

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Waretown, NJ  
Morning Prayer with Spiritual Eucharist:  
Rite Two—Sunday, July 26, 2020: 8<sup>th</sup> Pentecost

Opening Hymn #388

Praise to God

Let us sing Verses 1 & 2

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!  
2 O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!  
3 The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,  
4 Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?  
5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

1 O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love!  
2 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.  
3 Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old,  
4 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;  
5 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

1 Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
2 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,  
3 hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
4 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,  
5 thy mer - cies, how ten - der! how firm to the end!

1 pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.  
2 and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.  
3 and round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
4 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
5 Our Ma - ker, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

*Officiant* Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Officiant* The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. *John 4:23*

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Officiant says to the people*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*(Silence for the people to silently confess their sins to God)*

*Officiant and People 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.**

*(The priest offers absolution to the people.)*

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.

*People* **Amen.**

## The 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**

*Officiant* The mercy of the Lord is everlasting

*People* **Come let us adore him.**

## **Christ our Passover** *Pascha nostrum* BCP pg 83

*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

*Priest and People (Read responsively by verse)*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
therefore let us keep the feast,

**Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.

**The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

**Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

For since by a man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

**For as in Adam all die, \*  
so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**

**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. Alleluia. Amen.**

## The Psalm Appointed

**Psalm 105 verses 1-11, 45b** Part I *Confitemini Domino* BCP page 738

*Officiant and People read responsively by verse*

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!**  
**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 Lessons**

*One or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

*The Reader says*

### **A Reading from Genesis [29: 15-28]**

Then 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.

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

# 19 The Song of the Redeemed *Magna et mirabilia* [Revelation 15:3-4]

BCP pg. 94

*Officiant and People read responsively by verse*

O ruler of the universe, Lord God, great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.

**Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \***  
**O King of all the ages.**

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord, and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the holy One.

**All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \***  
**because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**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 Reader says*

## **A Reading from Romans** [8: 26-39]

Likewise 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. 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.

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence Hymn #447

## Jesus Christ our Lord

Let us sing Verses 1 & 2

1 The Christ who died but rose a - gain tri - um - phant from the grave,  
2 What now can sep - a - rate us from the love of Christ our Lord?  
3 The trou - bles that are ours to bear are trials we can - not flee;  
4 Thus noth - ing in the heights or depths, no power earth can af - ford,  
now pleads our cause at God's right hand all - pow - er - ful to save.  
Can per - se - cu - tion, na - ked - ness, or per - il, or the sword?  
yet he who loved us from the first en - sures our vic - to - ry.  
will sep - a - rate us from the love of Je - sus Christ our Lord.

## The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. [ 13:31-34,44-52]

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

He put before them 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."

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Sermon** by The Rev. M. Mantelle Bradley

### **The Apostles' Creed** *BCP page 96*

*Officiant and People together*

**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.**

### **The Peace**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

### **The Prayers** *BCP page 97*

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Officiant 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.**

## **The Litany during the Coronavirus Pandemic**

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing any disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. . Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

Be with those who have died during this quarantine time and because of the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers, and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**



Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

Whether we are home or abroad, surround by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist, and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. Jesus Christ, heal us. Lord in your mercy ...

*People:* **Hear our prayer**

*Officiant*

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Offertory Prayer**

Everlasting Father, thank you that you are the light of the world, guiding our steps on your path. Your word says that the earth is yours, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to you. We recognize everything we have belongs to you. We acknowledge that our very lives belong to you. In thanksgiving, we have offered back to you a portion of what you have given us. Bless the offerings that have been sent in this past week for the work of your church. May God the Father prepare our journey, Jesus the Son guide our footsteps and the Holy Spirit watch over us, on every path that we follow. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

## **Explanation of Spiritual Communion**

*Officiant says to the People*

Let us pray in union,

*Officiant and People*

**O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen** *(From the Prayer Book for the Armed Forces from The Episcopal Church)*

*Officiant* Let us pray the Collects for the day

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

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.**

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.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

*\*\*\* Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow. \*\*\**

**The General Thanksgiving**    *BCP page 101*

*Officiant and People together*

**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** *BCP page 102*

*Officiant and People together*

**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 Blessing**

*Officiant says*

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, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen*

*Then may be said*

*Officiant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**