



“The Parable of Talents” by John Morgan

**Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 15, 2020**  
**10:30 a.m.**

Grace Episcopal Church  
123 W. Washington Street  
Lexington, VA 24450

**Celebrant**  
The Rev. Tucker Bowerfind, Rector

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Lexington Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

November 15, 2020

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
The Holy Eucharist: Rite II  
The Word of God

10:30 a.m.

Enriching Our Worship 1

Supplemental Liturgical Materials prepared by The Standing Liturgical Commission 1997

Welcome to everyone joining us on Zoom and Facebook Live!

Full versions of hymns are on YouTube, link is on our website homepage: [www.graceepiscopallexington.org](http://www.graceepiscopallexington.org)

**Prelude:** Variations on *Slane*

**Hymn 433** We gather together (v. 1)

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;  
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;  
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing;  
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;  
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:

sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.  
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!  
thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

Words: Anon. 1625; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934) Copyright © by permission with G. Schirmer, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
Music: *Kremser*, from *Nederlandisch Gedenckclank*, 1626; arr. Eduard Kremser (1838-1914)

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People* Glory to God for ever and ever.

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, spoken, accompanied by joyful ringing of bells.*

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.

*Celebrant* God be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

### **The Collect of the Day (Proper 28)**

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **The Lessons**

Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

**Psalm 123** (music scholar accompanied by Levi Lebsack)

1 To you I lift up my eyes, \*

to you enthroned in the heavens.

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \*

and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, \*

until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, \*

for we have had more than enough of contempt,

5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, \*  
and of the derision of the proud.

# 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

## Hymn 488 Be thou my vision (v. 1)

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,  
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
Heart of my heart, what - ev - er be - fall,  
wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Copyright © by permission of the Estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trust-

worthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

## **The Sermon**

Fr. Tuck

## **The Nicene Creed**

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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.

## **Prayers of the People**

*Please pray for the wider Church and intercessions requested by our Congregants:*

*Pray for The Anglican Communion, The Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, Standing Committee of the Diocese of Haiti as they search for their new Bishop, the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines,*

*the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Justin Badi Arama, the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, and our Bishop Mark Bourlakas. Pray today for the Members of the Executive Board and the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia.*

*Pray for Bettie Cadden, Lynda DeMaria, Bob DeMaria, Pam Holsten, Jordan (friend of David Cox), Lynne Johnson, Melissa Hays-Smith, Susan Williams, Ned Glenn (Brother of Elizabeth Harralson), Olivia Patton, Liz Moss, Jeanne Eichelberger, Rachel Pattison, Ely Turner (friend of Rob Minor), Peter Fyfe, Jack Hershbell, The. Rev. Butch Eanes (friend of Carol and Lynn Dent), Pat Gibson, Eloise Adams, Punky Dod, Jenni Dod (niece of Punky Dod).*

*Pray for those serving in the military, especially Michael Bryant.*

*Pray for those who have died, especially Joseph Cumming, father of Doug Cumming and Ana Olive, friend of Nat Massie.*

*Pray for those affected by unsafe living conditions, poverty, disease, especially Covid-19, violence and oppression.*

*In thanksgiving for the birthdays for this week and next of Tim Price ( 11/15), René Glidden (11/15), Amy Holston (11/15), France Harcus (11/18), Steven Lawrence (11/19), Hank Humphreys (11/19), Tim Gaylard (11/21), Ryan Holston ( 11/21), Liam Murphy (11/21), Kristi Finnell (11/23), Bill Kozak (11/23), Becca Russell (11/24), Jack Hershbell (11/27), Anne Blanken (11/27), Avery Hess (11/27), Robert Glidden (11/29), Harry Warner (11/30), Brant Hellwig (11/30).*

**Celebrant:** Come, all who labor in the vineyard of God's grace, let us join together in the offering of our prayers, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

**Reader:** That our commitment to justice may extend to those we employ in our households and businesses, paying a fair and living wage, clarifying expectations, and seeking honest work in return; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may bridle our tongue against the urge to complain, channeling our energy to generously participate in the building up of the community of faith; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may receive the sacramental Meal of the Eucharist as a foretaste of God's heavenly banquet, responding to its grace by helping those who are the weakest among us; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That our homes may be schools of religious faith, where God's loving presence is revealed through personal sacrifice, ongoing forgiveness, and mutual joy; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may rejoice in the beauty of the season, and honor the extraordinary diversity of plant and animal life; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That those who have died may join in the company of the angels and archangels, all the saints in heaven, and rest in the blessed arms of him who is the first and the last, Jesus our Redeemer; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** We thank you, heavenly Father, for the witness of your apostle and evangelist Matthew to the Gospel of your Son our Savior; and we pray that, after his example, we may with ready wills and hearts obey the calling of our Lord to follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sin**

**Celebrant** Let us confess our sins to God.

*Celebrant and People*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

*Celebrant*

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**

## **The Holy Communion**

*Offertory*

**Offertory Hymn:** on *Wachet Auff "Zion hears the watchman singing"*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Celebrant* It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

*(With ringing bells)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*The Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

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.

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

The Gifts of God for the people of God.

**Communion Music:** Variations on *Amazing Grace*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.



## Hymn 687 A mighty fortress is our God (v. 1)



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark  
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing  
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en  
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to



nev - er fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood  
would be los - ing; were not the right man on our side,  
to un - do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed  
them, a - bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours



of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing; for still our an - cient foe  
the man of God's own choos - ing; dost ask who that may be?  
his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,  
through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,



doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,  
Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,  
we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,  
this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:



and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.  
from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.  
for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.  
God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king - dom is for ev - er.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546); tr. Frederic Henry Hedge (1805-1890); based on Psalm 46  
Music: *Ein feste Burg*, melody Martin Luther (1483-1546); harm. Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612), alt.

## Blessing & Dismissal

*Celebrant:* God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. *Amen.*

### **Readers**

Doug Ayer, Melissa Cox, Elizabeth Grist

### **Ushers**

Ed Craun, Marlys Craun

### **Altar Guild**

Elizabeth Harralson, Marlys Craun, Sharon Humphreys, Nancy Walker,  
Diana Kenney, Julie Grover, Sue Denson, Elizabeth Branner. Jane Brooke, Chair

### **Flower Guild**

Elizabeth Boetsch, Claudia Ellis, Gail Dick, Rene Glidden, Carol Gosse, Catherine Harcus,  
Elizabeth Harralson, Peggy Riethmiller, Joy Harris, Kathy Kozak

### **Clergy, Staff and Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church**

Wendy Moses Bearden, Financial Secretary ([bookkeeper@graceepiscopalexington.org](mailto:bookkeeper@graceepiscopalexington.org))

The Rev. Tuck Bowerfind, Rector ([frtuck@graceepiscopalexington.org](mailto:frtuck@graceepiscopalexington.org))

Connie Bryant, Sexton

Martha Jones Burford, Minister of Music ([martha@graceepiscopalexington.org](mailto:martha@graceepiscopalexington.org))

Sharon Massie, Program Director ([sharon@graceepiscopalexington.org](mailto:sharon@graceepiscopalexington.org))

Lisa McGuire, Parish Administrator ([lisa@graceepiscopalexington.org](mailto:lisa@graceepiscopalexington.org))

David Connolly (term ends 2022), Gail Dickerson, Sr. Warden ([gdickerson447@gmail.com](mailto:gdickerson447@gmail.com), term ends 2020), Punky Dod (term ends 2021), Don Ellis (term ends 2020), Tom Gosse (term ends 2020), Diana Kenney (term ends 2022), William McCorkle (term ends 2022), John Milford (term ends 2022), Elizabeth Moss, Jr. Warden ([emoss267@gmail.com](mailto:emoss267@gmail.com), term Ends 2021), Judy Schram (term ends 2021), Steve Shultis (term ends 2020), Cecile West-Settle. (term ends 2021), Buster Lewis, Treasurer (term ends 2020), Lisa McGuire, Clerk (term ends 2020).

Music largely recorded remotely and assembled. Musicians this week include: Alexandra Brown, Martha Burford, Jennifer Byrnes, Jonathan Clawson, Mary Davis, Carol Dent, Mary Doyle, Demmanuel Gonzalez, Libby Gruner, Anne Hershbelle, Levi Lebsack, Buster Lewis, Tim Price, Anne Sauder, Tevin Ware.

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Enriching Our Worship 1

Supplemental Liturgical Materials prepared by The Standing Liturgical Commission 1997