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*The 17th
Sunday
after
Pentecost*

SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Preludes: ‘Softly and Tenderly’

The Greeting

Presider

May the strength of God, the compassion of Christ and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

The Kyrie

Presider

O God, our maker and redeemer, when we forget that this is your world and we are your people:

Lord, have mercy.

When we have willfully misused your gifts of creation, forgetting that we are the stewards of your bounty: **Christ, have mercy.**

When we have seen the ill-treatment of others and have not gone to their aid: **Lord, have mercy.**

When we have condoned evil and dishonesty and have failed to strive for justice: **Christ, have mercy.**

When we have heard the good news of Christ, but have failed to share it with others: **Lord, have mercy.**

When we have not loved you with all our heart,
nor our neighbours as ourselves: **Christ, have mercy.**

Presider

May the God of love and power forgive you and
free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you
by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise:

‘Let My People Seek Their Freedom’

Common Praise #471

"From the slave pens of the Delta,
from the ghettos on the Nile,
let my people seek their freedom
in the wilderness awhile":
So God spoke from out of Sinai,
so God spoke and it was done,
and the people crossed the waters
toward the rising of the sun.

“From the aging shrines and structures,
from the cloister and the aisle,
let my people seek their freedom
in the wilderness awhile”:
so the Son of God has spoken,
and the storm-clouds are unfurled,
for his people must be scattered
to be servants in the world.

In the maelstrom of the nations,
in the journey into space,

in the clash of generations,
in the hungering for grace,
in our agony and glory,
we are called to newer ways
by the Lord of our tomorrows
and the God of earth's todays.

The Collect of the Day

Presider

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties
through the liberating love of Jesus Christ our
Saviour. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Exodus 17.1-7

Before the Reading the Reader says,
A reading from Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"

So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

*After the Reading the Reader says,
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the
Church.*

Thanks be to God.

***The Psalm of the Day:
Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16***

Psalmist

The Lord our God is the Holy One.

The Lord our God is the Holy One.

Hear my teaching, O my people; *

incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable; *

I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

That which we have heard and known,

and what our ancestors have told us, *

we will not hide from their children.

We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
who has done wonderful works.

The Lord our God is the Holy One.

God worked marvels in the sight of their ancestors, *

in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan,
splitting open the sea and letting them pass through, *

making the waters stand up like walls;
leading them with a cloud by day, *

and all the night through with the glow of fire;
splitting hard rocks in the wilderness, *

and giving them drink as from the great deep;
bringing streams out of the cliff, *

and the waters gushing out like rivers.

The Lord our God is the Holy One.

The Second Reading: Philippians 2.1-13

*Before the Reading the Reader says,
A reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.*

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better

than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

After the Reading the Reader says,
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Alleluia

Deacon

Alleluia. Alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord:

I know them and they follow me. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Gospel: Matthew 21.23-32

Before the Gospel the Deacon says,
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

*After the Gospel the Deacon says,
The Gospel of Christ.*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

***The Sermon:
The Rev’d Tasha Carrothers***

After the Sermon we have a period for silent reflection.

The Apostles’ Creed

Deacon

I believe in God,

**the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Intercessions, Petitions and Thanksgivings

Leader of the Prayers

Let us confide to God our hopes and needs, the
pains and labours of the whole world, saying,
'Lord, hear and have mercy.' Lord, **hear and have
mercy.**

For all people of faith throughout the world and
for those whose faith is known to God alone, that
God's love may be known among them: Lord, **hear
and have mercy.**

For all Christian people that we might prove in our witness and action the love of Christ for all: Lord, **hear and have mercy.**

For our country and all the nations of the world that we might be united by God's loving purpose: Lord, **hear and have mercy.**

For all those in any need or trouble, for those in pain or are over-burdened by care and for all who care for them that they might be uplifted by God's strength and compassion: Lord, **hear and have mercy.**

For all who have died that they might rest in peace and rise in glory: Lord, **hear and have mercy.**

God of compassion, be merciful to your people everywhere and hear our prayers for those who are in need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Exchange of the Peace

Presider

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory Hymn:

‘At the Name of Jesus’

Common Praise #375

At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of glory now;
‘tis his Father’s pleasure
we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it,
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious
when from death he passed.

Name, Christians, name him,
with love as strong as death,
but with awe and wonder,
and with bated breath;
he is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted and adored.

The Prayer over the Gifts

Presider

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ we behold your glory. Receive the offering of your people gathered before you, and open our hearts and mouths to praise your great salvation, the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Thanksgiving at the Table

Presider

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**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 compassionate God, Creator of all things, seen and unseen: endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of Jesus the Christ, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to the giving of his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes, saying:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, so that who share in Christ's body and blood may live to praise your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours,
Sovereign of the universe, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Communion of the People

If you are not receiving Communion in-person, then offer this prayer.

In union, O God, with all your faithful people gathered wherever the eucharist is celebrated this day, I offer you praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption given to us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ, and for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I pray you come into my heart, my soul and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you. May I serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your promised reign of justice and peace; through Christ and in the unity of the Spirit. Amen.

Music during Communion:

‘You Are the Vine’

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

The Prayer after Communion

Presider

Let us pray.

Creator of the universe, strengthen the unity of your Church, so that we who have been fed with holy things may fulfil your will in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Doxology

Presider

Glory to God,

whose power working in us,

can do infinitely more

than we can ask or imagine.

Glory to God from generation to generation,

in the Church and in Christ Jesus,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

The Blessing of the Community

Presider

May the power of God sustain you. May the wisdom of the Word enlighten you. May the mercy of the Holy Spirit unite you.

And the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Recessional Hymn:

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name'

Common Praise #322

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

Hail him, the heir of David's line,
whom David Lord did call,
the God incarnate, life divine,
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

Let every tongue and every tribe,
delivered from the fall,
to Christ all majesty ascribe,
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all.

O that, with heaven's sacred throng,
we at his feet may fall,
lift high the universal song,
and crown him, crown him,
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

The Dismissal

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia.
Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude