

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
SHIPPENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



September 27, 2020  
17th Sunday of Pentecost  
(Proper 21)  
**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.”*

So, come, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who come bearing your doubt. Come. **It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.**

## 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

BCP 232

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

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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. In response to the brokenness of our nation and world, we offer the following prayer, taken from the liturgy of our Washington National Cathedral.*

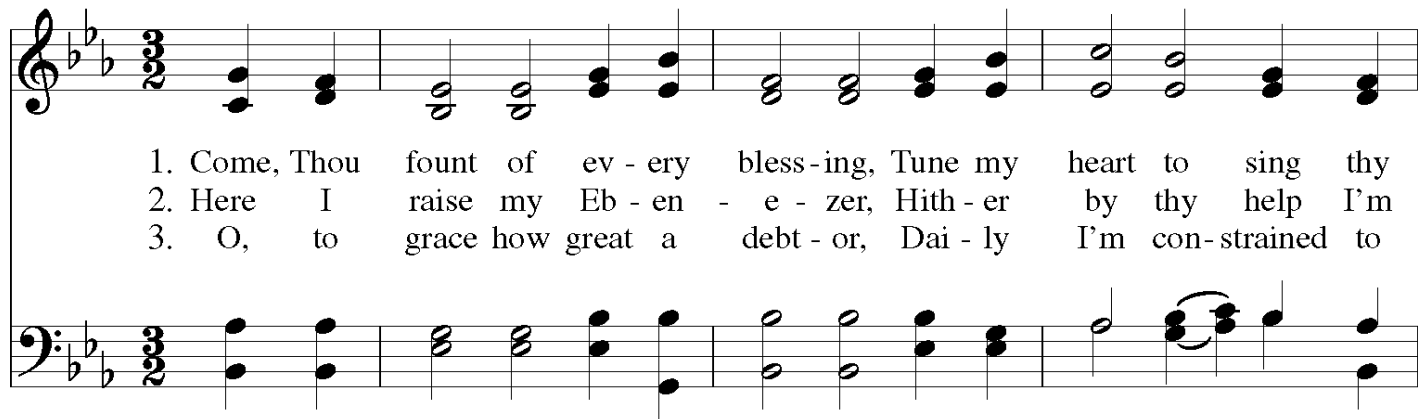
## A PRAYER FOR UNITY

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth in our nation, to support one another without hatred or bitterness, that, being bonded in love, we may live in unity with you and one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

SONG OF PRAISE Hymn #111

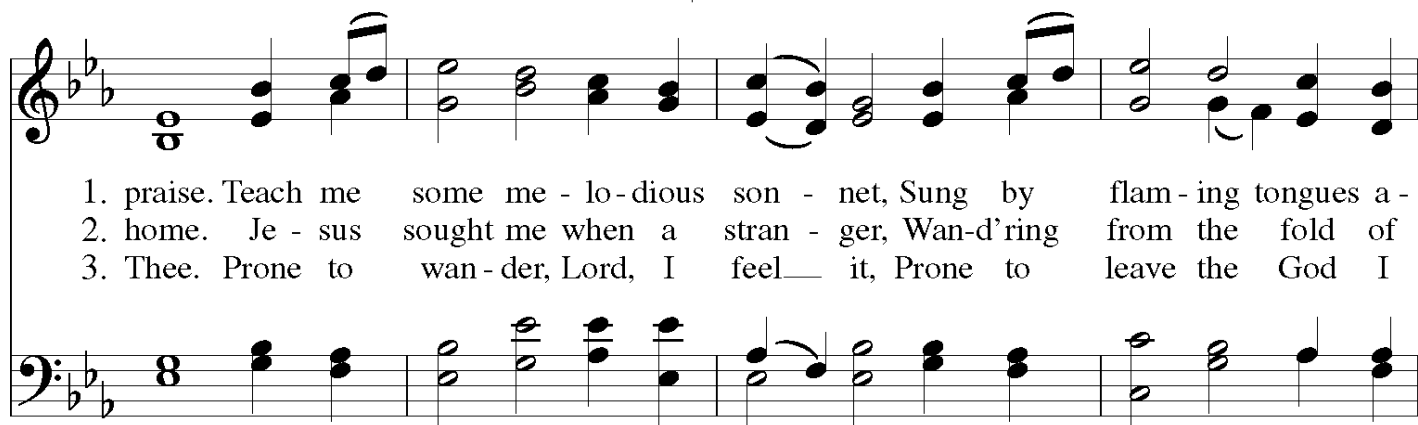
Come thou fount of every blessing




1. Come, Thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy  
2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by thy help I'm  
3. O, to grace how great a debt - or, Dai - ly I'm con - strained to



1. grace; Streams of mer - cy nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est  
2. come; And I hope, by thy good pleas - ure, Sure - ly to ar - rive at  
3. be; Let that grace, Lord, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan - d'ring heart to



1. praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a -  
2. home. Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, Wan - d'ring from the fold of  
3. Thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel - it, Prone to leave the God I



1. bove. Praise the mount, O fix me on it. Mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
2. God. He, to save my soul from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.  
3. love. Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, Seal it from thy courts a - bove.

*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 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

*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 78:1-4, 12-16

*(Prayed responsively by whole verse.)*

1 Hear my teaching, O my people;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**2 I will open my mouth in a parable;  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.**

3 That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us,  
we will not hide from their children.

**4 We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD,  
and the wonderful works he has done.**

12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers,  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

**13 He split open the sea and let them pass through;  
he made the waters stand up like walls.**

14 He led them with a cloud by day,  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.

16 He brought streams out of the cliff,  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

*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 PHILIPPIANS

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death-  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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 Hymn#711

Seek ye first

Kevin Gorman, *pianist and vocalist*

Michelle DiBona Trefren, *vocalist*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*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.*

## 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.**

We pray for Deb, Kathy, Paula's nephew Cameron, Jan McCrory, Emma Jean Bankson, Shirley 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 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 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.*

## OFFERING

In this green growing season of Pentecost, may we continue to sow seeds of hope in our world. May we grow in our faith as we walk in the footsteps of Jesus. May our love bear fruit in the world. And may we offer our whole selves to the mission of Christ, that of bringing healing and reconciliation to our world. Therefore, 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

My friends, life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make this earthly pilgrimage with us, so be swift to love, and make haste to do kindness, and the blessing of God, who comes to us as Creative Presence, Saving Grace and Life-giving Spirit be upon you and all whom you love this day, and forever more. **Amen.**

1. A - las! and did my Sav - ior bleed, and  
 2. Was it for crimes that I have done, He  
 3. Well might the sun in dark - ness hide, and  
 4. Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while  
 5. But drops of tears can ne'er re - pay the

1. did my Sov' - reign die? Would He de - vote that  
 2. groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y!  
 3. shut its glo - ries in; when God, the might - y  
 4. His dear cross ap - pears; dis - solve my heart in  
 5. debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -

1. sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?  
 2. Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!  
 3. mak - er, died for His own crea - ture's sin.  
 4. thank - ful - ness, and melt mine eyes to tears.  
 5. self a - way; 'tis all that I can do.

At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light, and the

bur - den of my heart rolled a - way; it was there by faith I re -

ceived my sight, and now I am hap - py all the day.

*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

Kevin Gorman, *pianist*

## Worship Ministers

Officiant & Homilist	The Rev. Barbara Hutchinson
Interim Church Musician	Kevin Gorman
Vocalists	Kevin Gorman Michelle DiBona Trefren Jay Williams Mary Beth Williams
Lectors	Samantha Davis (Exodus) Samantha Davis (Romans) Larry Shillock and Lisa Woolley (Psalm)
Gospel & Prayers of the People	The Rev. Deacon Wanda Kloza
Dismissal	James and Thomas Williams