



Liturgy of the Word
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 4, 2021

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional “God of our fathers, whose mighty hand”
Performed by St. Bartholomew’s Church, NYC

A Media Presentation

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.*

Gloria

Susan Hollinger

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.*

THE COLLECT FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 10:17-21

Reader: For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the LORD your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:1-9

Reader: I will exalt you, O God my King, *

People: and bless your Name for ever and ever.

Reader: Every day will I bless you *

People: and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Reader: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *

People: there is no end to his greatness.

Reader: One generation shall praise your works to another *

People: and shall declare your power.

Reader: I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *

People: and all your marvelous works.

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

People: and I will tell of your greatness.

Reader: They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *

People: they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

Reader: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *

People: slow to anger and of great kindness.

Reader: The Lord is loving to everyone *

People: and his compassion is over all his works.

The Epistle: Hebrews 11:8-16

Reader: By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in

this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn 717 “My country, ‘tis of thee”

Susan Hollinger

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 5:43-48

Celebrant: “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. “Larry” Packard

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant 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 PRAYERS

A Litany for the Nation

Reader: Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land.

People: Give us grateful hearts, O Lord.

Reader: We thank you for the great resources of this nation which enriches our lives.

People: Help us to be good stewards of them, O Lord.

Reader: We thank you for the sacrifices of the men and women who have upheld and protected our liberty.

People: Grant that we may follow their good examples, O Lord.

Reader: We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation.

People: Help us to shine this light for future generations, O Lord.

Reader: We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life and feeds our souls.

People: Renew us and send us forth for ministry, O Lord.

Reader: Help us to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name.

People: Send your Spirit upon us that may be worthy of our heritage, O Lord.

Reader: O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Reader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others with a moment of silence.

(Moment of Silence)

Reading of Names

Prayer for the Nation

Celebrant and People: Almighty God, we commend our nation to your great mercy. Remind us that we must account to you for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States, and especially their officials and representatives, that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes for the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Church Universal

Celebrant and People: Gracious Father, we pray for thy holy catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. *Amen.*

Prayer for Church of Our Redeemer

Celebrant 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.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People: 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.*

Celebrant: 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.*

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People: 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 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.*

A Prayer of General Thanksgiving

Celebrant and People: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings of life. Above all we bless you for your immeasurable love in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. In this season of Pentecost, we pray that you will open our eyes to see the light of your mercies, that with thankful hearts we may praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by living out your gifts of holiness and righteousness in the power of his resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE OFFERTORY

Celebrant: Please remember the words of the Lord Jesus and how he said it is more blessed to give than to receive.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant: Go forth on this day with the peace and power of the risen life of Jesus Christ. May the blessing of God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and all you love. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: I invite you to remain for our special presentation of the postlude.

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Postlude "America the beautiful"
Performed by Hillsdale College Choir**

A Media Presentation

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 redemeraldie@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 Rev. Larry Packard by email l.packard@verizon.net or phone (703) 425-8315.

“For those whose concerns are known only to God”

All Those Afflicted by the Virus and
Those Who Care for Them
Fred & John Warren
Jeff Flippo
Louis “Buzzy” Carter
Tom Frazier
The Cain & Todd Families
Barbara Wooten
Stella Waltemeire
Toni & Adrienne
The Hollinger Family
Don & Chris
Bob Stewart
TJ Hill

Russell & Lula
Kathy
Candi & Taylor
The Fairweather Family
Gwenivere Black
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.*