

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SHIPPENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



September 6, 2020
14th Sunday of Pentecost
(Proper 18)
VIRTUAL SERVICE

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
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Dear Friends,

We welcome you today, whether you have been here many times, or this is your first time worshiping with us. We hope that each one of you feels the draw of God, pulling you deeper into the mystery and communion with Christ, which we experience through our shared worship, prayer, song, silence, and community.

We are currently in the season of Pentecost which is often described as the “long green growing season”, for it is one of the longest liturgical seasons of the church year (beginning with the Feast Day of Pentecost, often at the end of May and extending through The Feast Day of Christ the King, immediately before Advent in early December). We refer to this church season as the “green growing season” for we are prompted to focus on our “growth in Christ” as the scripture lessons we read during this time relate the stories of the ministry and life of Jesus and the abiding culture of loving one another, in the midst of challenges and differences in the early church.

To prepare our hearts and minds for worship, we seek to share quiet and silence before our services. We invite you to join us in this spiritual practice.

Faithfully, Mother Barbara

Worship lies at the heart of our Christian life, for our turning toward God through praise, repentance, thanksgiving, and communion with the Risen Christ through the sacraments, all offered in community, opens our hearts to be changed by the life-giving love of God. It is also in worship that we profess our love of God, deepen our experience of God, and reconnect with our core

identity, as expressed through our baptismal vows. And it is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as people of God.

GATHERING WELCOME

We believe God is found in all places and at all times, in the noise and chaos of our lives, and in the times of intentional silence within our hearts. We begin our worship by connecting to that space within our souls, where we can “Be still and know that God is God.”

SINGING BOWL CALLING US TO WORSHIP

There are two main sections of the worship service: The Ministry of the Word, and The Ministry of the Table (Altar). During the Ministry of the Word, we hear the sacred scriptures and allow our hearts to be broken to their truth in our lives. We begin our spoken word by acknowledging the triune God is worthy of our praise.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Officiant Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. Very often, this “collecting” prayer summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray,

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Occasionally, in addition to the Collect of the Day, we are invited to join our hearts in prayer for a particular need in our world, for a particular yearning in our hearts to be met by God’s love, or to commemorate a particular occasion. Today we pray for those who are poor or neglected in our community, as we give thanksgiving for the ministry of feeding which our hearts are centered on here at St. Andrew’s.

COLLECT FOR LABOR AND INDUSTRY

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and give to us all a pride in what we do, and a just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We begin our worship as a gathered community by praising God and lifting our hearts, in song.

SONG OF PRAISE Hymn #376

Joyful, Joyful, we adore thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and to which he often referred or quoted.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS

Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

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

The psalms are prayers that Jesus would have prayed in his daily worship and which express every human emotion of humankind's relationship with God and with one another.

Psalm 149 (*Prayed responsively by whole verse.*)

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 **Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; ***

let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *

let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

4 **For the LORD takes pleasure in his people ***

and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *

let them be joyful on their beds.

**6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand;**

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;

**8 To bind their kings in chains *
and their nobles with links of iron;**

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

A READING FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. When we worship in person, we stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions, and we turn toward the Gospel book, as an outward sign of the turning of our hearts to the Way of Love.

SEQUENCE OFFERING

Alleluia

Kevin Gorman, *pianist and vocalist*
Michelle DiBona Trefren, *vocalist*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

The sermon or homily follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

THE HOMILY

Mother Barbara

We lift our hearts in prayer, in praise and in trust of a living God, whose grace and presence in our lives offers healing and salvation. We pray for ourselves and on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, the nation, and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in particular need or are suffering in heart, mind, body, or soul, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church – the Body of Christ.

A MUSICAL OFFERING

A Balm in Gilead

Milan Shepherd, vocalist
Kevin Gorman, pianist

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Rev. Deacon Wanda Kloza

Good People of God, I bid your prayers for Christ's holy Catholic Church. May it be a beacon of peace, unity and understanding in an often conflicted, divided and confusing world.

We are the Body of Christ on earth,
may we witness to your love.

I bid your prayers for all peoples throughout the world. May we find a way to bring an end to the conflicts that surround us, that all may be safe wherever they may be.

We are the Body of Christ in the world,
may we make peace.

I bid your prayers for all in need of healing. And we offer our thanksgiving for the ministry of healing and love offered at the Episcopal Home for these many years. May God continue to bless those whose lives were shaped in faith by this ministry.

We also pray for Emma Jean Bankson, Susan Glick, Chuck Bloom, Frank, Richard, Evan, Roseann, Jack, Kathleen, Amy, Ellen, Tabitha, the Williams Family, Alice, Samantha, Wanda, Margaret, Brian Rotz, Brian Helman, the Watts Family and Pedro, Rachel Mooney, Laura and Brian, Stan and Dottie, and those who are grieving the loss of a loved

one: Deanna, Kathy, Jeanine, Ellen, Fred, Tom, Susan, Connor and Matthew, Blake and Katherine, and those whom we name, either silently in our hearts or aloud.

We also pray for God's peace and protection to be upon those who are in active duty in our military: Andrew Harkins, Kelley Williams, Caleb Reeder, Levi Nelson, Tawney White, Brad Arnold, Kyle Hubert, and Brent Welch.

We are the Body of Christ to a broken world,
may we bring Christ's healing love.

I bid your prayers for all those saints who have gone before us. May we strive for the fullness of your presence when Our earthly time is done.

We are the Body of Christ in this time,
as we await our time in God's kingdom.

I bid your prayers of thanksgiving for this parish of faith, especially for our ministries to the hungry in our community, May we be guided in our life at St. Andrew's to learn how to bring others to Christ, seek forgiveness, and strive for unity and concord.

We are the Body of Christ to one another,
may we seek and serve Christ in our neighbors.

God, our hope, may your blessing empower our thanksgivings and our prayers; for we put our trust in you. **Amen.**
At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, so that we may support the continued mission and ministry of Christ of bringing in the kingdom of God, here among us.

OUR OFFERING TO GOD'S MISSION

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. We can think of this prayer not so much as ours, but Jesus' own prayer, his own words, in the power of his presence in our midst. Our giving utterance to the words of "Our Father" is really Christ speaking through us in the power of the Spirit.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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 priest offers God's blessing upon God's people. The words commonly are given in the trinitarian name of God, accompanied by the sign of the cross.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son, and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

1. A - maz - ing grace!_ how sweet the sound, That
 2. 'Twas grace that taught_ my heart to fear, And
 3. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
 4. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 5. When we've been there__ ten thou - sand years, Bright

1. saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 2. grace my fears re - lieved;_____ How pre - cious did that
 3. word my hope se - cures;_____ He will my shield and
 4. have al - read - y come;_____ 'Tis grace that brought me
 5. shin - ing as the sun,_____ We've no less days to

1. now am found, Was blind, but now__ I see._____
 2. grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
 3. por - tion be As long as life__ en - dures._____
 4. safe thus far, And grace will lead__ me home._____
 5. sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

The point of worship is to get people out the door, transformed by the grace of God, fed by the spiritual food offered through communion and community, sent out into the world for ministry and mission. "The worship has ended, let the service begin!"

THE DISMISSAL

Assisting Ministers

Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

INSTRUMENTAL OFFERING

I am thine, O Lord.

Kevin Gorman, *pianist*

Marie Hershey, *organist*

The **Altar flowers** are given today by Edna Guido to celebrate Neiley's Birthday and in memory of her son Frankie's Birthday on September 3rd.

Worship Ministers

Officiant & Homilist	The Rev. Barbara Hutchinson
Church Musician	Kevin Gorman
Guest Organist	Marie Hershey
Vocalists	Kevin Gorman Milan Shepherd Michelle DiBona Trefren Jay Williams Mary Beth Williams
Lectors	Susan Sanders (Exodus) James Williams (Romans)
Gospel & Prayers of the People	The Rev. Deacon Wanda Kloza
Dismissal	James and Thomas Williams