Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sept. 20, 2020 Sunday Liturgy

Organ Prelude

Welcome by the Rev. Sarah Hurlbert, Rector

Hymn: Worship & Rejoice Hymnal #529

"In Christ There is No East or West"



Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941)

Music: McKee. Afro-American Spiritual; adapt & harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

Celebrant Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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*.

The Gloria is said together

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:1-8

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, * and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you * and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; * there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another * and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty * and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, * and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; * they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, * slow to anger and of great kindness.

A Reading from a Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 20:1-16

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon by Rev. Sarah Hurlbert

The Nicene Creed

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 and the Son.

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

The Prayers of the People

The bidding for our prayers is Lord in your mercy and the response Hear our prayer.

Let us pray:

Lord we pray for your church throughout the world, for those that are thriving and those which have lost a sense of direction. In our Churchwide Cycles of Prayer we

pray for the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, the Diocese of the Dominican Republic, St. Katherine's Williamston, MI.

We give thanks for our church and its people, and gladly acknowledge all the gifts you have given us through its life, we ask you to open wide our hearts that we may welcome the stranger and share our faith with others,

- open wide our minds that we may receive new truth and understand your will
- open wide our doors, that as we have come into worship so we may go out with you to the service of the world
- open wide our lives that through discipline and prayer we may experience your power in daily living.

Lord you have chosen people to serve you in the ministry of your church and given them a perfect example in the person of your son: pour your blessings on your servants today, especially Presiding Bishop Michael, Bishop Bonnie, Rev. Sarah, Melissa and our Vestry, that by word and deed they may proclaim your saving love and so enable us all to grow in your image.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

Lord of the universe we praise you for your creation, you have provided us with everything we need for life and health. Grant that the resources of the earth may neither be hoarded by the selfish nor squandered by the foolish but that all may share your gifts.

We remember all who bear the responsibility of leadership, for the President, our Governor, our Mayor and all our first responders. Let your will for our world be accomplished through the decisions they make and give them a vision of peace and reconciliation for you lord can make a way when we are lost.

Lord we pray for peace in the world, create in us a love for peace, not peace that is absent from struggle, nor peace that is blind to injustice but peace that makes whole what now is broken. We remember those who struggle against injustice, for men and women who seek to establish love's supremacy in violent and oppressive societies, and for those who have been robbed of homes, families and friends through this struggle. May they be filled with your strength and wisdom and grant that where human love has failed your divine compassion may heal.

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

We remember this morning those who are sick, sad or lonely and those who are brave and patient when things are going wrong. We pray especially for.......... We pray that they may be aware of your comforting presence and know that in your hands they are safe and loved.

Lord we pray for all whose life is saddened by the death of a loved one, be with them in their loneliness and let them know that Jesus Christ is the light of the world a light which no darkness can quench.

We remember before God those who have died, and give thanks for their lives.

You turn our darkness into light; in your light shall we see light

Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer

Lord we ask you to lead us into the coming week, help us to know that you are close by us to love and guide us. When we face hard decisions or difficult work, when we enjoy ourselves and have fun with others may we know that you are present with us. Amen.

Confession & Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

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.

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.

Announcements:

Thank you for your continuing contributions to our work through your pledges and offerings!

Zoom Bible Study Wed. at 10am. Details in your email or posted on Facebook.

Please remember to call or email Pastor Sarah with news of anyone who is sick in our congregation and reach out for help when you need it.

Diana Sinclair is gathering our prayer requests each week so make sure you email or call her with your requests.

Thanks to all who are helping make this worship happen and thank you all for being here!

The Peace of the Lord be always with you!

Organ Meditation

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

Celebrant and People: 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.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. Paul and all your saints, past,

present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**.

And now as our savior Christ has taught us we now pray..

Our Father...

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

The Altar Party Is Communed

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

We pray with those worshipping with us online and here with us:

Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, 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.

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.

Life is short...

Closing Hymn: Worship & Rejoice Hymnal #664

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" (see last page)

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

**ALTAR FLOWERS for today are given TO THE GLORY OF GOD and IN LOVING MEMORY of Clifford L. & Fanchon Cole by the family of Loren & Christie Swanson; and IN LOVING MEMORY of my husband Richard by Elaine Hale.



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23

Music: Resignation, American folk melody

CMD

Worship Ministers for today: The Reverend Sarah Hurlbert; Melissa Congleton, Julie Baglien, Organist; Sandra Kilian, 1st Reader; Joyce Grace, 2nd Reader & Sue Hammett, Intercessor. Special thanks goes to our tech team for their faithfulness & expertise!