

A Service of Morning Devotion
on
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



August 2, 2020

11.15am

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
Dalton, Georgia
in
The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Organ Prelude With all my heart's new power (I give thee thanks and praise)

J.S. Bach/J.C. Bach

Greeting

The Officiant proclaims

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

Officiant The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord;

People **and you also are witnesses.**

The Officiant welcomes the community and introduces the service.

Welcome

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says these words

DEARLY BELOVED, we have gathered together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth God's praise, to hear God's holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship God, let us pause in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence

Officiant and People

MOST MERCIFUL GOD,
Iwe 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.

Absolution

The Officiant 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 INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Preces

Officiant Lord, † open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant 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.

- 1 Hear my plea of innocence, O LORD;
give heed to my cry; *
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
- 2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence; *
let your eyes be fixed on justice.
- 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, *
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 I give no offense with my mouth as others do; *
I have heeded the words of your lips.
- 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; *
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; *
incline your ear to me and hear my words.
- 7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, *
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand
from those who rise up against them.
- 16 But at my vindication I shall see your face; *
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding
your likeness.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Genesis 32:22-31

The Lector first says

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

After the Lesson, the Lector says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence is kept.

Meditation God has spoken to the people

Torah song, Hasidic melody

Second Lesson

Romans 9:1-5

The Lector first says

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

I am speaking the truth in Christ-- I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit-- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

After the Lesson, the Lector says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence is kept.

Meditation O for a thousand tongues to sing

arr. Lani Smith

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:13-21

The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

After the Gospel, the Priest says

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence is kept.

Homily

The Rev. Denise Ronn

A period of silence is kept.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing,

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

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Lesser Litany

Officiant Lord, have mercy upon us.

People **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Officiant Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant 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.

Intercessions

The Reader bids the Intercessions with these words

Prayers Of The People

Let us journey to the waters of God's refreshing kindness, offering our prayers and responding, "**Hear us, good Lord.**"

That we may be prepared for the struggles of life, knowing that through suffering we receive grace, and that in the midst of trials Jesus is forming us in love; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

For those who are seeking a spiritual home, that they may be inspired to join us in worship and to receive a deep sense of God's presence. We pray for church leaders; Robert our Bishop, Don and Paul our Assisting Bishops, Michael our Presiding Bishop, all priests and deacons, and for the people of our companion and partner Diocese of Cape Coast; let us pray.

Hear Us, Good Lord.

That we may be satisfied beholding the likeness of others, seeing in them the face of Christ, especially through those who are poor and hardworking, homeless and destitute, imprisoned and alone, orphaned and afraid, grieving and lost. We pray for the health and healing of:

Geneva, Meredith, Joan, Max, Cathie, Jeri, Jane, Amanda, Carolyn, Brenda, Brooks Jr. & Sr., Sandy, Tommy, Ethel, Doris, Carol, Celia, Chris, Walt, Marcus & Rebecca, Linda, Janelle, Beverly, Colleen, Michelle, Beverly, and Nikki; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

That we may take responsibility for sharing our ideas and lending our support to those who lead the Church, government, and public institutions, that we may share in the building of the social and spiritual fabric of our society. We pray especially for Donald our President, Brian our Governor, David our Mayor, and Lyn our Chairperson; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

That we may trust the transforming power of Jesus to take even our meager offerings and create the resources that reveal the promises of the kingdom; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

That we may honor the writers of the gospels and epistles, whose unique contributions from our sacred texts, and those in our own day who bring the light of God through books, articles, websites and blogs; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

That light perpetual may shine upon the faithful departed as they come into their true home in the unending joy of the saints; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

In the fellowship of the One who is full of graciousness and compassion, let us continue our prayers. We give thanks for carers, for home helpers and social workers, and for all of those who find themselves on the frontlines of this coronavirus pandemic:

research scientists, physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, paramedics, firefighters, police officers, chaplains, and cleaning staff;

We offer thanks for those essential workers who continue to provide for our essential needs:

agricultural and other food workers, retail workers, transportation workers, and those who off load supplies and stock the shelves.

We pray for those who serve to protect the freedoms we enjoy;

Blane, Aaron, Ashlyn, Allison, Kevin, Ben, Mark D., Jordan, Jonathan, Matthew H., Matthew K., Michael, Rebekah, Todd, Chris, Lindsay, and Mark W.

Lord, we pray for the Nominating Committee:

GOD OF ALL OUR DAYS AND WAYS, grant us wisdom as we work to discern and seek a good shepherd for your people of St. Mark's. May we humbly and diligently complete each task set before us, turning to you in prayer and accepting guidance from the spirit, when the way forward is unclear. Trusting always in your grace and love, lead us on this journey. Amen.

At the end of the Intercessions, the Officiant adds the following concluding Collect.

O LORD, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Silence

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

ALMIGHTY GOD, **Father of all mercies,**
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

The Officiant says the following prayer:

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.**

Benediction

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Grace

The Officiant concludes with the following

THE GRACE of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

Organ Postlude Short fugue in A major

Friedrich W. Zachau

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Assisting in Service Today

The Rev. Denise Ronn, *Guest Clergy & Officiant*
Beth Nichols, *Music Director*
Nancy & Wright Nelson, *Readers*
Blake Bennett or Alex Brown, *Videographer(s)*



Thank you for worshipping with us today.