

ST JOSEPH'S

EPISCOPAL • CHURCH

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 8, 2020 – 9:30 A.M.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Processional - Hymnal #618

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

1. Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
raise the glad strain, Alleluia!
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, powers,
virtues, archangels, angels' choirs,
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!
Alleluia! alleluia!
2. O higher than the cherubim,
more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises, Alleluia!
Thou bearer of the eternal Word,
most gracious, magnify the Lord,
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!
Alleluia! alleluia!
3. Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
ye patriarchs and prophets blest,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,
all saints triumphant, raise the song,
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!
Alleluia! alleluia!
4. O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluia, alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!
Alleluia! alleluia!

Opening Acclamation

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant and People

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.

Gloria - Hymnal - S280

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.

Celebrant

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

After the reading

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

Psalm 78:1-7

Attendite, popule

1. Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2. I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
3. That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

4. We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

5. He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;

6. That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

7. So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

After the reading

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

Sequence Hymn - Hymnal #625

Ye Holy Angels Bright

1. Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme
too high doth seem
for mortal tongue.

2. Ye blessed souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race
and now, from sin released,
behold the Savior's face,
God's praises sound,
as in his sight
with sweet delight
ye do abound.

3. Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
and praise him still,
through good or ill,
who ever lives!

4. My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above:
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love!
Let all thy days
till life shall end,
whate'er he send,
be filled with praise.

The Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Before the Gospel reading

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

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

After the Gospel reading

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Ann B. Barker

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.

Prayers of the People - Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, we give you thanks for all those who have served in the armed forces of our country at home and abroad. We thank you for their willing and faithful service in defending our nation and the values we hold dear. Give grace especially to those who have suffered physical and emotional wounds that they may be strengthened. Grant to all our veterans a sense of your abiding presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

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.

Celebrant

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.

The Peace

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Celebrant and People

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787).

The Lord's Prayer

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

Celebrant and People

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.

Blessing

Recessional - *Hymnal #686*

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! O fix me on it,
mount of God's unchanging love.
2. Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

- Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee;
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Dismissal *The congregation responds:* Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God.

Announcements

Regathering Announcements

Be sure to remember to register for regathering services on Facebook or the website. We will gather at 9:30 on Sundays, weather permitting, to worship in community. You can choose to sit outside or in your car.

We are in need of volunteers to help with set up/clean up and to usher. You would need to be there at 8:30 on Sundays. Please sign up in the volunteer section of the registration. Thanks.

November Alms

The alms for November will go toward the annual Angel Tree ministry, as we prepare for the Christmas season! Each year St. Joseph's chooses a worthy organization to support through alms and gifts. Our almsgiving helps to provide any of the gifts that may be overlooked from the Angel Tree and also helps to provide food and support to the individuals being served. May the gifts that we share bear witness to the gifts bestowed upon us this upcoming holiday season and always!

Details for the Angel Tree ministry recipients will be available soon, stay tuned!

A New Bible Study is Coming

Rev. Ann will begin a new Bible study soon. The topic will be on Hope, Your Heart's Deepest Longings. The study will begin either on Tuesday, November 17, at 10 am, or on Thursday, November 19 at 7 pm. The study is eight weeks long. Classes will last for an hour. Even if you can't come to every class, please join us for the ones you can. We will skip the week of Thanksgiving, the week of Christmas, and the week following Christmas.

Please let us know by Friday, November 13, if you would like to join us. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Ann at 703-622-2373. We will be using Zoom for the Bible Study. It is easy to use. If you need help with the technology, please let us know (give your email address).

Books can be ordered through the eblast link, or from Amazon. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright
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Rector: The Rev. Ann B. Barker
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Operation Christmas Child

St Joseph's is once again participating in Operation Christmas Child. This year there are two options for donating.

Online: Go to samaritanspurse.org and build a shoebox for \$25, which includes the \$9 shipping cost.

Traditional: Shoeboxes will be available Sunday. Suggested items: Stuffed animals, toys, school supplies, clothes. A reminder: No candy, gum or toothpaste. Please include a pump if you pack a ball that will need inflating. Boxes should remain unsealed. You may put a rubber band around them. You may also go online, pay \$9 per box, and print a label that will be used to later send you an email with the destination of your box.

The final collection date for shoeboxes is Sunday, Nov. 22. Thank you for your participation.

Vestry Nominations

Please prayerfully consider serving on the Vestry.

Qualifications: Nominee must be a confirmed member of the Episcopal church, 18 or older, in regular attendance and who has made and maintained a financial commitment, beginning no less than the year preceding election.

Vestry members are expected to attend regular monthly meetings, a vestry Weekend Retreat, Safeguarding God's People, Safeguarding God's Children and Dismantling Racism classes. If interested, please contact a vestry member. Submission deadline: Nov 30

Prayers of the People

We would like to offer up your petitions to God during our worship service. If you have a prayer request, please submit it on the website (stjosephsmcdonough.org/prayer). We will pull a list on Thursday at 10am, and the reader will read them on Sunday during the Prayers of the People. If you want someone mentioned for longer than one Sunday, please submit another request the following week.

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