



**Morning Prayer**  
**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Labor Day Weekend**  
**Creation Season**  
**Blessing for the School Year**  
**September 6 2020      9:00am**

On the Sundays in September we have joined with an international interfaith community to pray in thanksgiving for the beauty and abundance of our planet. We pray for the wisdom to conserve our resources, the grace to be mindful of the harm caused by our carelessness, and the courage to change.

**Ministers of the Liturgy**

The Rev. Dr. Judith Lee

The Teachers in our Congregation:

Rachel Carpenter, Dave Clinkman, Katherine Côté, Pam Hennessy, Pat Keppler,  
Ann Marie Lockwood, Leigh Martin, Brigid Mullen-Richards

**Musicians:** Randolph Bloom, Jeff Lukas

**Organ Prelude**

**Opening Sentence**

*People from every corner of creation, celebrate with all creatures on earth!*

*Young and old across the planet, rejoice in the day that God has made.*

**The Invitatory and Psalter**

The holy and undivided Trinity, one God: **O come let us worship.**

**The Confession**

*Ann Rowthorn*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Holy and Loving God, Creator and Sustainers of seas, lands, and skies: Your loving hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature, yet we have turned against you and against your creation. We have failed to love your creation and all your creatures. We confess that we have polluted your waters and lands and soiled your heavens; we have ignored the weak and vulnerable and those who seek justice. We repent of our sins against you and your creation, and remembering the account that we must one day give, we vow to work to restore all that is broken, polluted, and harmed with the help of Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **Absolution**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## **Opening Versicle & Doxology**

Let us lift up our voices in song, lift our arms in praise, and open our hearts in gratitude.  
**Let us greet God with our hymn of praise.**

## **Venite [Psalm 95:1-7]**

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!

## **Psalm 147:13-18**

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*praise your God, O Zion;  
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \* he has blessed your children within you.  
He has established peace on your borders; \* he satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
He sends out his command to the earth, \* and his word runs very swiftly.  
He gives snow like wool; \* he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.  
He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \* who can stand against his cold?

## **The First Lesson: A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah [42:5-8, 10-12]**

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup> I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations, <sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the  
dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup> I am the Lord, that is my name;  
<sup>9</sup> Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from the end of the earth! Let the sea roar and all that  
fills it, the coastlands and their inhabitants.

<sup>11</sup> Let the desert and its towns lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar inhabits; let the inhabitants of Sela sing for joy, let them shout from the tops of the mountains.

<sup>12</sup> Let them give glory to the Lord, and declare his praise in the coastlands.

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

### **Canticle: A Song of God's Love [1 John 4:7-11]**

Beloved, let us love one another, \* for love is of God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, \* for God is Love.

In this the love of God was revealed among us, \* that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through Jesus Christ. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us \* and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven. Beloved, since God loved us so much, \* we ought also to love one another. For if we love one another, God abides in us, \* and God's love will be perfected in us.

### **The Second Lesson: The Gospel of John [1:1-5]**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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

### **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \* in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,\* he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,\* and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, \* to Abraham and his children forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. **Amen.**

## **Musical Meditation**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**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 Prayers**

Hear our cry, O God. **And listen to our prayer.**

Let us pray. God be with you. **And also with you.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **A Litany to God Our Creator**

*attributed to St. Francis of Assisi*

O most high, omnipotent, Lord God, to you belong praise, glory, honor, and all blessing. For our brother the sun, who is our day and who brings us the light, who is fair and radiant with a very great splendor: **Praise and bless the Lord.**

For our sister the moon, and for all the stars, which you have set clear and lovely in the heavens; for our brother the wind, and for air and clouds, doldrums and all weather:

**Praise and bless the Lord**

For our sister water, who serves us and is humble and precious and chaste: for our brother fire, by whom you light up the night, and who is fair and merry, and very mighty and strong:

**Praise and bless the Lord**

For our mother the earth, who sustains and keeps us, and brings forth various fruits and flowers of many colors, and grass; for all who pardon one another for your love's sake, and who bear weakness and tribulation: **Praise and bless the Lord**

Blessed are they who peaceably endure, walking by your most holy will, for you, O Most High, shall give them a crown: **Praise and bless the Lord**

## **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 forever. **Amen**

## **The Prayers of the People**

Let us offer our prayers to God who gives life and breath to all creatures,

**In your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for those who have the responsibilities of government among the nations, especially the leaders in our local and national community: May their decisions express regard for the future of the earth and the needs and rights of those who are poor; give them the humility and wisdom to work together.

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

We give thanks for the international bodies and non-government organizations working to combat climate change and to bring peace and relief amidst violence and turmoil. Give them insight, strength and determination as they work on behalf of the world's most vulnerable communities.

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

We give thanks for the numerous signs of your kingdom in the life, we pray for all who suffer poverty, injustice or violence, especially as a result of environmental instability; comfort those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those who are suffering from the coronavirus and their families and caregivers, the frontline workers, and those who are feeling discouraged, or abandoned, or fearful about their future. May they receive the comfort and justice that is your purpose for them.

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

We give thanks for all that we enjoy in life, our schools, community organizations and our own Trinity family, our freedom and our hope, especially in the marriage of Joan Brodeur and Matt Rich, which we will celebrate and bless on this coming Saturday: Give us wonder at the beauty and abundance of your creation, compassion to respond to the needs of others; courage to take action for justice in your world for the needs of future generations and for the health of the earth.

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

We give thanks for the fellowship of the Church, for its worship and its teaching, for all who share in our discipleship of Christ and for all who have inspired and guided us and are no longer with us on this earth, especially those we now name silently or aloud. *Pause.* By your Spirit give your Church humility to hear your word, courage to work for your justice, grace to share your peace, and the faith to proclaim the gospel, and strengthen our commitment to share the Grace of God, the Light of Christ, and the Power of the Holy Spirit through worship, ministry, and fellowship,

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

Holy and Loving God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer Attributed to St Francis**

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.**

### **Collect for Labor Day**

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **A Prayer in Time of Transition**

God of growth and discovery, yours is the inspiration that has changed our lives. Yours is the power that has brought us to take new risks and face new opportunities. You shape our dreams. May your Spirit guide us in our preparations to search for a new Rector: open our eyes to what is possible and what is unfinished; open our ears to words of wisdom that assure us and challenge us; open our hearts to possibilities we have not yet imagined and to what we have neglected, that we may be both bold and humble; through Jesus Christ, our Light, our Center, our Hope. **Amen.**

## **A Prayer for those who have died from Coronavirus**

Lord, your ways are mysterious, and your purposes unknowable. But we know that when we feel sorrow, you feel sorrow, too. That when we suffer, you also suffer. That when we mourn, you mourn, as well. That when our hearts are broken, so is yours. Lord, we feel that sorrow now, that suffering now, that mourning now, and our hearts are breaking now that in this nation over 185,000 of our sisters and brothers have already been taken from us by this disease. Yet, we know that your Son who suffered death itself for us, is by our side, and shares our burden. So, Lord, comfort those who have lost, protect those who remain, and take those you have gathered into that greater light where pain, and suffering, and death itself exist no more. **Amen.**

## **A Prayer for an End to Racism**

Good and gracious God, you invite us to recognize and reverence your divine image and likeness in our neighbor. Enable us to see the reality of racism and free us to challenge and uproot it from our society, our world and ourselves. Fill us with your mercy so that we, in turn, may be merciful to others. Strip away pride, suspicion, and racism so that we may seek peace and justice in our communities. Strengthen our hearts so that they beat only to the rhythm of your holy purpose. Flood our path with your light as we walk humbly toward a future filled with compassionate understanding and unity. Be with us, O Lord, in our efforts, for only by the prompting of your grace can we progress toward virtue. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **A Prayer for Teachers and Students**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have committed to your holy Church the care and nurture of your children. Enlighten with your wisdom those who teach and those who learn, that rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; grant us the vision to imagine new ways to learn and to teach and to

create safe and joyful places of learning, and grant us the compassion to understand different perspectives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer for Social Justice**

<https://socialjustice.org>

We cannot merely pray to you, O God, to end war; for we know that You have made the world in a way that people must find their own path to peace within themselves and with their neighbors.

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end starvation; for You have already given us the resources with which to feed the entire world, if we would only use them wisely.

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to root out prejudice; for You have already given us eyes with which to see the good in all people, if we would only use them rightly.

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end despair; for You have already given us the power to clear away slums and to give hope, if we would only use our power justly.

We cannot merely pray to You, O God, to end disease; for You have already given us great minds with which to search out cures and healing, if we would only use them constructively.

Therefore we pray to You instead, O God, for strength, determination and will power, to do instead of just pray, to become instead of merely to wish. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

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.**

### **Blessing**

May God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Dismissal:**

Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!