

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2020

Christ Episcopal Church
Madison, IN

The Prelude

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

- Helen Lemmel

Opening Sentence

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

(Philippians 1:2)

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. All say together:

Most 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

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.*

Invitatory and Psalter

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. Alleluia.

Invitatory Psalm, with antiphon

The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

Come let us adore him.

The Jubilate Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:
Come let us adore him.

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.

*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.*

The First Lesson

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Reader: A Reading from the 3rd chapter of the Book of Jonah, beginning at the 10th verse:

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?”

Reader
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Canticle I - The Song of Jonah

(Jonah 2:2-7,9)

I called to you, O God, out of my distress, and you answered me; *
out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, *
and the flood surrounded me;
all your waves and billows passed over me.

Then I said, “I am driven away from your sight; *
how shall I ever look again upon your holy temple?”

The waters closed over me, the deep was
round about me; *

weeds were wrapped around my head at the
roots of the mountains.

I went down to the land beneath the earth, *

yet you brought up my life from the depths, O God

As my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, O God, *

and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

With the voice of thanksgiving, I will sacrifice to you; *

what I have vowed I will pay, for deliverance
belongs to the Lord!

*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

The Second Lesson

Matthew 20:1-16

Reader: A reading from the 20th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, beginning at the 1st verse.

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.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16 - The Song of Zechariah

(Luke 1:68-6)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the
Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his
way,

To give 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.

*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.*

The Sermon

The background of the slide is white with abstract green geometric shapes on the right and bottom edges. These shapes consist of overlapping triangles and polygons in various shades of green, from light lime to dark forest green. A thin, light gray line runs diagonally across the lower right portion of the slide.

The Apostles' Creed

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.

Interval Music

Here I Am, Lord

- Dan Schutte

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us 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.

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

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. *Amen.*

A Collect for Sunday

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Collect for Creation

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of life in all its diversity and beauty. Lord Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, we praise you that you came to redeem all of creation. Holy Spirit, we rejoice that you breathe in the life of the world. Grant us faith and courage to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus as caretakers of, and justice-seekers for, your beautiful and bountiful creation. For the blessing of your people, the sustaining of the earth and the glory of your name. Through Christ our Lord, *Amen*.

The Prayers of the People (Form IV)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world: The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, The Most Revd Justin Badi Arama, Bishop of Juba and Archbishop of the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Jennifer, our Bishop; Bishop Mauricio of our companion diocese of Brasilia; and Evelyn, our Rector.

We pray for the staff and people of St. Matthew's, Indianapolis, The Rev. Frank Impicciche.

We offer our prayers of gratitude and thanksgiving, especially for our friends Bill & Rev. Margaret Marvell and Fred & Karen Scroggin.

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.

Creating God, we pray for Donald our President and the governors of the several states and the leaders of counties, cities, and towns.

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.

Liberating, life-giving God, help us to know that we and the world you have created are truly the work of your hands. Give us knowledge and wisdom to care for your handiwork now and for future generations.

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.

Merciful Savior, we pray for the poor and the oppressed, the destitute and the orphaned, for prisoners and captives, and for refugees and those seeking asylum.

Bless all those 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.

We pray for Judy, Milly, Julie, Jeff, Barbi, Larry, Mary Ann, Morgan, Sandy, Julie, and Marilyn.

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.

Holy Comforter, we remember those who have gone before us.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Comfort those who mourn.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Concluding Collect

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry has called the entire Episcopal Church to prayer with these words this Pentecost Season.

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

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

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.*

The Grace

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

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

(Romans 15:13)

Postlude

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

- John Wyeth

Sources

- ▶ The New Revised Standard Bible
- ▶ The Book of Common Prayer, © 1979 Church Publishing, Inc.
- ▶ Seasons of Creation Devotional, (2020), The Episcopal Church
- ▶ https://episcopalchurch.org/files/seasons_of_creation_devotional_pages.pdf