

**THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



**July 26, 2020**

## WELCOME BY GREETERS AND USHERS

### 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 Betsy Danello.

**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 379

*God is Love, let heaven adore him*

Sung by the Summer Choir.

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let  
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in  
3 God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him  
one em - brace; with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,  
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-  
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are  
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through  
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that  
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.  
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.  
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt.  
 Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)  
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**THE READING**

**Romans 8:26-39**

*Read by Hilary West.*

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:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 105:1-11, 45B**

*Read by Nancy and Frank Klotz.*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him,  
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength;  
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done,  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant,  
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 7 He is the Lord our God;  
his judgments prevail in all the world.
- 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant,  
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
- 9 The covenant he made with Abraham,  
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob,  
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- 11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan  
to be your allotted inheritance."
- 45b Hallelujah!

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.”

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM** *Take my life and let it be consecrated*

Mark Hayes  
(b. 1953)

Tory Wood, *soprano*  
Brent Erstad, *piano*

**THE SERMON**

**The Rev. Savannah Ponder**

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

*Read by the Burkhardt Family.*

*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 Jill Dowell.*

*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 Justin Dean and Matthew Sipala.*

**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 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Priest:** O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Led by Scott Raab.*

(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*. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for *St. James’ Church, Indian Head*, 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 *Barbara Johnston* who is in the hospital, and 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 *Lourdes Arriaga, Kate Benner, Martha Blalock, Rebecca Brown, Pete Carlson, Evan Corcoran, Margaret Depue, Steve Faris, Jamie Finch, Myles Jeffers, Jack Martin, Jody Moses, Allie Raether, Nate Rawlings, Larry Redway, Isabel Tierney, Christina Wilson, and Andrea Winchell*; for those celebrating an anniversary this week, especially *Mary and Daniel Kroese, Susan and Pat Welch, and Alis Wang and Amy Stulman*.

**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, 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 Linda Gaines.*

**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 Alex Stolar.*

**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 Laurie Adams.*

**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 desiresaints

s 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** *Dialogue sur les Grands Jeux from Veni Creator Spiritus*

Nicolas de Grigny  
(1672-1703)

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**THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD.**

**USHERS:** Anthony Pegues and The Rhodes Family.

**GREETERS:** Susan and Ray Petniunas.