



**NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Sunday, October 8, 2023

**A Service of Music and Morning Prayer**



The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in Celebration of  
Nick and Carey Roosevelt

*As you enter the nave—our worship space—we ask that you remember this room  
is holy: Set apart for prayer and praise. Please enter this space with reverence  
and keep silence, so that you may quiet your mind and be prepared for worship.*

H82 is the shorter hymnal which says “The Hymnal 1982” on the front and spine.  
ELW is the slightly taller hymnal which says “Worship” on the spine.

Prelude

The Opening Hymn

ELW #595

“Jesus Loves Me”

Opening Sentence

The Officiant says

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come!

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us stand in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together

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.

The Officiant says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God: Come let us adore him.

**Venite** Psalm 95:1-7

Choir

Congregation may be seated

**Psalm 80:7-14**

to be said in unison

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.  
 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; \*  
 you cast out the nations and planted it.  
 You prepared the ground for it; \*  
 it took root and filled the land.  
 The mountains were covered by its shadow \*  
 and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.  
 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea \*  
 and its branches to the River.  
 Why have you broken down its wall, \*  
 so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?  
 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, \*  
 and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.  
 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;  
 behold and tend this vine; \*  
 preserve what your right hand has planted.

**First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7**

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
 My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
 and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and  
 hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild  
 grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,  
 judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard  
 that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild  
 grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be  
 devoured; I will break down its wall,  
 and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste;  
 it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command  
 the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.  
 For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah  
 are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.  
*Answer*        Thanks be to God.

**Canticle I**

Choir

**Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14**

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.  
*Answer*        Thanks be to God.

**The Gradual Hymn**        “Thine the Amen”        **ELW #826** For the consolation of all those who

**Third Reading: Matthew 21:33-46**

Jesus said, “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet

*Officiant* The Word of the Lord.  
*Answer* Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** Lamon Brand  
“To Work in the Vineyard”, by Ken Kesselus

**The Apostles’ Creed**

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

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

*The people stand*

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

*Choir:*

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.

*Then follows the Suffrages (A)*

*Choir*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
And grant us your salvation.  
Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
Let your people sing with joy.  
Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
For only in you can we live in safety.  
Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
Let your way be known upon earth;  
Your saving health among all nations.  
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**The Collect of the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**A Collect For Mission**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Prayers of the People

**The Reader**

Inspired by the Spirit, we now offer our Sunday prayers to God in the name of Jesus Christ, saying: Lord, have mercy.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for our congregations in Thomasville, All Saints, Good Shepherd, and St. Thomas and for their work at the Oak Street Episcopal Mission. We also pray for our ecumenical partners in Thomasville, especially St. Augustine's Catholic Church. In our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic, we pray for St. Luke (*San Lucas*) in Santiago.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Silence**

For the fulfillment of the mission of the church, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Silence**

For the liberation of the children of God from the bondage of fear, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Silence**

struggle with doubts or disbelief, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Silence**

For renewed witness of the gospel among Christian people in positions of public trust, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Silence**

For our assembly as we hand on the faith of our ancestors from one generation to another, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Silence*

For the power to live out the promises of our baptism, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Silence*

For all the sick and the suffering, the lonely and the dying, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Silence*

In the communion of the Holy Spirit, with Mary, the mother of the Son of God, (with N.) and with all the saints in light, let us commend our lives and the lives of one another to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Silence*

*The Officiant concludes with a Collect.*

Almighty God, with tender love we call you our Abba. Answer the prayers of your children gathered here, for we rely on you and have confidence in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Greetings and Announcements**

**The Offertory**

**The General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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.

Officiant            Let us bless the Lord.  
People              Thanks be to God.

The Officiant concludes with the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

The Closing Hymn      “Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus!”                      H82 #495

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – Bring your pets for a special blessing this afternoon at 2:00.

ORDINATION NEWS - Make plans to attend the Ordination of Gabriel Lawrence on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> with a Reception following in the Parish Hall.

PARISH PHOTOS - Tony Moreschi, our Parish Photographer, is taking pictures for our Church Directory. Please sign up for a photo session with Tony. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

STEWARDSHIP LUNCHEON – Save the date! Plan to be here on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> for a special Stewardship Luncheon. In place of our usual First Sunday Brunch, you will be treated to gourmet luncheon fare with no work from you! More details to follow during the coming weeks.

NURSERY | Our Nursery is available during the Sunday morning service on the first (1st) and third (3rd) Sundays of each month.

BACK FORTY | The Men of the Back Forty are looking for volunteers to help with the ground maintenance. If you are able, please contact Joe Wingard.

UNITED THANK OFFERING – The United Thank Offering is a ministry of the Episcopal Church. Through this offering we nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God for our blessings. On or before Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> we ask that you bring your UTO blue boxes or your envelope to church for blessing. Boxes and envelopes are in the church narthex.

SUPPLY PRIEST SCHEDULING | Below are the dates we have been able to secure a supply priest and who they are. If a date is not listed below, we are yet unable to schedule someone. Our Senior Warden will continue to look for supply for the open Sundays, and will also work with the available clergy to schedule 2024 within the next two months.

October 15, Fr. Jim | October 29, Mtr. Tar  
November 5, 12, 19 & 26, Fr. Jim | December 3, 10, 17 & 31, Fr. Jim

CHILDREN’S CHURCH | Every Sunday at 10a during the first half of our worship service children are invited to Sunday School in the Children’s Classroom of the Parish Hall building. Here they will learn and do activities related to the lessons for that Sunday, and then they will return to worship with us beginning at the Offertory!

NEIGHBORS IN NEED | Ramen Noodles, Tuna Fish, Sliced Bread and Detergent for clothes.