



Christ Episcopal Church Kensington  
Evening Prayer  
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 26, 2020

**Welcome**

**Prelude**      *Song Without Words (Pleading)*      Florence Beatrice Price  
Dr. Theodore M. Guerrant, Organist Choirmaster, Christ Church

**Opening Acclamation**

Presider      Blessed be the one, holy, and living God  
**People**      **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

**The Collect of the Day**

Presider:      God dwells in you.  
**People:**      **And also in you.**  
Presider:      Let us pray.

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow:  
though our faith is as small as a mustard seed,  
make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**A Reading from the First Book of Kings (1 Kings 3:5-12)**

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Reader:      Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**People:**      **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 119:129-136** *Mirabilia*

*Read responsively by whole verse.*

129 Your decrees are wonderful; \*  
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

**130 When your word goes forth it gives light; \*  
it gives understanding to the simple.**

131 I open my mouth and pant; \*  
I long for your commandments.

**132 Turn to me in mercy, \*  
as you always do to those who love your Name.**

133 Steady my footsteps in your word; \*  
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

**134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, \*  
and I will keep your commandments.**

135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant \*  
and teach me your statutes.

**136 My eyes shed streams of tears, \*  
because people do not keep your law.**

**The Epistle**

**A Reading from the Letter to the Romans (8:26-39)**

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God,

who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 213 LEVAS (vv. 1, 2, 3, 5) Children of the Heavenly Father *Tryggare Kan Ingen Vara*

1. Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther Safe - ly in His bos - om gath - er;  
2. God His own doth tend and nour - ish, In His ho - ly courts they flour - ish;  
3. Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the Lord His chil - ren sev - er;  
4. Praise the Lord in joy - ful num - bers, Your pro - tect - or nev - er slum - bers;  
5. Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

1. Nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en, Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
2. From all e - vil things He spares them, In His might - y arms He bears them.  
3. Un - to them His grace He show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.  
4. At the will of your de - fend - er Ev - ery per - son must sur - ren - der.  
5. His the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

## **The Gospel      Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

**Gospeller:**      The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**People:**      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:**      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Homily**

**A Statement of Faith**      *Originally from Grace Episcopal Cathedral, San Francisco.*

**We believe in God the Creator,  
by whom every person in heaven and earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God:**

**Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen**

## **Confession & Absolution**

**Presider:** Let us confess our sins to God

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 Presider offers absolution.*

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**

                    The Lord be with you.  
**People**          **And also with you.**  
                    Let us pray.

**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 Prayers of the People**    Form IV, *The Book of Common Prayer*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

God of mercy and love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

God of mercy and love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

God of mercy and love,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as Christ loves us.

*Silence*

God of mercy and love,

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We remember those on our prayer list, Teodora Carabas Salow, Mary Lou Cumberpatch, Marc Donnelly, Kate Ganascioli, Rena Godfrey, Carl Keith, Gail Marks, Jon Martineau, Sue Mitchell, Betsy Robbins, and Amy Saylor.

*The people are encouraged to unmute themselves and add prayers for healing.*

God of mercy and love,

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Kristen Hoey, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*The people are encouraged to unmute themselves and add prayers for the departed.*

God of mercy and love,

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us grateful hearts for the many blessings of our lives.

We give thanks for those celebrating their birthdays this week, especially Roberto De Paz and Sharon Judge.

*The people are encouraged to unmute themselves and add a prayer of thanksgiving.*

God of mercy and love,

**Hear our prayer.**

*Concluding Prayer*

Hear our prayers, Holy God. Breathe your Spirit over us and all the earth, that barriers would crumble and divisions cease. Unite us with all people in bonds of love, that the whole earth and all its peoples may be at peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

Presider        The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People**        **And also with you.**

**Offertory**        *Confitemini Domino*

Taize  
Kate McKinley, Soprano

Even though we are not able to meet together during this time, the work of the Church continues. Please mail your offering to Christ Church, 4001 Franklin St., Kensington, MD 20895, or take this time to contribute online <https://christchurchkensington.org/give/>  
We are grateful for your generosity.

For those who are able to do so, we also encourage you to support our work with Arcola Elementary School in Wheaton, MD. 700+ students in grades PK, K-5 attend Arcola, and we work with the program Linkages to Learning (managed by *EveryMind*) that provides wrap around services for many of the most vulnerable Arcola children and their families. Read about Linkages to Learning here: <http://www.every-mind.org/services/youth/>  
They currently need non-perishable healthy food, diapers & pull ups, grocery gift cards and more. Want to help? Contact Liz Quinn [webethemom@aol.com](mailto:webethemom@aol.com)

### **Benediction**

### **Dismissal**

**People** Let us go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord, **Alleluia. alleluia.**  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia. alleluia.**



### **welcome to all our visitors**

If you'd like more information about Christ Church, please email Parish Administrator Jen Luna [administrator@ccpk.org](mailto:administrator@ccpk.org), we'll add you to our weekly e-newsletter, or call us at 301-942-4673.

Send an email to the Rector, the Rev. Emily Guthrie, [emily@ccpk.org](mailto:emily@ccpk.org)

We are better for your presence with us today, and would love to get to know you!



### **virtual flower dedication**

Virtual Flowers this week are given by Anne Witt,  
in memory of her daughter Kristen Hoey.

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If you would like to dedicate virtual flowers that appear in the weekly email, please contact Jen Luna, [administrator@ccpk.org](mailto:administrator@ccpk.org).