



St. John's Episcopal Church

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST MORNING PRAYER RITE II JULY 26, 2020 10:00 AM

Voluntary

Entrance Hymn 388, vv. 1-2 (*Sung by all*)

O worship the King, all glorious above!

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O gratefully sing his power and his love!
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The Opening Acclamation

Priest: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

Song of Praise (*Sung twice by all*)

Praise the Lord

Cameroon traditional

Praise, praise, praise the Lord. Praise God's Holy name. Alleluia. (*Repeat*)

Praise God's Holy Name, Alleluia, Praise God's Holy Name. Alleluia. (*Repeat*)

The First Lesson Romans 8:26-28, 34-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 536, vv. 1-2, 4 (*Sung by all*)

Open your ears, O faithful people

Open your ears, O faithful people,
open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.

Refrain: God has spoken to his people, Hallelujah!
And his words are words of wisdom, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God has spoken to his people, Hallelujah!
And his words are words of wisdom, Hallelujah!

They who have ears to hear the message,
they who have ears, then let them hear.
They who would learn the way of wisdom,
let them hear God's word. *Refrain*

Open your ears, O faithful people,
open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.

Final refrain: God has spoken to his people, Hallelujah!
And his words are words of wisdom, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora, Hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora, Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Homily

The Sermon

The Reverend Abigail W. Moon

The Apostles’ Creed *(Said by 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 of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work; for our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world; for all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation; for the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; for those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; for all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; John, Charles, and Dorsey, our Bishops; and all bishops and other ministers; for all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, remembering Stephen Mitchell, Doreen Walcott, Laughton Thomas, Hannah Stephens, Cissy Peebles, Lucia Quintiliani, and those with Coronavirus.

The People may add their own petitions, silently or aloud, at home or in the Facebook Live chat screen.

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King, and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Remembering Kitty Hoffman, we pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Officiant concludes with the absolution of sin.

The Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Offertory

Caprice No. 5

Niccolò Paganini

Alex LaJeunesse, double-second pans

You can make your offering to God a few different ways:

1. *You can text your gift by texting STJOHNS to 732-56*
2. *You can go to the St. John's website and click on the Donate button on the top-right of the homepage.*
3. *You can mail your gift to the church office: St. John's Episcopal Church, Attn: Finance Office, 211 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL, 32301.*
4. *If you bank online, set up St. John's as a vendor with your bank for quick, easy, online payments.*

The Lord's Prayer *(Said by all)*

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for the Human Family *(Said by all)*

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Father eternal, Ruler of creation,
Spirit of life, which moved ere form was made,
through the thick darkness covering every nation,
light to our blindness, O be thou our aid:
thy kingdom come, O Lord, thy will be done.

Races and peoples, lo, we stand divided,
and, sharing not our griefs, no joy can share;
by wars and tumults love is mocked, derided;
his saving cross no nation yet will bear:
thy kingdom come, O Lord, thy will be done.

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

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Flower Dedications

In honor of Cindy Sessions on her birthday, with love and admiration from the St. John's Finance Committee

In thanksgiving for Debby and David Fonvielle's 50 years of marriage