

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 2020

Meeting ID 715 310 766

Password 014954



Prelude *In Christ alone* Perf. By the NCrew

Opening Hymn *Awake my soul, stretch every nerve*

Celebrant Blessed by God, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you

People And also with you

Celebrant Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 5: 1 - 7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
 he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;
 he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and
my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it
 shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown
 with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of
 Judah are his pleasant planting;
 he expected justice, but saw bloodshed;
 righteousness, but heard a cry

The Reader may say

If you were content Lord, you would not bother us; but you are restless.

*People: May your restlessness be born in us, that you upset our easiness and
 require us to respond.*

Psalm 80: 7 - 14 Anglican chant in D Minor, St. Andrews Episcopal Church

(The text is pointed to help you chant along... go for it!)

7 Restore us, | O God | of hosts; *
 show the light of your | countenance, and | we shall be | saved.

8 You have brought a | vine out of | Egypt; *
you cast | out the nations | and | planted it.

9 You pre- | pared the | ground for it; *
it took | root and | filled the | land.

10 The mountains were | covered by its | shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

11 You stretched out its | tendrils to the | Sea *
and its | branches | to the | River.

12 Why have you broken | down its | wall, *
so that all who pass | by pluck | off its | grapes?

13 The wild boar of the | forest has | ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the | field have | grazed up- | on it.

14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and | tend this | vine; *
preserve what | your right | hand has | planted.

A Reading from the Epistles of the Early Church

Philippians 3: 4b - 14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what

lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Reader may say

Use me, O Lord, for the work you have me do.

People: And taking me, help me not to resist you.

Gradual *All along the watchtower* R. Zimmerman, Perf. By Playing for Change

The Holy Gospel

Then the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (21: 33 - 46)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?’

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon Rev. Ken Phelps, Jr.

An Affirmation of Faith (*New Zealand Book of Common Prayer*)

Celebrant: We are not alone, we live in God's world.

People: *We believe in God: Who has created and is creating,*

Who has come in Jesus, The Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

Who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:

To celebrate God's presence,

To love and to serve others,

To seek justice and resist evil,

To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

An Invitation to Repentance

The Celebrant says:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 that 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 our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Inspired by the Spirit, we offer our prayers to God, in the name of Jesus Christ, saying: *Lord, have mercy.*

For the ministers of the church, especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Eugene and Robert our Bishops, Ken and Lisa, our clergy, Betsy, our clergy emeritus. Kip, Patrick, Deb, Tom and Barbara, our wardens, Steve, our treasurer; for our vestry and other mission leaders, and for those who serve the Gospel at St Luke's, Brownsville; St Mark's, Lappans; and, St Paul's, Sharpsburg; and, for John T. Verdon, Elizabeth M. Sipos and Christopher M. Garcia
Silence we pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For every member of the human family, that we be guided to all truth by the Spirit of truth *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For the stewards of the earth, and for the renewed witness to the gospel among people serving in positions of public trust, especially for Donald, President of the United States, Larry, Governor of the State of Maryland, and those who serve us in County and State; that all accept creation as a wondrous gift, and work to preserve its beauty, and the dignity and respect of all creatures great and small *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those who celebrate community here, that our labors spread joy and our witness brings peace *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all the sick and suffering, the lonely and the dying, especially all others we raise before you...

(Members are encouraged to pray silently or aloud for those known and unknown to our community. When all petitions have been offered, and a period of silence has been kept, the leader continues...)

That their affliction lead to endurance, their endurance to virtue, and their virtue to hope *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those who have died, especially John Ward, Mark Delozier, Margaret Kepich and Brian Lovelace, and for those who mourn them *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those who are in any way affected by the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Comfort and sustain those who have been stricken; relieve their pain and restore to them your gifts of gladness and strength. Grant to all in authority the courage to make wise decisions that are essential for the common good and strengthen them to lead institutions that care for those whom they serve. Watch over all first responders and those in the medical professions whose duty it is to care for the sick; guard them from all danger, and keep them safe in the knowledge that is through their sacrifice and service that the health of the whole community is promoted, *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those who have suffered at the hands of hurricane or wildfire, for those who have died, those who have been injured, those who have been displaced, those who have lost everything, those who bring relief, and those who risk their lives to battling nature *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those whose lives have been forever altered by racial violence. We remember our Black brothers and sisters, beloved children of God, groaning under the weight of redlining, segregation, underfunded schools, unequal economic opportunity, indignity, and ever-present fear. Especially today we remember our brothers and sisters in Louisville, beloved children of God. We pray for those who protest, those whose lives and property have been disrupted and for those who seek to maintain order and safety. May your generous and gentle spirit be present. We remember our public officials, beloved children of God, managing a global pandemic and the grief and anger in our communities. We remember our police officers, beloved children of God, whom we ask, often without appropriate training, to respond to human beings in their worst and most vulnerable moments. We remember the police officers who feel their loyalties divided or their cause unclear, beloved children of God who feel afraid for themselves, their partners, their families, and their fellow citizens. We remember those who have pledged their lives to racist ideologies, beloved children of God. We acknowledge the pain they have caused to victims of violence, to their communities, to their families, and to their own souls. We know that the sickness of racism is in this nation's very bedrock and we beg your mercy to free all your people from it. Help us turn away from this sin of division and toward your all-encompassing love. *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy.*

For our nation, in this time of uncertainty and crisis. We raise before you our fears, our anxiety, our deepest concerns and our greatest hopes. We pray that you will bring us together in this moment as a people; that we may rise as one to the single purpose of doing all in our power to protect dignity, promote justice, and support the healing and safety and recovery of all our neighbors, near and far, that in committing ourselves to the welfare of the other we may discover that the love that binds us is greater than anything that might separate us. *Silence* we pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy.*

The Celebrant continues

O God, from whom good things flow, we thank you and bless you. Answer our prayers and bring us hope through Jesus Christ your Son, who lives with you in the unity of the Spirit, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you
People And also with you

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

The Holy Communion

The Offertory *What's So Funny 'Bout Peace, Love and Understanding* N. Lowe

Celebrant: Lord God, in the service of your Kingdom, grant us the peace we may have, show us the peace we should seek.

People: *And give us the strength to do without, especially the peace we must forego for Jesus' sake.*

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 God thanks and praise.*

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Author of all that is good and holy. For by water and the Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your love and reconciliation in all the world. Therefore, with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

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.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of the children of Abraham to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died, 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 God’s new Covenant, sealed with my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, we acclaim you, O Christ,

Celebrant and People:

This is the death we celebrate This is the new life we proclaim
This is the vision we live

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. AMEN.

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

People and Celebrant

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

Celebrant: We are one people; one body in Christ, for we eat of
one loaf and drink from one cup.

*People: Thank you, gracious God, for the food that makes us one with
you, and one with each other*

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *Celebrant and People*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never

be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen

Benediction

Closing Hymn *My song is love unknown*

Dismissal