

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



July 12, 2020

WELCOME BY GREETERS AND USHERS

RECTOR'S WELCOME

OPENING SENTENCE

Priest: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

-Philippians 1:2

CONFESSION OF SIN

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Priest 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.

Priest: 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.

INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Priest: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Priest and People:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

THE VENITE

Led by Jack Reiffer.
Psalm 95:1-7

Leader: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God:

People: Come let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Leader: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God:

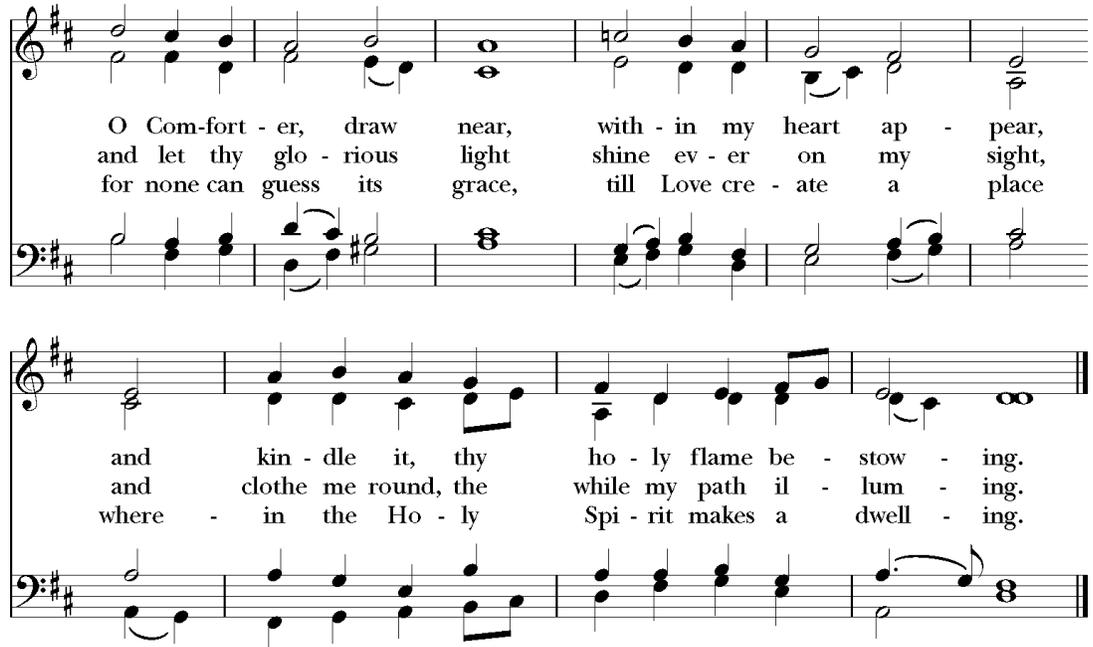
People: Come let us adore him.

HYMN 516

Come down, O Love divine

Sung by the Summer Choir.

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,
and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com-fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt.
 Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
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THE READING

Romans 8:1-11

Read by Clark Ervin.

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:105-112

Read by Julia Koster.

- 105 Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon my path.
106 I have sworn and am determined
to keep your righteous judgments.
107 I am deeply troubled;
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.
108 Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips,
and teach me your judgments.
109 My life is always in my hand,
yet I do not forget your law.
110 The wicked have set a trap for me,
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever;
truly, they are the joy of my heart.
112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes
for ever and to the end.

THE READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Come thou fount of every blessing

American Folk Tune
arr. Richard Walters

Sung by the Summer Choir

Come thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
I'll praise the mount I'm fixed upon it.
Mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by thy help I come;
And I hope by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wondering from the fold of God.
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander Lord I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Read by Alyssa and Andrew Tomlinson.

Leader and People:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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 LORD'S PRAYER

Led by the Sarah Wood and Zoe Fisher.

The people stand or kneel.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Leader and People:

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 SUFFRAGES

Read by Annette and Philip Anfinrud.

Versicle: Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

Response: Govern and uphold them, now and always.

Versicle: Day by day we bless you;

Response: We praise your Name for ever.

Versicle: Lord, keep us from all sin today;

Response: Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

Versicle: Lord, show us your love and mercy;

Response: For we put our trust in you.

Versicle: Let your way be known upon earth;

Response: And we shall never hope in vain.

THE COLLECT FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Priest: O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Lauren Edwards.

(adapted from prayers written by Brian McLaren.)

Leader: Let us give thanks to the living God for all the gifts that we enjoy, saying, “We thank you, living God.”

Leader: For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For the communities of St. John’s and our companion relationships with the *Anglican Church of Southern Africa** and *the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem*. For *Michael*, our Presiding Bishop, for our Bishops, *Mariann* and *Chilton*, and for all people whose lives reveal the image of Christ:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For *Donald*, our President, the leaders of *Congress*, the *Supreme Court*, and for all who serve our country, that they may work for justice, freedom, and peace:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For minds to think, hearts to love, and hands to serve:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For challenges which call forth new strength, for failures which teach greater humility, and for encouragement to persevere when life is hard:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For those in special need today, especially those who are sick and who are shut-ins. For the people of the *Middle East*, *Latin America*, and *all affected by the coronavirus* and for your care for all those in need:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

** In particular, the Kwasa Centre in the Diocese of the Highveld.*

Leader: For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially *Jeff Agnew, Geoffrey Baker, Ryan Bash, John Davis, Walton Ehrich, Olivia Kehoe, Saunders McElroy, Catherine Morefield, Nancy Pappas, Brian Schoeneman, Hilary Thesmar,* and *Alis Wang*; for those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *Megan and Newman Evans* and *Mary Blanche Hankey and Kyle Hankey*; and in thanksgiving for the marriage yesterday of *Margaret Slattery and Toby Stock*.

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For our country and all who serve on behalf of our civic life:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For those who have died, especially *Anna Holder* and *Ellen Holder* who were born and died on Sunday, July 5, 2020, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: For all who have gone before us, for all who walk beside us, and for all children, who are precious to us and to you:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

Leader: And for the great wisdom and hope that you reveal to us through Jesus, our leader, example, teacher, liberator, and friend:

People: **We thank you, living God.**

A PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST. FRANCIS

Read by Allie Raether.

Leader: Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Read by Matt Bode.

Leader: Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Read by Bob Pasley.

Leader: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE BLESSING

Priest: Life is short. And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

People: **Amen.**

Priest: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

-Ephesians 3:20, 21

VOLUNTARY *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 675*
(Glory be to God on High Alone)

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

USHERS: Robert Carroll and Sylvia Martin Estes and Doug Estes.

GREETERS: Andrew Hunt and Joanna Hunt.