St. George's Episcopal Church

September 6, 2020

14 Pentecost
fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost:
Proper 18

Holy Eucharist Rite II
from The Book of Common Prayer
THE WORD OF GOD
(The Book of Common Prayer Page 355)

_Processional Hymn—376 Joyful Joyful, We Adore Thee (vs. 1 and 3)_

1--Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.

3--Thou art giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:  
all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.

_Celebrant_  
Blessed by God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
_People_  
And blessed by his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.

_Celebrant_  
The Lord be with you.
_People_  
And also with you.
_Celebrant_  
Let us pray.

_The Collect of the Day_
Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Children’s Worship Song

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 33:7-11

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:33-40

33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, *
   and I shall keep it to the end.
34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *
   I shall keep it with all my heart.
35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
   for that is my desire.
36 Incline my heart to your decrees *
   and not to unjust gain.
37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
   give me life in your ways.
38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
   which you make to those who fear you.
39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
   because your judgments are good.
40 Behold, I long for your commandments; *
   in your righteousness preserve my life.
The Epistle: Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn—581 Where Charity and Love Prevail (vs. 1, 3 and 4)

1--Where charity and love prevail there God is ever found.
Brought here together by Christ’s love by love are we thus bound.

3—Forgive we now each other’s faults as we our faults confess
And let us love each other well in Christian holiness.

4—Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease
Be his the glory that we seek, be ours his holy peace.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ
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.

The Prayers of the People Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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.

Lord, in your mercy
   
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.

Lord, in your mercy  
**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.

Lord, in your mercy  
**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 he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially Sandra, Len, Jenna Rose, Deacon Bill, Seth, Rev. Moore, Elaine, Martha B., Alex, Spencer, Judy, Karen, Joan, Martha S., Cynde, Denise, Tim, Kylie, Michelle, and all others who we name before you now (...pause...) give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

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

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Confession  
*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.

*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 Peace
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Officiant: A word about wisdom, knowledge and wonder, and about students, teachers, God, and blessing.

Scripture Reading

How much better to get wisdom than gold!
To get understanding is to be chosen even more than silver.
--Proverbs 16:16

The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever else you get, get understanding.
--Proverbs 4:7

Officiant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray. O God, today we gather to celebrate the beginning of a new school year. It is a day filled with joy and excitement as well as uncertainty and wonder. God of knowledge and wisdom, we pray to you for all schools that they may be lively centers for learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of goodness. We pray also for our places of work, that our time laboring may be fruitful and enriching. As students begin the year, give them open minds and open hearts to learn and to experience more fully the majesty of the world you have created. May this year be full of promise for them, and for their teachers, as together they experience new beginnings and fresh starts. Enable them to grow in knowledge and wisdom during this school year and all the days of their lives. Now O God, bless these backpacks and briefcases, and the students, teachers, and workers who carry them. In the name of Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Holy Communion

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.
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:

**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:

**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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Invitation

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that
Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Song - Kindness...Chris Tomlin

Open up the skies of mercy
And rain down the cleansing flood
Healing waters rise around us
And hear our cries Lord let ’em rise

CHORUS: And it’s Your kindness Lord
That leads us to repentance
Your favor Lord is our desire
And it’s Your beauty Lord
That makes us stand in silence
And Your love
Your love is better than life

We can feel Your mercy falling
You are turning our hearts back again
Hear our praises rise to heaven
And draw us near Lord meet us here (chorus)

The Post-Communion Prayer:

Celebrant: Let us pray.
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.

The Blessing

The Recessional

Recessional Hymn—539 O Zion Haste (vs. 1 and 4)

1--O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling, to tell to all the world that God is Light; that he who made all nations is not willing one soul should fail to know his love and might.

Refrain:
Publish glad tidings: tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.

4-- He comes again! O Zion, ere thou meet him, make known to every heart his saving grace; let none whom he hath ransomed fail to greet him, through thy neglect, unfit to see his face. (Refrain)

The Closing Prayer and Dismissal