



St. Lawrence

Episcopal Church

Our Mission:

Growing relationships, serving in community, empowered through worship

Our Vision:

A vibrant, engaged community feeding those who hunger in body, mind or spirit, celebrating God's love and offering a spiritual home for all

Our Promise:

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, St. Lawrence welcomes you.

We celebrate diversity and, following Jesus' example embrace ALL God's children.

As a community, we cherish your uniqueness as God has made you:

across cultural backgrounds, skin color, citizenship/immigration status, political views, age, gender identity/expression/attraction, marital and economic status, and physical and cognitive abilities. Whoever you are, whomever you love, wherever you are from, WE WELCOME YOU!

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Morning Worship

July 12, 2020

Opening Sentence

Officiant I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
Psalm 122:1

Confession of Sin

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

Silence may be kept.

All **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.**

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

All **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

All **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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 Let us say together Psalm 100

All **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.**

Officiant Let us say together Psalm 65:1-9

**9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.**

**10 You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.**

**11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

**12 You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.**

**13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

**14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.**

**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.**

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-13

Lector

A reading from Isaiah.

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

All

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

Canticle

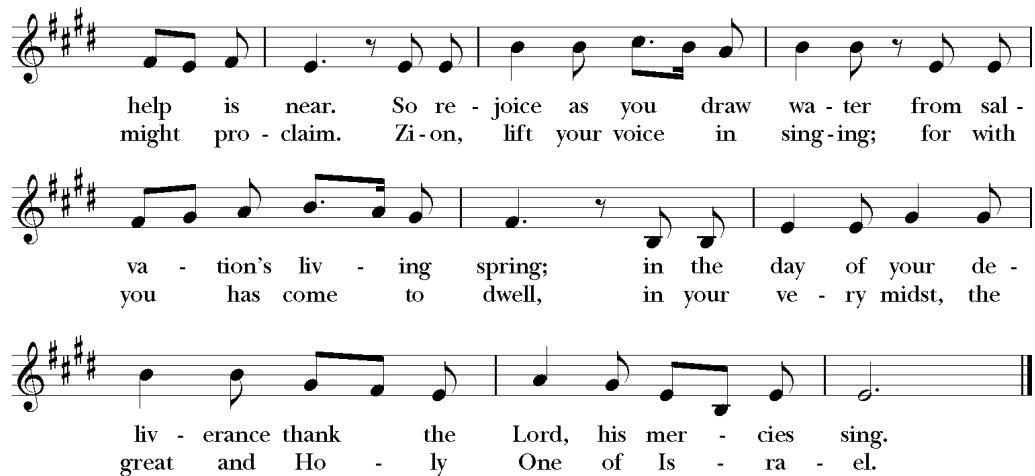
Surely it is God who saves me



1 Sure - ly it is God who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not
2 Make his deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed



fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his



help is near. So re-joyce as you draw wa-ter from sal-
might pro-claim. Zi-on, lift your voice in sing-ing; for with
va-tion's liv-ing spring; in the day of your de-
you has come to dwell, in your ve-ry midst, the
liv-erance thank the Lord, his mer-cies sing.
great and Ho-ly One of Is-ra-el.

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Second Reading

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Lector A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

All **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

Sharon Starr

Officiant Let us say together The Apostles' Creed.

All **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 Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray together the Lord's Prayer.

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Suffrages B

Officiant Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

All **Govern them and uphold them, now and always.**

Officiant Day by day we bless you;

All **We praise your name for ever.**

Officiant Lord, keep us from all sin today;

All **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

Officiant Lord, show us your love and mercy;

All **For we put our trust in you.**

Officiant In you, Lord, is our hope;

All **And we shall never hope in vain.**

The Collect

Officiant O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Officiant 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.

All **Amen.**

Choir Anthem

O Sifuni Mungu (All Creatures of Our God and King)
arr. David Maddux
St. Lawrence Choir, Ralph Colao, percussion

Prayers of the People

Intercessor Creator God, you call us to love and serve you with body, mind and spirit through loving your creation, especially all in our human family. Open our hearts in compassion as we offer our petitions on behalf of the needs of the church and the world, saying: God, hear our prayer.

For churches throughout the world and for their leaders, especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, Jeffrey our Bishop, Joy our Priest, Hal our Deacon, Kate and Jacki our Wardens, and the entire leadership team that together we may harvest compassion in an abundance of mercy, we pray to you, O God.

All **God, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For your kingdom to come in the nations of the world and in their leadership, especially Donald our President, that your values may take root, so that each person may be respected as your beloved child, we pray to you, O God.

All **God, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all people of the earth that we may honor and respect the natural resources of the planet, and for an end to the consumerism that encourages ravage, we pray to you, O God.

All **God, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all victims of religious oppression, ignorance, injustice or intolerance, for those who are afraid, and for those who seek to offer comfort and consolation (*pause*), that in Christ all may find strength in their struggles, we pray to you, O God.

All **God, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all people who suffer for the sake of conscience in these days of social upheaval, for those whose lives are filled with anxiety and despair, pain and trouble, wonder and challenge, honest or bitter isolation in this time of pandemic, that your redeeming power may work its wonders even in the darkest of situations, we pray to you, O God.

All **God, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For those who are approaching death, that through our prayers they may know themselves accompanied with love on that journey, and for all who have died, that they may come to know the full joy of heaven, we pray to you, O God.

All **God, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor As we pray for the special needs and concerns of our congregation, I now invite you to add your own petitions as you so desire (*pause*), we pray to you, O God.

All **God, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor O God of mercy, your holy seed is planted in our hearts as good seed in fertile soil. So nurture us that, throughout all our days, we may bear fruit abundantly.

All **Amen.**

Officiant Let us say together A Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

All **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.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

Ephesians 3:20,21

All **Amen.**

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Ministers for Sunday, July 12

Officiant – Julia Karnstedt

1st reading – Cindy Smith

2nd reading – Mary Hazen

Homily – Sharon Starr

Intercessor – Jason Smith

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