

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SHIPPENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



October 25, 2020
21th Sunday of Pentecost
(Proper 25)
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.

On All Saints' Day, we will again remember those whom we love who have gone before us, for we are all drawn together in the communion of saints, which connects all of us into the everlasting love of God. I invite you to share the names with us of those whom you would like to be read during our All Saints' service. You may email Melanie (office@standrewship.org) or me (rector@standrewship.org) the name(s) of those to be remembered as well as your name. It is a gift and honor to raise up to God's continual love the ones with whom you have shared life and love.

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.

SINGING BOWL CALLING US TO WORSHIP

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.”

GATHERING WELCOME

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.**

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 234

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

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

1. I am weak but thou art strong; _____
 2. Through this world of toil and snares, _____
 3. When my fee - ble life is o'er, _____

Refrain: Just a clos - er walk with thee. _____

1. Je - sus, keep me from all wrong; _____ I'll be sat - is - fied as
 2. If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares? _____ Who with me my bur - den
 3. Time for me will be no more; _____ Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly

Refrain: Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea, _____ Dai - ly walk - ing close to

1. long _____ As I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 2. shares? _____ None but thee, dear _____ Lord, none but thee.
 3. o'er _____ To Thy king - dom _____ shore, to thy shore.

Refrain: thee, _____ Let it be, dear _____ Lord, let it be.

D.C. for Refrain

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 DEUTERONOMY

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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 90:1-6, 13-17

(Prayed responsively by whole verse.)

1 Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

2 **Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**

3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.**

5 You sweep us away like a dream;
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 **In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry?
be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works
and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

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 FIRST LETTER TO THE THESSALONIANS

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

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

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord,
 "Sit at my right hand,
 until I put your enemies under your feet"?'

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

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 HOMILY

Mother Barbara

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 Melissa, Katherine, 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: Laura and Pat, 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, especially remembering Betty Bonanni, who died this week, and Ted Scheaffer in whose memory altar flowers are given. 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

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, Jesus our Lord. And the Blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN LEVAS #184

Blessed Assurance

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! — O what a
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, — Vi - sions of
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, — I in my

1. fore-taste of glo - ry di - vine! — Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 2. rap - ture now burst on my sight; — An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
 3. sav - ior am hap - py and blest; — Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

1. God, — Born of His spir - it, washed in His blood. —
 2. bove — Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. —
 3. bove, — Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love. —

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, — Prais - ing my

sav - ior all the day long; — This is my sto - ry, this is my

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The vocal line begins with a dotted quarter note 'sav', followed by a dotted quarter note 'ior', then a half note 'all', a quarter note 'the', a quarter note 'day', and a half note 'long;' with a fermata. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

song, — Prais - ing my sav - ior all the day long. —

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line starts with a half note 'song,' followed by a half note 'Prais -', a quarter note 'ing', a quarter note 'my', a dotted quarter note 'sav', a dotted quarter note 'ior', a quarter note 'all', a quarter note 'the', a quarter note 'day', and a half note 'long.' with a fermata. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in both hands, ending with a double bar line.

The point of worship is to praise God, be transformed by the grace of God, fed by the spiritual food offered through communion and community, and then 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 into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

INSTRUMENTAL OFFERING "Be thou my vision"

Kevin Gorman, *pianist*

Marie Hershey, *organist*

The altar flowers are given today by Annette Feie in loving remembering Ted Scheaffer.

Worship Ministers

Officiant & Homilist

The Rev. Barbara Hutchinson

Pianist

Kevin Gorman

Guest Organists & Vocalist

Michelle DiBona Trefren

Marie Hershey

Vocalists

Jay Williams

Mary Beth Williams

Kevin Gorman

Lectors

Samantha Davis (Deuteronomy)

Mother Barbara (Thessalonians)

Neiley and Shannon O'Donnell (Psalm)

Gospel & Prayers of the People

The Rev. Deacon Wanda Kloza

Dismissal

James and Thomas Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us this morning, Sharing community and communion together is a holy honor for which we are all grateful.

We invite you to complete the enclosed **Necrology** form if there are loved ones whom you would like to be remembered during our All Saints' Celebration. This is a time to recall and celebrate the glory they are resting in and to acknowledge and affirm the communion of saints that thread of holiness that extends between all God's faithful people, throughout all time. You may also email Melanie, our Parish Secretary (office@standrewsship.org) with this information. Please provide your name as well, in case we have any questions regarding spelling.
May the souls of our loved ones continue to rest in peace and rise in glory.

We invite you to contribute to the **Mary Grace Shearer MSW for the Advancement of Social Work Scholarship** offered in gracious recognition of the nearly 40 years of faithful service Mary Grace offered to the ministry of The Episcopal Home. We are so grateful for her amazing work and the legacy of love which she is leaving behind. The parish will be making a gift and we invite you to make individual gifts as well. If you would like to contribute by check, you can either send a check to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and earmark it as the Mary Grace Shearer Scholarship or you can mail the check directing to TFEC (The Foundation for Enhancing Communities) at the following address: 200 N. 3rd Street, 8th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101. If you would like to make an online donation, please do so by going to <https://www.tfec.org>. We thank you for your generosity.

We invite you to join us as we engage in **meditation or centering prayer on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m.** You are welcome to come into the church and meditate in person with us (wearing a mask) or connect with us by Zoom. Please email Mother Barbara for the Zoom link. This is a time when your soul can rest and be restored through the loving presence of God.

Our **Community Meal program** has expanded due to increased need in our community. We have picked up one additional time of preparing and serving the meal, thanks to the generous hearts of our members. We will now be serving the community meal to our hungry neighbors on the 4th Monday of the month. If you would like to join our community meal teams, please let Mike Stitt know. There is increased need for meal preparation because there are more hungry people in our area now. We are currently serving "to go" meals due to the COVID precautions.

Our food pantry is empty again. We ask for your help in providing food for our neighbors. This offering is just one of the many parts of the safety net our community offers to those who are in need. You can drop food off directly into the pantry and/or you can write a check to St. Andrew's and earmark it "Food Pantry" and someone will do the shopping for you. This is a wonderful ministry we can provide for those in need.

We continue with our **book group conversation** of *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr this coming Thursday at 2 p.m. Please email Mother Barbara for the Zoom link.

We will worship next week at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. We have plenty of space at both services (generally attendance is 10 people at 8 a.m. and closer to 20 at the 10 a.m. service) so if you wish to worship weekly, there's a pew waiting for you.

We invite you to come to our next **Contemplative Eucharist** which will be on November 7th at 5 p.m. This is a service designed to restore your soul with evocative music, silence, Holy Eucharist, and beauty through our gorgeous sanctuary filled with candlelight.