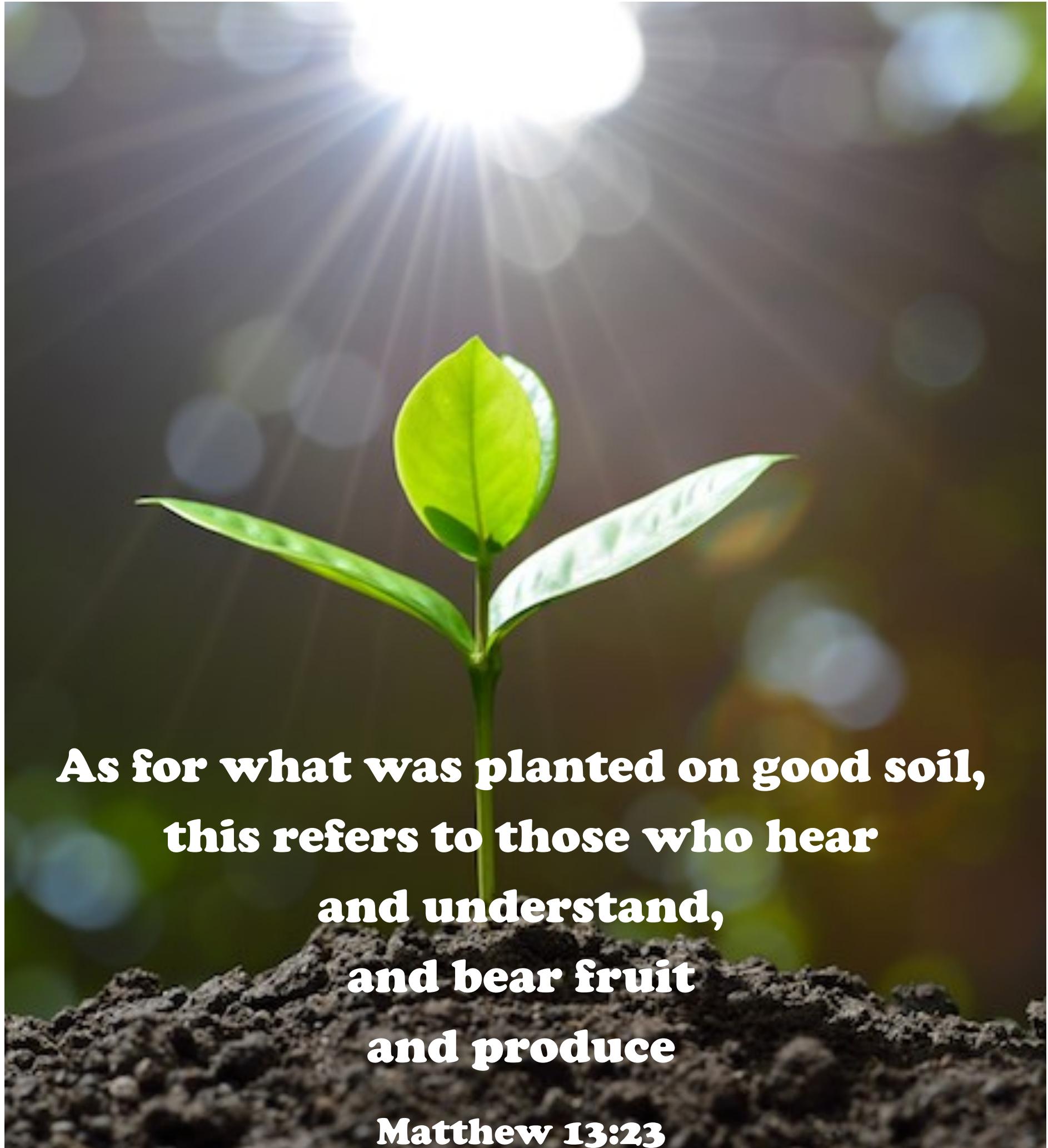


All Angels Episcopal Church
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
7:45 and 9:15 a.m.



**As for what was planted on good soil,
this refers to those who hear
and understand,
and bear fruit
and produce**

Matthew 13:23

July 12, 2020

Prelude

Dale Hooey

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." *Psalm 122:1*
Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

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.**

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. Alleluia.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

Come let us adore him.

Canticle My Soul is at Rest Simply Taize, Jaques Berthier

Refrain:

My soul is at rest in God alone. My salvation comes from God.

God is my safety and glory my rock and my strength.

Take refuge in God all you faithful, trust God at all times.

Guard your heart before him, our God is our refuge.

The Lessons

The psalm for this morning gives praise to God for nature and ends with a harvest blessing. Psalm 65, verses 9-14 can be found in your bulletin and in your prayer books on page 673. Let us read it responsively by half verse.

Psalm 65:9-14

You visit the earth and water it abundantly;

the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain,

for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

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.

[Introduction: the last chapters of the Book of Isaiah are filled with good news — the Israelites will return to Israel from exile in Babylon. This section reminds us that God has plans and joy for everyone. For the people in exile who, after 70 years, thought that God no longer hears or cares about them, this passage is a reminder that they are loved and they will be brought back in peace. Hear now what the Spirit is saying to God's people.]

A reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 55:10-13

Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky
and don't return there without watering the earth,
making it conceive and yield plants
and providing seed to the sower and food to the eater,
so is my word that comes from my mouth;
it does not return to me empty.
Instead, it does what I want,
and accomplishes what I intend.

Yes, you will go out with celebration,
and you will be brought back in peace.

Even the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you;
all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

In place of the thorn the cypress will grow;
in place of the nettle the myrtle will grow.

This will attest to the Lord's stature,
an enduring reminder that won't be removed.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be God.

A reading from Matthew

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Jesus sat down beside a lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he climbed into a boat and sat down. The whole crowd was standing on the shore.

He said many things to them in parables: "A farmer went out to scatter seed. As he was scattering seed, some fell on the path, and birds came and ate it. Other seed fell on rocky ground where the soil was shallow. They sprouted immediately because the soil wasn't deep. But when the sun came up, it scorched the plants, and they dried up because they had no roots. Other seed fell among thorny plants. The thorny plants grew and choked them."

Other seed fell on good soil and bore fruit, in one case a yield of one hundred to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one. Everyone who has ears should pay attention.”

[To his disciples, Jesus said] “Consider then the parable of the farmer. Whenever people hear the word about the kingdom and don’t understand it, the evil one comes and carries off what was planted in their hearts. This is the seed that was sown on the path. As for the seed that was spread on rocky ground, this refers to people who hear the word and immediately receive it joyfully. Because they have no roots, they last for only a little while. When they experience distress or abuse because of the word, they immediately fall away. As for the seed that was spread among thorny plants, this refers to those who hear the word, but the worries of this life and the false appeal of wealth choke the word, and it bears no fruit. As for what was planted on good soil, this refers to those who hear and understand, and bear fruit and produce—in one case a yield of one hundred to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Musical Reflection

The Apostles' Creed

BCP 96

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 universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed by 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.

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
Let your way be known upon earth;
Your saving health among all nations.
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Create in us clean hearts, O God;
And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

A Collect for Our Cities

BCP 825

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Harvest of Lands and Waters

BCP 828

O gracious Father, who openest thine hand and fillest all things living with plenteousness: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let thy Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show thy loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what thou givest, that men and women everywhere may give thee thanks; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Aged

BCP 830

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all whose increasing years bring them weakness, distress, or isolation. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and, as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love and peace. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of petition with thanksgiving

Jesus said, “Do not be afraid. My word will produce good fruit.”

We pray for those who are sick, those who suffer; we pray for all who protect us both here and abroad and for all healthcare workers.

We pray for those on our prayer list; especially, Downs IV, Holden, Heidi and Cynthia. We pray for all who are in skilled nursing, especially Ruth, Timothy, Don and Barbara. We pray for all who are in hospice care, especially Ward. We pray for healing and recovery for Susan, John and Tom. We pray for those going through cancer treatments, especially Victoria, Andres and Ginny.

We pray that the Holy Spirit comfort those who cannot visit their loved ones, and for those who cannot be visited, and we pray that the wisdom and love of the Holy Spirit descend upon those who care for the sick.

We pray for those we name now either silently or aloud.

Silence

We pray for those who have died, and for all who mourn, especially those we name now.

Silence

Bring us the Living Bread that is broken and shared for the world;
Lord God, help us find peace in you. **Amen.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Blessed Jesus, in union with the faithful gathered around the world today, I offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

And particularly for the blessings given me that I name now ... *Silence*
I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot receive communion at this time, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom in me, in my family, and in my community, let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart; guide me along the right pathways; and, conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

And may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep my heart and mind in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ my Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with me now and always. Amen.

Greetings and Announcements

Closing Hymn *Almighty God, your word is cast*

Hymnal #589

- 1 Almighty God, your word is cast like seed upon the ground,
now let the dew of heaven descend and righteous fruits abound.
- 2 Let not our selfishness and hate this holy seed remove,
but give it root in every heart to bring forth fruits of love.
- 3 Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy,
but let it yield a hundredfold the fruits of peace and joy.

Let us Bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

Dale Hooey

Announcements

Worship services in-doors Seating is limited and reservations are required for indoor services. Please contact Maria (marialove@allangelslbk.org) or Linn (941-383-8161) by Wednesday of each week for your reservation

Thank You to our Flower Guild who provide beauty for those inside and outside the church.

Centering Prayer Centering Prayer invites you to pray with them, every day, at 8 am, wherever you are. When you enter into prayer at 8 am (Eastern), you will know that others are praying at the same time.

Discussion Group, the article for discussion with the Men's and Women's group is available on our website: www.allangelslbk.org. All discussion groups are currently on Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/5955701807> Meeting ID: 595 570 1807

The Big Yellow Bin Outside of the main entrance to the church by the angel fountain is the Manatee Food Bank drop off for nonperishable items. ECW and the Outreach Commission wants to thank you for your support of this effort; however, here are some guidelines that are especially important now that the bin is outside.

- 1. No glass jars**
- 2. No cardboard boxed items until the bin can be inside. Moisture is a problem with the humidity.**
- 3. Please check expiration dates.**

What is especially needed:

Canned tuna, chicken, or salmon

Peanut butter or jelly (plastic container)

Canned soups, stews, chili,

Canned vegetables or fruit

Trail mix or dried fruit

Powdered milk

Dried beans

Infamil formula, baby food in plastic containers, diapers, baby wipes, Desitin cream

It may be more feasible right now to contribute money to the food bank. To give a donation go to: Meals on Wheels Plus.org or call 941-747-3663.

Big thanks to Linn who checks the bin every week for items that may not meet these guidelines. Please make her job easier by checking out what you are putting in the bin to see if they are on the list.

Birthdays & Anniversaries If you have a birthday or anniversary coming up next month, please email Linn Torres at lt@allangelslbk.org

Tidings If you are not receiving our electronic newsletter, Tidings, or if you have changed your email address, please email marialove@allangelslbk.org to be added.

Video The service today will be recorded and made available on YouTube and on our website: www.allangelslbk.org.

Reflection

Shalom 'olam

I have been singlehandedly trying to bring back a word from the 1840's. The word is "agreeance." If you look up agreeance, you'll see these two facts: 1) it is a word, and 2) "agreement" should be used instead.

I disagree with #2 for this reason: agreeance is a state of mind; agreement is a binding course of action between two parties; the words are similar but are not synonymous. For instance, the couple was in agreeance to skip making dinner and go out instead. They agreed upon Thai food. Over dinner, they signed an agreement to buy their dream house in Florida.

One of my favorite radio shows, *A Way with Words*, on NPR, talked about the word agreeance. They initially told the caller, Sadie, that she should use the word "agreement" because usage of "agreeance" tends to make hearers think the person is less educated. Nevertheless, after a fruitful discussion, the hosts threw caution to the wind and said it might be time for agreeance to make a comeback. I wholeheartedly agree.

The New York Times, this past week, published the word "embiggening" for the first time in its 168-year history. The verb *embiggen* means to make larger. The Simpsons cartoon featured that word in an episode in 1996 in the (fictional) town motto, "A noble spirit *embiggens* the smallest man," It was one of two words the writers made up for the episode; the second word being "cromulent." Much to their surprise, after the airing of the show, they were informed "embiggen" was used once in 1884. Despite not actually creating it, The Simpsons made the word popular. It was used in later episodes and has since coined this popular social media phrase, "You need to *embiggen* your vocabulary." Merriam-Webster did just that and in 2018 included the word in their dictionary. The Oxford English Dictionary followed suit. I'd say it was quite cromulent of them.

Sunday's lesson from Isaiah features this phrase, "You will go out with celebration and you will be brought back in peace." (Is 55:12) "Celebration" in Hebrew is *simchah*, which at its root means "joy". The Hebrew word for "peace" is *shalom*. Joy and peace can be felt internally and seen externally and expressed both individually and corporately. Yet, how many times have you went out with joy and returned with turmoil? We tend to get our hopes up and then get disappointed. What makes this joy and peace different is found in the next verse that says joy and peace will be an "enduring reminder." Enduring in Hebrew is "'olam" – a noun which means "forever." With God, when we go out with joy, we will not return with disappointment, but with *shalom 'olam* (everlasting peace).

So much happening today seems to be passing, fading or fleeting. Celebration, joy and peace seem to have gone out the proverbial window; but not so with God. The Lord plans for us to go out with joy and return with everlasting peace. I think we can be in agreeance that joy and peace would be a welcome and *embiggen* change.

- Fr. Dave