this portion of Psalm 34.

1 I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

2 I will glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and rejoice.

3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt his Name together.

4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me out of all my terror.

5 Look upon him and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him,
and he will deliver them.

8 Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in him!

9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing.

10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.

22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants,
and none will be punished who trust in him.

The Second Lesson

1 John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

For all the saints (in alternation with the hymn *Jesus, Still Lead On*)

Hymnal 287

The Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

Sing Me to Heaven

Gawthrop

In my heart's sequestered chambers lie truths stripped of poet's gloss.

Words alone are vain and vacant and my heart is mute.

In response to aching silence memory summons half-heard voices,

and my soul finds primal eloquence and wraps me in song.

If you would comfort me, sing me a lullaby. If you would win my heart, sing me a love song.

If you would mourn me and bring me to God, sing me a requiem, sing me to heaven.

Touch in me all love and passion, touch grief and comfort; love and passion, pain and pleasure.

Sing me a lullaby, a love song, a requiem. Love me, comfort me, bring me to God:

Sing me a love song, sing me to heaven.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor Let us offer our prayers for the church and the world.

Sustaining God, all creation bears witness to your glory. Make us good stewards of this world you have made, that we may use its resources to honor you and serve our neighbors.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Holy God, you sent your Son to live and die for us, and he taught us how to live as resurrection people. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Brian, our Bishop; April and David, our priests, Keith, our seminarian; and for all ministers of your church, that we may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Omnipotent God, your judgments are full of mercy. Guide the leaders of this land and all the nations by your holy wisdom, that all the families of the world may live in peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Reconciling God, you mend the divisions between us. Help us to face challenges with humility and gentleness, that our relationships with one another may reflect the life we share with you.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Merciful God, you look with tenderness on your people in need. Minister to those who live in the midst of illness, poverty and oppression, and help us to seek and serve Christ in our neighbors. We pray especially for

Roberta, David, Edith, Terrie, Alex, Roberta, Jeanette, Wanda, Emma, Darlene, Andrea, Steve, Jim, Celeste, Judy, Bethann, Breezie, Julie, Dwight, Angela, James and Barbara, Trevor, Emily, Ted, Deb, Michael, Tom, Jeanette, Jane, Bo and Mary Minor, Helen, Nancy, Charlotte, Tyler, Jeff, Rebecca, J.R., 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. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Eternal God, you have made for us a home in heaven. Bless those who have died, and bring us with them to the joyful banquet of your unending love.

(The congregation is invited to name others, aloud or silently.)

Lord, in your mercy,
People Hear our prayer.

Officiant God of the ages, your saints who lived in faithful service surround your throne and offer you praise and worship both night and day. May we, your saints on earth, join our voices with theirs to proclaim your rule of righteousness and peace, which comes to us through Jesus Christ now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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.

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

Herr Jesu Christ

J.S. Bach

Worship Leaders

Officiants	The Rev. April Berends, The Rev. David Burman
Preacher	The Rev. April Berends
Lectors	Susan Brown, Andy Belcher
Intercessors	Jim Harris
Guest Organist	Karla Fowkes (Director of Music, Christ Church, Chattanooga)
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.

In-person Worship for the Feast of All Saints, November 1st at 4:30pm

Weather permitting, Grace will hold outdoor, in-person on All Saints' Sunday, November 1st, at 4:30pm. We will meet on the yard just behind the pavilion and the community gardens. In an effort to protect the health of our neighbors, participants must sign up in advance, and we will be limiting the attendance for this service to 30 households. You will receive an email confirming successful registration, and if the service is over capacity at the time you sign up, you will receive priority for next week's service.

For our celebration of All Saints, we will read the names of the saints who have died in the past year prior to communion this Sunday, and worshipers are invited to bring a photo, icon or memento of a saint or saints who are important to you to place on the altar before worship begins and collect once the service is finished.

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.** If you are unable to bring your own chair, please email David Burman at dburman@saygrace.net, and we will arrange to have one available for you.

Election Day Evening Prayer, Tuesday, November 3rd at 5:45pm

You are invited for a service of evening prayer at 5:45pm on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd. We will gather to pray for the nation, all who reside within its borders, and that we who seek to follow Christ remain faithful and responsive citizens of God's reign on earth. We will meet in the courtyard for this service, so that we're near the carillon when it rings out at 6pm. Please wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines. We will have a few chairs available, but feel free to stand for this brief service, or bring your own lawn chair.

Clergy Outdoor Office Hours

Anticipating that this may be an anxious week for many, the clergy of Grace will be holding office hours for prayer and conversation following the election. The Rev. David will be in the courtyard from 10am-1pm on Wednesday, November 4th, and The Rev. April Berends will be in the courtyard on Wednesday from 1:30-5:00pm. We will add additional office hours as needed in the days to come. As always, if you would like to meet for prayer or conversation outside of office hours, our priests would be happy to see you. Contact April (aberends@saygrace.net) or David (dburman@saygrace.net) to set up an appointment.

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.