



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!

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
Morning Worship
July 26, 2020

Opening Sentence

Officiant Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

Psalm 43:3

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 Venite Psalm 95:1-7

All **Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Officiant Let us say together Psalm 119:129-136

All **129 Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
131 I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
132 Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.**

First Reading

1 Kings 3:5-12

Lector A reading from Kings.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you

have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you

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

All

Canticle

Officiant Let us say together Song of Praise.

All

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you, beholding the depths; *
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

Second Reading

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Lector

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

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.”

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

Homily

The Very Rev. Joy Rogers

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 A

Officiant Show us your mercy, O Lord;
All **And grant us your salvation.**
Officiant Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
All **Let your people sing with joy.**
Officiant Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
All **For only in you can we live in safety.**
Officiant Lord, keep this nation under your care;
All **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
Officiant Let your way be known upon earth;
All **Your saving health among all nations.**
Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
All **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;
All **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collect

Officiant 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.
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.**

Hymn *Thy Kingdom come! On bended knee*

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 "Thy king - dom come!" on bend - ed knee the pass - ing a - ges pray;
2 But the slow watch - es of the night not less to God be - long;
3 And lo, al - rea - dy on the hills the flags of dawn ap - pear;
4 the day to whose clear shin - ing light all wrong shall stand re - vealed,
5 when know - ledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth a - broad;

1 and faith - ful souls have yearned to see on earth that king - dom's day.
2 and for the ev - er - last - ing right the si - lent stars are strong.
3 gird up your loins, ye pro - phet souls, pro - claim the day is near:
4 when jus - tice shall be throned in might, and ev - ery hurt be healed;
5 the day of per - fect right - eous - ness, the prom - ised day of God.

Words: Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840-1929) Music: *St. Flavian*, melody from *Day's Psalter*, 1562; adapt. and harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

Prayers of the People

Intercessor With Solomon and the great sages of our lineage, let us now turn our hearts to God and seek true wisdom, saying: O God, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For our church and its 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 they may embrace the justice of God in their own hearts as they call us into the life of God, we pray:

All **O God hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all leaders in our world, that like Solomon, they may humbly seek to have wise minds and hearts with the ability to discern between good and evil. For the leaders of our nation, including *Donald* our President, that they be empowered to value all people, both here and around the world, treating them with dignity and respect, we pray:

All **O God hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For the earth and all the life forms on it you have entrusted to our care, that we may treat creation with reverence as your faithful stewards, we pray:

All **O God hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For our communities and the needs of the people who live in them, both those we consider our neighbors and those to whom we struggle to show compassion, we pray:

All **O God hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all who are weary and burdened with the stresses of daily living; for all who suffer illness or trauma in body, mind, or spirit and for those who care for them, we pray:

All **O God hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all those we have known and loved who have died, and for those departed whose faith is known to you alone, that they may know your mercy and the everlasting peace of life eternal with you, we pray:

All **O God hear our prayer.**

Intercessor With grateful hearts we celebrate the blessings in our lives even as we lift up the special needs and concerns of our congregation. I invite you to add your own thanksgivings and petitions as you so desire (*pause*). For all this, we pray:

All **O God hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Seed-planting, fish-netting, bread-baking, pearl-hunting God, you shape us into living parables. May all who ask for our prayers know your love, and may we give testimony to your grace in our lives, with compassion. In the name of Christ, we pray.

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.**

Blessing

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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Ministries for Sunday, July 26