

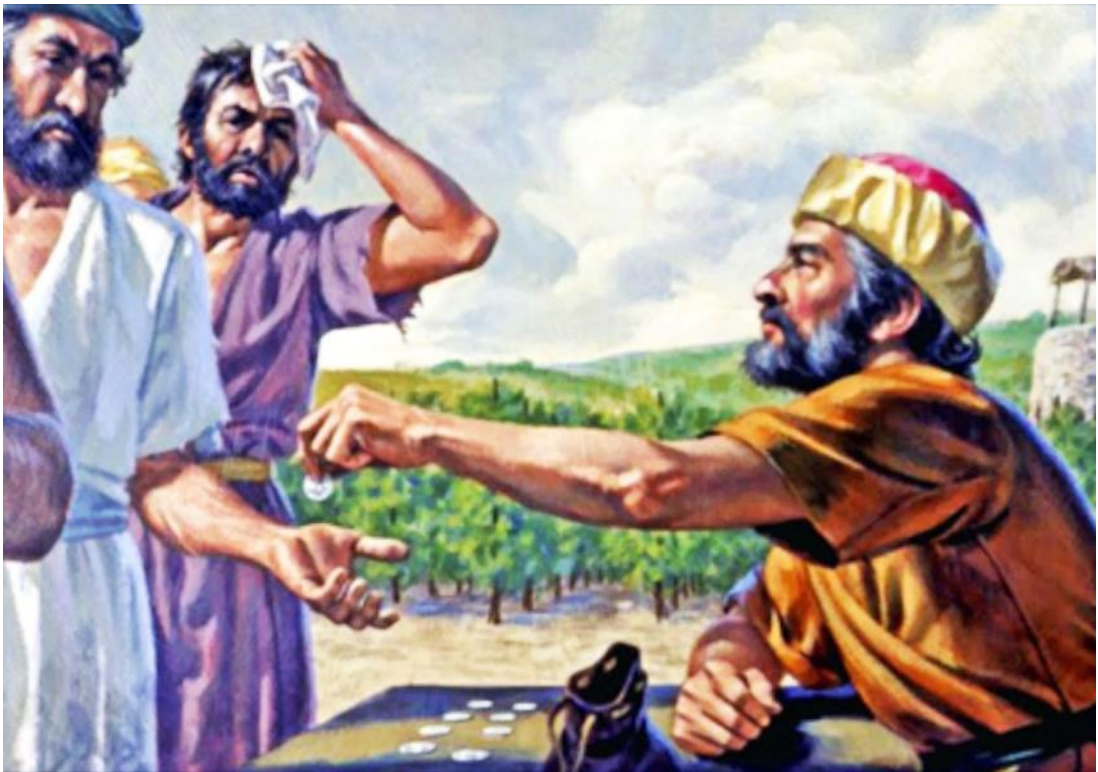
season after **PENTECOST**

Sixteenth Sunday
After Pentecost

Sat: 5pm
Sun: 10:30am

19 & 20 September 2020 (Ante Communion)

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
2750 Cardinal Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ



Welcome & Announcements ₁

Praise to God

408

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2 What God's al - might - y power hath made, his gra - cious mer - cy
 3 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
 keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his watch - ful
 glo - ry; let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
 eye ne'er sleep - eth. With - in the king - dom of his might, lo!
 won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, the

ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Words: Johann Jacob Schütz (1640-1690); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt.
 Music: *Mit Freuden zart*, melody from "Une pastourelle gentille," 1529;
 adapt. *Pseumes cinquante de David*, 1547, and *Kirchengeseng darinnen die Heubtartikel
 des Christlichen Glaubens gefasset*, 1566

87. 87. 887

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.**

Gloria/Glory to God

BCP p. 356

**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.*

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 **Jonah 3:10-4:11**

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

Reader *The Word of the Lord*

People **Thanks be to God**

{Let us all recite in unison}

Psalm 145:1-8

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

Second Lesson: A reading from the book of the **Philippians 1:21-30**

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but

of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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 20:1-16

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

Nicene Creed (Traditional)

BCP p. 358

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 Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.*

People: May God bless and keep them.

Leader: *In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. George's, in Holbrook.*

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)).

(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)

Presider *And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,*

Lord's Prayer: (Traditional)

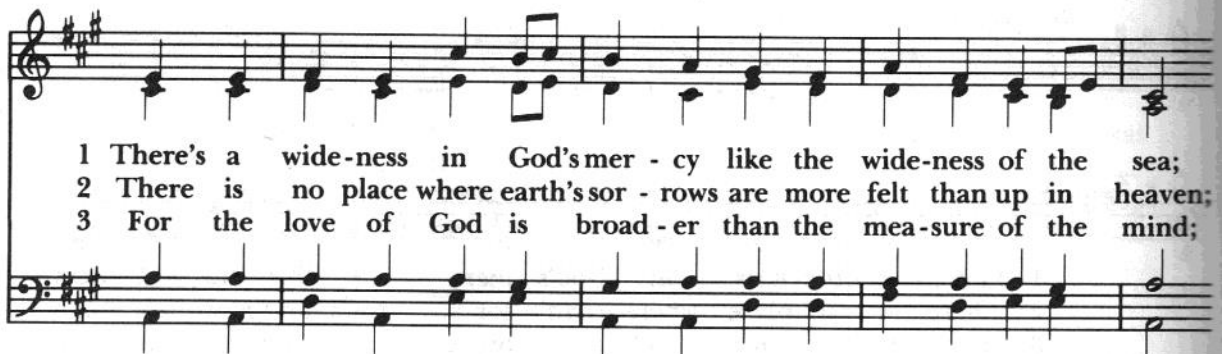
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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.**

Closing Hymn *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* *The Hymnal 1982 #470*

470

Jesus Christ our Lord



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is no place where earth's fail-ings have such kind - ly judg-ment given.
 and the heart of the E - ter-nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.

There is wel-come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;
 There is plen - ti - ful re - demp-tion in the blood that has been shed;
 If our love were but more faith-ful, we should take him at his word;

there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 there is joy for all the mem-bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
 and our life would be thanks-giv - ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt.
 Music: Beecher, John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

87. 87. D

Dismissal

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

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

