



The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 3, 2021

Holy Eucharist:

Enriching our Worship

St. John's Episcopal Church
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The Word of God

Entrance Hymn 388

O worship the King

Robert Grant

1. O worship the King, all glorious above! O gratefully sing his power and his love! Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.
2. O tell of his might! O sing of his grace! Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space. His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
3. The earth, with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, thy power hath founded of old, hath stablished it fast by a change-less decree, and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.
4. Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air; it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.
5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mercies, how tender! how firm to the end! Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

Opening Acclamation

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

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

Hymn of Praise

Gloria to God

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.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant 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.*

Lessons

The congregation is seated.

Lector A Reading from Job 1:1; 2:1-10

Sherran Davis

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Lector

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

Psalm 26

Judica me, Domine

(verses sung by) Alan Zaring Jr



- 1 Give judgment for me, O LORD,
for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- 2 Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.
- 3 For your love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.
- 4 I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful. R
- 5 I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,
- 7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides. R
- 9 Do not sweep me away with sinners,
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,
- 10 Whose hands are full of evil plots,
and their right hand full of bribes.
- 11 As for me, I will live with integrity;
redeem me, O LORD, and have pity on me.
- 12 My foot stands on level ground;
in the full assembly I will bless the LORD. R

Lector

A Reading from Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Pat Roberts

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?

You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,
subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Silence may follow.

Sequence Hymn Solo

Meditation

Portnoy/Liturgy
sung by Lisa Norton-Rotella

The Gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 10:2-16
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon

Rev. James Rosser

Nicene Creed

(All stand as you are able)

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

Celeste Hall

Coming together as the children of God, let us pray as one people.

I ask your prayers for all of God's people throughout the world. We pray especially for Rob and Don, our bishops; our clergy; and all gathered in this place.

God of love, *grant our prayer.*

I ask your prayers for those who lead, especially The Congress of the United States. May they legislate in a way that respects the dignity of all people.

God of love, *grant our prayer.*

I ask your prayers for the preservation of this Earth. May our actions lead to greater care for our planet and all who inhabit it.

God of love, *grant our prayer.*

I ask your prayers for children separated from their families. May they be reunited with those who love them and can properly care for them.

God of love, *grant our prayer.*

I ask your prayers for those who live in our cities without proper shelter, medical care and food. May we see their humanity and respond as Jesus taught us.

God of love, *grant our prayer.*

For the Parish

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; God of love, *grant our prayer.*

I ask your prayers for those on our parish prayer list. God knows their need and we lift them up this morning. We pray for... *[the Intercessor will read specific names]*. Are there others?

God of love, *grant our prayer.*

I ask your prayers for all who have died, (intercessions may be offered) May they rest in the peace of God's eternal presence.

God of love, *grant our prayer.*

God of grace and glory, grant that we may live in the fullness of life and in all we do, bring glory to your name. In the name of your son, Jesus Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. *Amen.*

The Confession and Absolution

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

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

All stand as you are able. The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the ministers and the People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Announcements

Pat Roberts

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; [Lord God of our Mothers: God of Sarah, Rebekah, Leah, and Rachel;] God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. AMEN.

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

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be said

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

In the Episcopal Church, all persons (adults and children) are welcome at the Lord's Table. We offer the sacrament in one kind – bread.

If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, when you come to the altar, please cross your arms over your chest as a signal to the priest of your wish.

1. My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me, love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be. O whom am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
2. He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow, but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know. But O my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend.
3. Sometimes they strew his way, and his strong praises sing, resounding all the day hosannas to their King. Then "Crucify!" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Postcommunion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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.

In Times of Conflict

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Unity of the Church

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A Sending Out Prayer

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn 480 **When Jesus left his Father's throne** James Montgomery

1. When Jesus left his Father's throne, he chose an humble birth; like us, unhonored and unknown, he came to dwell on earth. Like him may we be found below, in wisdom's path of peace; like him in grace and knowledge grow, as years and strength increase.
2. Sweet were his words and kind his look, when mothers round him pressed; their infants in his arms he took, and on his bosom blessed. Safe from the world's alluring harms, beneath his watchful eye, thus in the circle of his arms may we for ever lie.
3. When Jesus into Zion rode, the children sang around; for joy they plucked the palms and strowed their garments on the ground. Hosanna our glad voices raise, hosanna to our King! Should we forget our Savior's praise, the stones themselves would sing.

The Dismissal

Our audio and video channels will be left open for the next few minutes so that you can all exchange the Peace with a 'virtual' hello or a hug.

Assisting with the service today

Readers	Sherran Davis & Pat Roberts
Prayers of the People	Celeste Hall
Coordinator	Richard Pfleger
Music	Paul Campbell
Church Administrator	Terry Glover
Vestry Members:	Linda Cage, Outreach coordinator
	Michael Proscia, Jr. Warden
	Pat Roberts, Sr. Warden
	Richard Pfleger, Treasurer
	Sherran Davis, Clerk

At 10:00am on Sunday morning, visit the Zoom website and 'join a meeting.' The meeting password is **890 4465 2335**. The password is **704817**. You should be connected into the meeting. Participants will be "muted" upon entry so that the service can begin in quiet. Please refer to your 'Eagle Notes' e-mail for instructions on how to utilize our Zoom worship services.

If you do not have a camera-enabled device, but want to participate via audio only, then call (toll-free) **1-929-205-6099** and use the same meeting ID and password as above.

Acknowledging materials used in today's worship:

The Hymnal 1982. Church Hymnal Corp., 1985.

Boyer, Horace Clarence. *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*. Church Hymnal Corporation, 1993.

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