



Seventh Sunday

After Pentecost

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

18 & 19 July 2020



(note: G preceding hymn numbers signifies that hymn is in the Gather hymnal. Hymn numbers without the G are found in the Hymnal 1982 or are provided as inserts).

Welcome & Announcements



1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der Con - sid - er
2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



1. all the worlds* thy hands have made, — I see the stars I hear the roll - ing*
2. birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, — When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
3. die, I scarce can take it in, — That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
4. home, what joy shall fill my heart! — Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



1. thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played. —
2. gran - deur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze. —
3. bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin. —
4. ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my God how great thou art. —



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee:— How great Thou

art,— how great Thou art!— Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to

Thee:— How great Thou art,— how great Thou art!—

The Word of God

BCP p. 355

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider 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.**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And also with you.**

Presider *Let us pray.*

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

(Please be seated for the lessons. Lessons are found on the Lectionary insert)

The Lessons

First Lesson: A reading from the book of **Isaiah 44:6-8**

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Reader *The Word of the Lord*

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 86:11-17

Inclina, Domine

11 Teach me your way, O Lord,
and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.

12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.

13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.

14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.

15 But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.

17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

Second Lesson: A reading from the book of the **Romans 8:12-25**

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader *The Word of the Lord*

People **Thanks be to God**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Form VI

(The Leader and People pray responsively)

Leader: *In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.*

For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader: *For this community, the nation, and the world;*

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader: *For the just and proper use of your creation;*

People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader: *For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;*

People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader: *For the peace and unity of the Church of God;*

People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader: *For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Jennifer, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;*

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader: *In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Episcopal Church in the Philippines.*

People: May God bless and keep them.

Leader: *In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St Matthew's, in Coolidge*

People: May God bless and keep them.

Leader: *We also pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and the Pascua Yaqui who call this area of Arizona their home.*

People: May God bless and keep them.

Leader: *For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.*
(The People may add their own petitions, aloud or silently)

Leader *Hear us, Lord;*
People For your mercy is great.

Leader: *We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.*
(The People may add their own thanksgivings, aloud or silently)

Leader *We will exalt you, O God our King;*
People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader: *We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.* (people remember those who have died)

Leader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People: Who put their trust in you.

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

**All: 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.**

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

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

People: And also with you.

(People exchange a 6 ft distanced peace, offering peace signs, namaste (prayer hands with head bow), or virtual hug (arms crossed over chest)).

Offertory

Presider *Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself as a offering and sacrifice to God.*

Offertory Anthem

(Plates/baskets will not be passed and will not be brought forward during the service. Please drop your offering into the plate or basket without touching them on the way into or out of the church)

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider *The Lord be with you.*

People **And also with you.**

Presider *Lift up your hearts.*

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All:

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

Then the Presider continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of

all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: *Celebrant and People*
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also (+) that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Lord's Prayer: (Traditional)

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 Breaking of the Bread *(spoken)*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

(All are invited and welcome to come forward and receive communion in this church. Please follow the directions of the priest and maintain distancing. Receive the bread in your outstretched hand, move 6ft over and lift/lower mask to consume the bread. Replace mask and return to seat).

Communion Music

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayer, Gratitude Sharing

(remain in your seat area, stand for recognition or sharing)

Post Communion Prayer *The people stand as they are able.*

Presider *Let us Pray*

All: **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Benediction/Blessing:

Presider: May the peace which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn



1 Seek ye — first the king - dom of God
 2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,



and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
 seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be



add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
 o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: St. 1, Matthew 6:33; adapt. Karen Lafferty (20th cent.). St. 2, Matthew 7:7.

Stanza 2 is not part of the hymn as originally written.

Music: *Seek Ye First*, Karen Lafferty (20th cent.)

13. 11. 7 with Alleluias

Dismissal

Presider: *Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)**

Please, join us for a time of appropriately distanced fellowship after the service in the Parish Hall. Please keep your masks on during this time.