



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!

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Morning Worship

June 28, 2020

Opening Sentence

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

Philippians 1:2

Confession of Sin

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

Silence may be kept.

All

**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.**

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 97:1-7

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!**

Psalmist Let us say together Psalm 145:1-9

All **1 I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name for ever and ever.**

**2 Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name for ever and ever.**

**3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.**

**4 One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.**

**5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.**

**6 The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.**

**7 They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.**

**8 The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**9 The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

All **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

Hebrews 11:8-16

Lector A reading from Hebrews.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.' All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

Officiant Let us say together

All **Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah**

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, *
you have come to your people and set them free.
You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, *
born of the house of your servant David.
Through your holy prophets you promised of old
to save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us,
To show mercy to our forebears, *
and to remember your holy covenant.
This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship you without fear, *
holy and righteous before you,
all the days of our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet
of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
To give God's 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.

Second Reading

Matthew 5:43-48

Lector A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

"You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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

Homily

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 C

Officiant Help us, O God our Savior;

All **Deliver us and forgive us our sins.**

Officiant Look upon your congregation;

All **Give to your people the blessing of peace.**

Officiant Declare your glory among the nations;

All **And your wonders among all peoples.**

Officiant Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

All **Never forget the lives of your poor.**

Officiant Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

All **And your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Officiant Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

All **So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.**

The Collect

Officiant Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; 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 O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Anthem *My Country 'Tis of Thee*

Hymnal 717

1 My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of
2 My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the
3 Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from
4 Our fa - thers' God, to thee, au - thor of

lib - er - ty, of thee I sing; land where my
no - ble free, thy name I love; I love thy
all the trees sweet free - dom's song; let mor - tal
lib - er - ty, to thee we sing; long may our

fa - thers died, land of the pil - grim's pride,
rocks and rills, thy woods and tem - pled hills;
tongues a - wake, let all that breathe par - take,
land be bright with free - dom's ho - ly light;



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Prayers of the People

Intercessor As we remember the birth of our nation, and the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, let us offer our prayers to God, the giver of all good gifts, saying: Hear our prayer.

For all leaders of the church, especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, Jeffrey our Bishop, Hal our Deacon, Kate and Jacki our Wardens, and the entire leadership team, that a spirit of forgiveness and compassion may nurture humble service. O God, in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For those who are elected to govern and lead, especially *Donald* our President, that they would be guided by you, and be ever aware of the trust that you have given them. O God, in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For the women and men who braved the long journey by sea to come to this new world, and for their descendants who laid the foundation of our democracy. O God, in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For those who built this country brick by brick, for farmers and factory workers, for innovators and artists, for poets and teachers; for all who labor and provide for the common good. O God, in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For the bravery of those who have fought for our country, for all who paid for our freedom by their service, and those who paid by their sacrifice. O God, in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For The United States, that it may always be a beacon of liberty and freedom, truth and justice to all those live in the shadow of terror and hopelessness. O God, in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For all victims of religious oppression, ignorance, all forms of injustice or intolerance; and all who are afraid (*pause*), that they might be filled with faith that speaks your word, hope that does not disappoint and love that bears all things for your sake. O God, in your mercy:

All **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. O God, in your mercy:

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Gracious God, generous Giver, bless and defend us and our land; prosper the work of our hands, and increase in us your grace and compassion, and our offerings of thanks to you, our rock and our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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.**

Hymn

Lift ev'ry voice and sing

Text

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
'Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.

Words and Music - J. Rosamond Johnson / James Johnson

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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