

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON MA
Holy Eucharist for the Twentieth Sunday
after Pentecost (Proper 24 Year A)
October 18, 2020 at 8 and 10 AM

Prelude Music

Dr. Grant Moss, Music Director

Welcome and Announcements

Presider Blessed be the one holy and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity [BCP page 355](#)

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.**

Canticle 16 Song of Praise from *Enriching Our Worship*

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, *
 you have come to your people and set them free.
You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, *
 born of the house of your servant David.
Through your holy prophets you promised of old to save us from our enemies, *
 from the hands of all who hate us,
To show mercy to our forebears, * and to remember your holy covenant.
This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham, *
 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship you without fear, * holy and righteous before you,
 all the days of our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
To give God's people knowledge of salvation *
 by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
 the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to use all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Lesson

Isaiah 45:1-7

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him-- and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other.

I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe;
I the Lord do all these things.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96:1-9 BCP page 725-726

Sing to the Lord a new song; * sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

**Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; * proclaim the good news
of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations * and his wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

**As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.**

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead - Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

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

A time of silence is kept after the lesson.

The Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you

putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Julianne Buenting+

The Nicene Creed *recited in unison* **BCP pg 358-359**

**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.**

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.

Prayers of the People Form IV **BCP page 388**

The Leader and People pray responsively

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

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

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

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

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

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

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

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

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

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

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those on our parish prayer list: Sally Conway, David Rosenberger, Lorna, Nancy Elliott, Nancy Harvin and her sister Betsy, Janet, Norma Keough, Bre, BettyLou DeTurck, Vanessa, Melissa, Mary Thurber, Elaine Iucci, Mary Wozniak and her mother Mildred Lindsay, our Manna guests and volunteers, and for the whole St. John's Church community.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

For first responders, front-line workers, public health researchers, we pray to the Lord.

Silence

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

For those suffering and afflicted by racist systems in our society, those at risk due to climate disasters and coronavirus, and those seeking employment.

Silence

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

For those who have died, and those who mourn, that they may find and be found by God

Silence

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

The presider adds the following collect

Almighty and most merciful God, grant that by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit we may be enlightened and strengthened for your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Confession and Absolution

The Presider says Let us confess our sins to God.
Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. 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.**

Sign of Peace *(please remain in your place and WAVE to others)*
The peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Music *weather permitting* **Annie Rogers, soloist**
LEVAS 192 I need thee every hour

*I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine can peace afford.*

Refrain:

*I need thee, O I need thee; every hour I need thee!
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to thee.*

*I need thee every hour, stay thou near by;
temptations lose their power when thou art nigh. [Refrain]*

*I need thee every hour, in joy or pain;
come quickly, and abide, or life is vain. [Refrain]*

*I need thee every hour; teach me thy will,
and thy rich promises in me fulfill. [Refrain]*

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All recite in unison

**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, your Son. 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, our Lord 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."
Therefore, according to his command, O God,

Presider and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 your Son in his sacrifice, 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, Gracious God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**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.**

Fraction Anthem

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feasts. Alleluia!**

Presider: The gifts of God for the People of God.

*At 8 AM Service **Prayer of Spiritual Communion** (adapted from the Prayer Book for the Armed Services) for those participating virtually]*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people and your Church, we delight to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Heal and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Christ and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

At 10 AM Service **Post Communion Prayer**

**God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, mother of us all,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Presider: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit,
Alleluia, alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude Music

Dr. Grant Moss, Music Director