

*A Service of Morning Devotion*  
*on*  
*Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*



**28 June 2020**

**11.15am**

*Saint Mark's Episcopal Church*  
*Dalton, Georgia*  
*in*  
*The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta*  
THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

## **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*

**D**EARLY BELOVED, we have gathered together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his 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 him, let us pause in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence*

*Officiant and People*

**M**OST 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.**

## **Absolution**

*The Officiant says*

**A**LMIGHTY 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 **H**ow long, O LORD?  
will you forget me for ever? \*  
how long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,  
and grief in my heart, day after day? \*  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my God; \*  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- 4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," \*  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
- 5 But I put my trust in your mercy; \*  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.
- 6 I will sing to the LORD, for he has dealt with me richly; \*  
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

### **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

#### **First Lesson**

Genesis 22:1-14

*The Lector first says*

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

**G**od tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

*After the Lesson, the Lector says*

The Word of the Lord.

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

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Organ Meditation** Blessed be the God of Israel

Perry/Harwood

## **Second Lesson**

Romans 6.1b-11

*The Lector first says*

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

### **Romans 6:12-23**

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*After the Lesson, the Lector says*

The Word of the Lord.

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

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Organ Meditation** Come, thou fount of every blessing

Carl Haywood

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:40-42

*The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*  
A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

*After the Gospel, the Priest says*  
The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*A period of silence is kept.*

## Homily

Rev Susan J. Butler

*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*

**O**UR 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 Officiant bids the Intercessions with these words*

LET US PRAY to our heavenly Father, who created our world and understands our humanity.

*Silence*

We stand before God in awesome fear, as the power of divine grace is revealed through the mystery of word and sacrament. Trusting in his grace, we offer our prayers, responding, **Lord, be with us.**

For those who claim the prophetic voice in our generation, that they may be willing to pay the price of their convictions and, like the prophets of old, have their testimony tried in the fires of eternity;

we pray particularly for bishops, Robert our Bishop, Don and Paul our Assisting Bishops, Michael our Presiding Bishop, and the people of our companion and partner Diocese of Cape Coast.

Let us pray

**Lord, be with us.**

For Donald our President, Brian our Governor, and David our Mayor, that they may be given the wisdom to make judicious decisions, seeking the light of the Lord who is the source of all righteousness;

Let us pray.

**Lord, be with us.**

That we may respond to the needs of others before we are ready, and give of our bounty when we have yet to be generous, that in the companionship of the apostles we will grow in grace and discover our holiness

We give thanks for caregivers, for home helpers and social workers,  
all those who find themselves on the frontlines of this coronavirus pandemic:

research scientists, physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, paramedics, firefighters, police officers,  
chaplains, the housekeepers.

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 health and healing for those known to our community who suffer:

Geneva, Joan, Walter, Max, Jeanne, Cathie, Jeri, Jane, Amanda, Carolyn, Brenda,  
Brooks Jr. & Sr., Sandy, Tommy, Michelle, Ethel, Carol, Celia, David, Jon, Charlie, Walt, Sammie, Marcus &  
Rebecca, David, Naomi, Doug, Janet, Linda, Janelle, Beverly, Colleen, Doris, Beth, Beverly, Nikki, Nancy,  
Rosalee, and Jean;

Let us pray.

***Lord, be with us.***

For safety and refreshment for those on vacation, that they may relax from their work and be reunited with those  
they love;

Let us pray.

***Lord, be with us.***

That the dead may be granted an entrance into the fellowship of the saints;

Let us pray.

***Lord, be with us.***

Enrich our hearts with the gift of hospitality, O God, as we continue our prayers.

Lord, we pray for those who are supporting our country through military service:

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

defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage  
to face the perils which beset them.

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.

Let us pray

***Lord, be with us.***

Lord, we come to you,

**for you alone can make us whole.**

*Silence*

*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.**

## The General Thanksgiving

*Officiant and People*

**A**LMIGHTY 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:*

**A**LMIGHTY 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*

**T**HE 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** O God, our help in ages past

Gordon Young

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Assisting in Service Today

Rev. Susan J. Butler, *Guest Clergy & Officiant*  
Beth Nichols, *Music Director*  
Meredith & Price Andersen, *Readers*  
Alex Brown, *Videographer*



*Thank you for worshipping with us today.*