

Holy Eucharist

Ordinary Time, Proper 12

Sunday, July 26, 2020

Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Rite

At the sound of the bell, all stand for the Entrance of the Ministers into the church.

Hymn

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

Hymnal 530

1 Spread, O spread, thou might - y word, spread the king - dom of the Lord,
2 word of how the Fa - ther's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
3 word of how the Sa - vior's love earth's sore bur - den doth re - move;
4 word of how the Spi - rit came bring - ing peace in Je - sus' name;
5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the na - tions long,

1 that to earth's re - mot - est bound all may heed the joy - ful sound;
2 how his on - ly Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;
3 how for - ev - er, in its need, through his death the world is freed;
4 how his nev - er - fail - ing love guides us on to heaven a - bove.
5 spread a - broad, un - til from night all the world a - wakes to light.

All standing, the Celebrant says

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

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Celebrant says

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 following is said, all standing

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.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.*

First Reading

1 Kings 3:5-12

The people remain seated.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.

And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Remain seated.

Psalm 128

Beati omnes

- 1 Happy are they all who fear the LORD, *
and who follow in his ways!
- 2 You shall eat the fruit of your labor; *
happiness and prosperity shall be yours.
- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house, *
your children like olive shoots round about your table.
- 4 The man who fears the LORD*
shall thus indeed be blessed.
- 5 The LORD bless you from Zion, *
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days
of your life.
- 6 May you live to see your children's children; *
may peace be upon Israel.

Second Reading

Romans 8:26-39

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

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. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? 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.

Sequence

All stand.

1 The Christ who died but rose a - gain tri - um - phant from the grave,
2 What now can sep - a - rate us from the love of Christ our Lord?
3 The trou - bles that are ours to bear are trials we can - not flee;
4 Thus noth - ing in the heights or depths, no power earth can af - ford,
now pleads our cause at God's right hand all - pow - er - ful to save.
Can per - se - cu - tion, na - ked - ness, or per - il, or the sword?
yet he who loved us from the first en - sures our vic - to - ry.
will sep - a - rate us from the love of Je - sus Christ our Lord.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Please be seated.

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

Another parable Jesus put before the crowds: “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."

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

Sermon

The Rev. Christopher R. Beasley

Nicene Creed

All stand and together say

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

All remain standing.

Leader: God of all that is good, in Scripture, you give us your vision for the world. In love, you give us your grace. In wisdom, you give us each other. Through the vision of the Holy Spirit, we learn that your very hope is that we be your presence, your power and your Body in the world. For this, we give you thanks and, as one body, offer ourselves and each other as we pray. We pray for every church in every place and for every community of faith throughout the world where love is proclaimed as the core of our lives and our living. God who unites us all,

People: **Bless your holy people.**

Leader: Grant us, O Lover of Souls, the grace and wisdom to use new maps when you light up different roads to follow. Help us claim the power of faith shared in community and the gifts that we can use to fulfill the vision of ministry and mission you set before us. God of all holy people,

People: **Help us remember the promises we made at our baptisms.**

Leader: God of Justice and Truth, we pray for our nation. Teach us humility, open our hearts to those who are different, give us compassion and understanding, forgive us our sins and restore us to health. May all of us learn from the relatedness of God how to live in love for each other. God who calls us to Justice and forgives us,

People: **Open our hearts to receive your truth.**

Leader: Help us reach out to the world, seeing the beauty of your gifts as well as the urgency of need in all we serve. Show us how to live so that we do not exploit your world or your people in it. Help us to be good stewards of our small piece of your Creation that you have entrusted to us. God who makes power of powerlessness,

People: **Make us channels of justice and peace.**

Leader: We pray for those who suffer and for their caregivers and companions. Bless those in our midst who are tired or hurting and those who trust us to pray for them. We pray for all on our prayer list* as well as those we name now. God who enfolds us in your own wounds,

People: **Open our hearts to know the healing power of your love.**

Leader: We pray for those who have died. May we know the presence of that cloud of witnesses around us as we seek to be your people. Bless all those who mourn and those who, in their grief, know the sure and certain promise of eternal life in you. God of forever and from before time,

People: **We praise you for the wonder of eternal life.**

All remain standing.

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

The priest says,

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A period of silence is observed.

Minister and People together say

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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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.

Peace

All stand.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please remain in your pew.

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most
High. *Psalm 50:14*

Offertory Hymn

Father, we thank thee who hast planted

Hymnal 302

1 Fa - ther, we thank thee who hast plant - ed thy ho - ly Name with -
2 Watch o'er thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,

in our hearts. Know - ledge and faith and life im - mor - tal Je - sus thy
guard it still, per - fect it in thy love, u - nite it, cleansed and con -

Son to us im - parts. Thou, Lord, didst make all for thy plea - sure,
formed un - to thy will. As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,

didst give us food for all our days, giv - ing in Christ the
was in this bro - ken bread made one, so from all lands thy

you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

At the invitation to Communion, feed on Christ in your heart by faith as you pray these words:

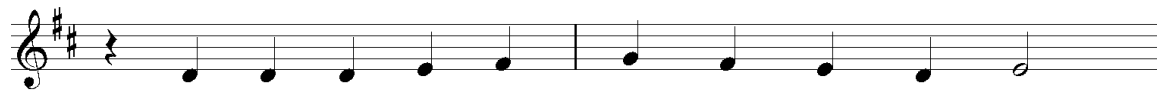
In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and

thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Communion Hymn

Eternal Spirit of the living Christ

Hymnal 698



1 E - ter - nal Spi - rit of the liv - ing Christ,
2 Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day;
3 Come with the vi - sion and the strength I need



I know not how to ask or what to say;
help me to see your pur - pose and your will—
to serve my God, and all hu - man - i - ty;



I on - ly know my need, as deep as life,
where I have failed, what I have done a - miss;
ful - fill - ment of my life in love out - poured—



and on - ly you can teach me how to pray.
held in for - giv - ing love, let me be still.
my life in you, O Christ, your love in me.

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After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The Celebrant and People together say

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.

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

The peace of God, which passes 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 Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn

O worship the King, all glorious above

Hymnal 388

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
2 O tell of his might! O sing of his grace!
3 The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
4 Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

1 O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love!
 2 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.
 3 Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old,
 4 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 5 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

1 Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 2 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 3 hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 4 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 5 thy mer - cies, how ten - der! how firm to the end!

1 pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 2 and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 3 and round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 4 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 5 Our Ma - ker, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

A Note on Today's Readings

Proper 12: Sunday closest to July 27—Year A

Welcome to our parish. As we did last Sunday, today we hear parables of Jesus

concerning God's Kingdom. The Kingdom is characterized as hidden, yet being revealed; as small now but destined to grow large; as so precious that those who discover it will give all in order to attain it; as open to all who will accept it.

The first reading from 1 Kings is Solomon's prayer asking God for wisdom. It was Solomon's desire for wisdom rather than riches and power, which revealed him as a righteous king. This is a prefiguring of God's Kingdom in which all of God's people are a royal priesthood, enlightened by the spirit and wisdom of God.

Our continued reading of the Epistle to the Romans leads us to Paul's great outburst of praise and assurance of the certainty of God's love for us. Here Paul is certain that even our weakest and most elementary striving towards God is proof that God is leading us and has destined us for glory.

The Church is not the Kingdom of God. It is, in the words of Alexander Schmemmann, the world in the process of becoming the Kingdom. When we gather to celebrate, our movement toward the Kingdom is revealed. In the Eucharist God reconstitutes us as the Church and we discover ourselves growing toward the Kingdom.

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