



The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 4, 2021 Holy Eucharist

Hybrid Service 9:00 AM

¹⁷For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, ¹⁸who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them with food and clothing. [Deuteronomy 10:17-18]

Ministers of the Liturgy

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Judith Lee

Eucharistic Minister: Peach Warren

Lector: Kevin Keppler

Musicians: Randolph Bloom, Cathy Poch

Ushers: Andrew Yaroshefski & Justin Varteresian

Altar Guild: Mary-Ellen Yaroshefski

Digital Ministers: Ann Marie Lockwood & Cindi Scrimgeour

Please stand.

Opening Hymn *My country 'tis of thee*

Hymnal #717

1 My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:

*land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride, from every mountainside
let freedom ring!*

2 My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love;

*I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills; my heart with rapture thrills
like that above.*

3 Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song:

*let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake; let rocks their silence break,
the sound prolong.*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. 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**

The Gloria

Let us say together:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

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

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy [10:17-21]

¹⁷For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, ¹⁸who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them with food and clothing. ¹⁹You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. ²⁰You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. ²¹He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:1-9

We will read responsively, on the half-verse

¹ I will extol you, my God and King, **and bless your name forever and ever.**

² Every day I will bless you, **and praise your name for ever and ever.**

³ Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; **his greatness is unsearchable.**

⁴ One generation shall laud your works to another, **and shall declare your mighty acts.**

⁵ On the glorious splendor of your majesty, **and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.**

⁶ The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, **and I will declare your greatness.**

⁷ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

⁸ The Lord is gracious and merciful, **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

⁹ The Lord is good to all, **with compassion over all that he has made.**

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews [11:8-16]

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered himself faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’ ¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation Celtic Alleluia Fintan O'Carroll & Christopher Walker



The Holy Gospel of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew [5:43-48]

Glory to you Lord Christ

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and

sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

Please stand.

The Nicene Creed

Let us say together:

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

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church, **that we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you
that your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishop Doug, our Interim Priest Judith, our new Rector John, and all those who are preparing to serve you in ordained ministry

that they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world,
that there may be justice and peace on the earth.

We give thanks for the freedom you have given us, and we ask your blessing on all those who have dedicated their lives to freedom and justice throughout the world. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake,
that our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, who suffer in body, mind, or spirit . . . especially on those we now name, silently or aloud [Pause]. . .
that they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially those we now name, silently or aloud. [Pause] . . . Draw them to you in love, that they may rest in that place where there is no pain or grief. [Pause]
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
may we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Eternal God, stir our minds and stimulate our hearts with a high sense of patriotism on this day. May all that this day symbolizes renew our faith in freedom, our devotion to democracy, and redouble our efforts to keep a government of the people, by the people, and for the people truly alive in our world. Grant that we may highly resolve on this great day to dedicate ourselves anew to the task of ushering in an era when good will shall live in the hearts of a free people, justice shall be the light to guide their feet, and peace shall be the goal of humankind: to the glory of your holy name and the good of our Nation and of all humankind. **Amen.**

The Congressional Prayer for the Fourth of July [offered by The Reverend Edward G. Latch on Wednesday, July 3, 1974]

Please kneel

The Confession and Absolution

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

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 Priest stands and says

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

Please stand. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

Hymn *God of grace and God of glory*

Hymnal #594

Cathy Poch, soloist

Please stand.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We have lifted them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Savior, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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 the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection. We await his coming in glory.

And we offer our praise and thanksgiving to you, O Creator of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to Christ in his self-offering, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 the prayer Our Lord taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

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

We who are many are one body, for in Christ we all share in the one bread, one cup.

Please stand.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us say together:

Holy and Loving God, your Holy Spirit gives breath to all living things; fill our lives with the light of your Holy Spirit until they overflow with gladness and gratitude; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

As you have been loved – love.

As you have been welcomed – welcome.

As you have been fed – feed.

As you have received – give.

And may the boundless love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit be always with you. **Amen**

Closing Hymn *O beautiful for spacious skies*

Hymnal #719

*1 O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.*

*2 O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness,
and every gain divine.*

*3 O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw, confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.*

Dismissal: *Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Thanks be to God. Alleluia.*

Postlude*Triumphal March*

Alfred M. Shuey (1846-1930)

Today's Music: This morning's music has a patriotic American theme. Although the opening hymn tune, *America*, is actually an English tune, Boston-born Samuel Francis Smith (1808-1895) wrote the words in 1832. The closing hymn tune, *Materna*, by Samuel Augustus Ward (1848-1903) is combined with the words of Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929). Both Ward and Bates were born in the United States.

The postlude is a composition by Alfred Mayhew Shuey, born in Ohio in 1847. Shuey's wife and son-in-law were from prominent 19th century families of Worcester, Massachusetts. Shuey spent most of his musical career in Minnesota serving St. Marks Episcopal Church in Minneapolis as its organist. His "Triumphal March," published in 1893, has a distinctive "American accent" and is typical of postludes heard in the late 19th century.