



**Morning Prayer**  
**The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**  
**October 25, 2020**

*Trust in God with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.  
In all your ways acknowledge God,  
and God will make straight your paths.*

[Proverbs 3:5-6]

**Ministers of the Liturgy**

The Rev. Dr. Judith Lee

Members of the Vestry:

Elizabeth Klisiewicz, Toussaint Jackson, Hilary Stafford, Justin Varteresian

**Musicians:** Randolph Bloom, Mary Johnson Jeff Lukas

*You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.* [Leviticus 19:2]

**Organ Prelude**

*Eventide*

Alexander Schreiner

**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*

Renew in us this day the image of your love; renew in us in the likeness of your mercy, O God. May any refusal to forgive that lingers with us, any bitterness of soul that hardens our hearts, be softened by your graces. Renew us in the image of your love, O God, renew us in the likeness of your mercy. **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 90:1-6, 13-17**

1 Lord, you have been our refuge \* from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, \* "Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; \* we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; \* in the evening it is dried up and withered.

13 Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? \* be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; \*  
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us \*  
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works \* and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; \*  
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

## **A Reading from the Book of Leviticus [19:1-2, 15-18]**

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of

your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

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.

### **A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew [22:34-46]**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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**

### **Collect of the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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**

Creator, we long for wholeness in our families, for honest, open communication to say what we need to say in safety and without fear.

We give thanks for the knowledge you give in all traditions of the world. Help us to honor the gifts of all traditions. **Teach us to know how to love and live.**

We give thanks for new life, for youth, represented by the eastern direction. We give thanks for new learning, for the sun that rises to begin each new day, and for the teachings of the peoples of the east. **Teach us to know how to love and live.**

We give thanks for the people of the south, for the growth of the summertime in our lives, the learnings of our adult lives, to be kind and accept ourselves. Teach us as parents to love and respect our children, to care for the elders and those who cannot care for themselves.

**Teach us to know how to love and live.**

We give thanks for the west, for the gifts of aboriginal peoples of the world. For understandings of care of the earth, for teachings about rocks, leaves and trees, for the knowledge we have in our own teachings, all of these given by our Creator. Help us to use our understandings to bring joy and new life to our communities.

**Teach us to know how to love and live.**

We give thanks for the people of the north and for the elders in our families and communities. Help us to receive gifts of wisdom from all peoples. Help us to grow our roots deeper through life's journey, that we may grow in kindness to ourselves and each other.

**Teach us to know how to love and live.**

O great and kind Spirit, the stars throughout the heavens are yours, and yours are the grasses of the earth. O great and kind Spirit, look on your people. With children in their arms, they face the wind and walk the red road to the day of quiet. O great and kind Spirit, fill us with light. Give us strength to understand and eyes to see deeply. Teach us to walk softly on earth as relatives to all that live. Make our spirits be one with yours, Great Spirit. From the Four Directions, fill us with the four virtues of fortitude, generosity, respect, wisdom, so that we will help our people walk in the path of understanding and peace. Finally, great and kind Spirit, help us always to return our thanks to you. **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.**

## Musical Meditation

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

Hymnal #423

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.*

*Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

## A Litany for the Healing of our Country

*from God's Good Earth*

Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them. **Heal us.**

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them. **Forgive us.**

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, even though we often fall short of them. **Inspire us.**

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light. **Enlighten us.**

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again. **Renew us.**

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices join in one united chorus. **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 Facing the Coronavirus**

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus. May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing presence. May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded from the onslaught of the virus. Give solace to those who grieve the loss of over 220,000 loved ones. Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health. Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Lord, Jesus Christ who reached across the ethnic boundaries between Samaritan, Roman and Jew, who offered fresh sight to the blind and freedom to captives, help us to break down the barriers in our community and to see the reality of racism and bigotry, and free us to challenge and uproot it from ourselves, our society and our world. **Amen.**

## **Prayer for an Election**

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purpose; 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**

#### **The Blessing**

*- A Cheyenne Prayer*

Let us know peace. / For as long as the moon shall rise, / for as long as the rivers shall flow, for as long as the sun shall shine, / for as long as the grass shall grow, let us know peace. And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, be with you always. Amen.

#### **Dismissal:**

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