

**Liturgy of the Word**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 26, 2020 at 6 pm**  
<https://bit.ly/TCZoom>

*Portions to be said by all are in bold italics.*

Officiant      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. BCP 355  
**People**      ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Officiant      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.

**Song of Praise – Hymn 36** *Kenny Lewis*

Verse 1      O gladsome Light, O grace of God the Father’s face, the eternal splendor wearing;  
celestial, holy, blest, our Savior Jesus Christ, joyful in thine appearing.

Verse 2      Now, ere day fadeth quite, we see the evening light, our wonted hymn out pouring;  
Father of might unknown, thee, his incarnate Song, and Holy Spirit adoring.

Verse 3      To thee of right belongs all praise of holy songs, O Son of God, Lifegiver;  
thee, therefore, O Most High, the world doth glorify, and shall exalt for ever.

**The Collect of the Day**

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**The Lessons**

**Reader**      **A Reading from Genesis.** *Genesis 29:15-28*

Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Reader      The Word of the Lord.  
**All**      ***Thanks be to God.***

## The Psalm Appointed

**Psalm 105:1-11, 45b**

*Confitemini Domino*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.
  - 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
and speak of all his marvelous works.
  - 3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
  - 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.
  - 5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
  - 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.
  - 7 He is the Lord our God; \*  
his judgments prevail in all the world.
  - 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, \*  
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
  - 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, \*  
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
  - 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, \*  
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
  - 11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan \*  
to be your allotted inheritance."
- 45b Hallelujah!

**Reader**

**A Reading from Romans.**

*Romans 8:26-39*

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

**All**

***Thanks be to God.***

## Hymn 711 Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness

*Kenny Lewis*

Verse 1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness;  
And all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia!

Refrain Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alelu, alleluia!

Verse 2 Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
Seek, and you shall find.  
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia!

Refrain Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alelu, alleluia!

## The Gospel

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*Matthew 13:31-33,44-52*

**All** ***Glorify to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

**All** ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

## The Sermon

*The Rev. Kelley Hudlow*

*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 Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For [N. our Presiding Bishop, and N. (N.) our Bishop(s); and for] all bishops and other ministers;  
***For all who serve God in his Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord;  
***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
***Who put their trust in you.***

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence.*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Absolution**

Officiant      And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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.***

## **The Blessing**

Deacon      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
***All            Thanks be to God.***