



Antoon Sallaert—The Evangelist Matthew Writing the Gospel

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 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

September 13, 2020

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost The Holy Eucharist: Rite II The Word of God

10:30 a.m.

Full versions of hymns are on YouTube, link is on our website homepage: www.graceepiscopallexington.org

Prelude: Variations on *King's Weston*

Hymn 423 Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt.
Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniau y Cyssegr* 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

Opening Acclamation

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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 The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day (Proper 19)

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Psalm 114 (read by Elizabeth Grist accompanied by Demmanuel Gonzalez)

1 Hallelujah!

 When Israel came out of Egypt, *
 the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
 and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
 Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, *

and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *

O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *

you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *

at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *

and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Hymn 435 At the name of Jesus (verses 1,4,5)

1 At the Name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,
2 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a Name
3 bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,
4 Name him, Chris - tians, name him, with love strong as death,
*5 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
*6 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,

1 ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;
2 from the lips sin - ners, un - to whom he came,
3 through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,
4 name with awe and won - der and with bat - ed breath;
5 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true;
6 with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;

1 'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord
2 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
3 to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast;
4 he is God the Sa - vior, he is Christ the Lord,
5 crown him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
6 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,

1 who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
2 brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;
3 filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.
4 ev - er to be wor - shiped, trust - ed, and a - dored.
5 let his will en - fold you in its light and power.
6 and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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:
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.

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.

Pray for Bettie Cadden, Lynda DeMaria, Bob DeMaria, Pam Holsten, Jordan (friend of David Cox), Lynne Johnson, Melissa Hays-Smith, Pat Gibson, Polly Lawrence, Kent Wilson, Myra Brush, Susan Williams, Eddie Hawkins, Ned Glenn (Brother of Elizabeth Harralson), Daniel Keane (nephew of James Keane), Olivia Patton, Becky Fitzgerald, Eric Blackwell (cousin of Alexandra Brown), Anne & John, Thomas Clay, Buddy Derrick, Liz Moss, Jeanne Eichelberger, Rachel Pattison, Ely Turner (friend of Rob Minor), Holly Cooke, Pam Adams, Melissa Cox, Peter Fyfe, Louise Moore, Julia Settle, Jack Hershbel.

Please pray for Charley who needs an organ donor.

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

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 Sue Ann Huger (9/6), Susan Cross (9/7), Delea Bowerfind (9/8), Marlys Craun (9/9), Henry Eichelberger (9/9), Ham Smith (9/11), Mary Etta Randolph (9/11), John Dinkel (9/12), Tuck Bowerfind (9/16), Judy Hotchkiss (9/18), Peter Fyfe (9/19), Julia Littlefield (9/19), Nanalou Sauder (9/19), Frank Settle (9/19), Keith Gibson (9/20), Chris Howison (9/21), Barbara Luton (9/21), Ann Nay (9/22), Elizabeth Oliver (9/22).

Celebrant: Rejoice in the waters of life, those who honor God in all things, and raise your voices in prayer, responding, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Reader: In thanksgiving for this holy day where we gather as a household of faith to hear the word of God with open minds and grateful hearts; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for the arms of forgiveness that embrace us in the midst of our sin, leading us to repentance, and filling us with the waters of mercy through which we will forgive others; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For honesty in government, and integrity in our dealings with one another, that trust may be restored between people and throughout the institutions of our society; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may commit ourselves to a life of simplicity, so that we may provide for the needs of the poor and hungry, as Jesus provided nourishment and hope to his followers; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may share our spiritual doubts with one another, convinced that in our mutual self-disclosure we will be strengthened in faith and grow in the conviction that God’s love can forgive all things and transform all life; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for those who are teachers and catechists in our Church; may they be given the blessing of knowledge and wisdom, as they bear the Christian message to those in their charge; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the dead may be redeemed from the grave, and wear the crown of eternal life; let us pray

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The Peace

The Holy Communion

Offertory

Offertory Hymn: Variations on *Chereponi*

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 him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many 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.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for 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 *Slane*

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 559 Lift every voice and sing (verse 1)

1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing till earth and hea - ven ring, ring with the
 2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, thou who hast
 har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise
 days when hope un - born had died; yet, with a stead - y beat,
 brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might
 high as the lis - tening skies; let it re - sound loud as the
 have not our wea - ry feet come to the place for which our
 led us in - to the light; keep us for ev - er in the
 roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
 par - ents sighed? We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we
 taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has
 wa - tered; we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the
 met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for
 brought us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new
 slaug - tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we
 get thee; sha-dowed be -neath thy hand may we for
 day be - gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 ev - er stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Words: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938) Music: *Lift Every Voice*, J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954) Words, Music: Copyright ©1921 by Edward B. Marks Music Company. Copyright renewed. International Copyright secured. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Blessing & Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Readers

Laurent Boetsch, Elizabeth Grist, Dennis Cross, James Keane

Ushers

Ed Craun, Marlys Craun

Altar Guild

Laura Stearns, MJ Mayerchak, Peggy Riethmiller, Mary Webster, Pam Traugott Adams, Erika Brooke, Elise Brooke, Emma Brooke, Jane Brooke, Chair, Carol Woodcock, Procurement Attaché

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@graceepiscopallexington.org)

The Rev. Tuck Bowerfind, Rector (frtuck@graceepiscopallexington.org)

Connie Bryant, Sexton

Martha Jones Burford, Minister of Music (martha@graceepiscopallexington.org)

Sharon Massie, Program Director (sharon@graceepiscopallexington.org)

Lisa McGuire, Parish Administrator (lisa@graceepiscopallexington.org)

David Connolly (term ends 2022), Gail Dickerson, Sr. Warden (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, 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 Hershbell, Levi Lebsack, Buster Lewis, Tim Price, Anne Sauder, Tevin Ware.

Hymns are either public domain or are permitted for distribution and streaming by OneLicense # A-729194