



Ante-Communion
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 20, 2020

Officiant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.*

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Officiant and People: 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.*

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.*

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

COLLECT FOR THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Celebrant and People: 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.*

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON: Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing.

And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.” But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:1-8 (Spoken by Whole Verse)

I will exalt you, O God my King, *

and bless your Name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you *

and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *

there is no end to his greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to another *

and shall declare your power.

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *

and all your marvelous works.

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *

and I will tell of your greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *

they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *

slow to anger and of great kindness.

THE EPISTLE: Philippians 1:21-30

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 20:1-16

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.”

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: “Angry about Mercy and a Bush, and Anxious about Wages” Reverend Georgia DuBose

NICENE CREED

Officiant and People: 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 SUPPLICATION

Officiant: O Lord, arise, help us;

People: And deliver us for thy Name’s sake.

Officiant: O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that thou didst in their days, and in the old time before them.

People: O Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for thy Name’s sake.

Officiant: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

People: O Lord, arise, help us; and deliver us for thy Name’s sake.

Officiant: From our enemies defend us, O Christ;
People: Graciously behold our afflictions.

Officiant: With pity behold the sorrows of our hearts;
People: Mercifully forgive the sins of thy people.

Officiant: Favorably with mercy hear our prayers;
People: O Son of David, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ;
People: Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.

Officiant: Creator God, we offer heartfelt prayers for the parts of your great creation that are suffering now: the lands ravaged by fire on the west coast of our country; the Gulf of Mexico, assaulted by multiple hurricanes; the starving children of Yemen and other war-torn parts of the world; the animals who are vanishing because of loss of habitat; and those whose sufferings we may not know, but which are known to your love. We pray for healing, and offer our love, for a world in need. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus, the shepherd who was also the King of Love. *Amen.*

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant: We humbly beseech thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of thy Name, turn from us all those evils that we most justly have deserved; and grant that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy, and evermore serve thee in holiness and pureness of living, to thy honor and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

COLLECT FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Officiant and People: Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself: We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your Name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours for ever. *Amen.*

A PRAYER FOR HEROIC SERVICE

Officiant and People: O Judge of nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the people of this country and other countries who, in this time of crisis, venture much to preserve the blessings we now enjoy. We ask that all who work while many shelter from the illness the corona virus causes, may be sustained in health and safety, and know the respect and gratitude of their fellow citizens. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A PRAYER FOR THE CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES

Officiant and People: Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST OF LAND AND WATERS

Officiant and People: O gracious Father, *who openest thine* hand and *filllest* 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 PRAYER FOR THE FUTURE OF THE HUMAN RACE

Officiant and People: O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER

Officiant and People: Lord Jesus, we pray that you will give us ears to hear, hearts to love, and wills devoted to serve; that in the days to come this congregation may be known, not for our glory, but for yours alone - a congregation of people who know the Lord; that this place may be an oasis, a place where people come to find out about you, where lives are straightened out and made whole, where people find the peace that passes understanding. Give us, we pray, a heart to desire these things above all else. We pray through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS (Moment of Silence)

BLESSING

Officiant: May the blessing of God Almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

Officiant: Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

LET US PRAY

If you have a Prayer Request, please email your request to our Prayer Chair, Bonnie Flippo at msflip925@aol.com. You may also contact the office by email redeemeraldie@gmail.com or phone (703) 327-4060. Prayer Requests will be given to the Prayer Team so that they may pray for those in need. If you would like to include their name on our public prayer list, please let us know – only the name will appear on the public prayer list. If your request requires a more private nature, please contact Mother Georgia by email gdubose@gmail.com or phone (304) 839-1124.

“For those whose concerns are known only to God”

TJ Hill
David Murray
Russell & Lula
John Henry Dale & Patricia Engel
Bishop Susan Goff
Dennis Gunther
Bob Sabath
The Mikoly Family
Eunice Spence
Tom Motheral
Frank Archibald
Kathy
Rick Dawson
Candi & Taylor

The Fairweather Family
Chris
Mike
Tyler Gore
Gwenivere Black
Kevin Gile
Barbara Pavone
Nettie Stevens
Evan Hansen
The Rollins Family
Liam Ferguson
The Pisciotta Family
Church of Our Redeemer
Church of Our Redeemer Vestry Members

Serving Our Country
Amity Hess
All First Responders
All Front Line Workers
All Hospitals and Emergency Rooms Workers

Our Children, Our Schools, Our Neighbors, The Unemployed

O Lord, we come to you on behalf of those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work.

Help us use our public and private wealth that they may find employment
and receive just payment for their labor; this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord. *Amen.*