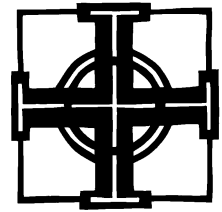


THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday 7 August 2022 ♦ 10:00 AM

Grace Episcopal Church, Hinsdale, IL



GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THE ACCLAMATION

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

LAUDA ANIMA



1 Praise, my soul, the King of hea - ven; to his feet thy tri - bute bring;
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple in dis-tress;
3 Fa - ther-like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; ye be - hold him face to face;



ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing:
 praise him still the same as ev - er, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
 in his hand he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
 sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed

the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 33:12-22

Response



Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.
- 14 God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.
- 15 God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds. *Response*
- 16 A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- 17 The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.
- 18 Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
- 19 to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine. *Response*
- 20 Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord, our helper and our shield.
- 21 Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.
- 22 Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you. *Response*

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the

land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

The people stand, as able, to sing the Sequence Hymn.

SEQUENCE HYMN "If You But Trust in God to Guide You" WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle hand through
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less an - ger
 3 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your ser - vice



all your ways, you'll find that God is there be - side you
 and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's keep - ing,
 faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word, though un - de - serv - ing,



when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in God's un -
 in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who took for
 you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our con - fi -



chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

Preacher The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Preacher The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

REFLECTION

Chris Pierce

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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 – FORM VI

Reader 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; Paula, our Bishop-Elect; Chilton, our Assisting Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers; **for all who serve God in the Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *(pause)* Hear us, Lord; **for your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(pause)* We will exalt you, O God; **and praise your name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *(pause)* Lord, let your lovingkindness be upon them; **who put their trust in you.**

Presider O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

All **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.**

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.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory Sentence

*With joy, we give thanks to God for all who support this community of love and faith.
Your gifts truly do continue the mission and ministries of Grace Church.*

*If you wish to give electronically, please scan the QR code
or follow the link to our electronic giving platform.*



<http://www.gracehinsdale.org/give>

The Iona Invitation

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.
It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been here for a long time or ever before;
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.

Come, not because the Church invites you;
it is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

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.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider 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,

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread is broken. Silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Invitation

From a sermon by St. Augustine

Presider Behold what you are;
People **May we become what we receive.**

THE COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive Communion, including children.
Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.
Those who prefer to receive a blessing may cross their arms over their chest.*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

THE BLESSING

HYMN

“Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve”

SIROË



1 A - wake, my soul, stretch ev - ery nerve, and press with vi - gor
 2 A cloud of wit - ness - es a - round hold thee in full sur -
 3 'Tis God's all - an - i - mat-ing voice that calls thee from on
 4 Then wake, my soul, stretch ev - ery nerve, and press with vi - gor



on; a heaven - ly race de - mands thy zeal, and
 vey; for - get the steps al - read - y trod and
 high; 'tis his own hand pre - sents the prize to
 on; a heaven - ly race de - mands thy zeal, and



an im - mor - tal crown, and an im - mor - tal crown.
 on - ward urge thy way, and on - ward urge thy way.
 thine as - pir - ing eye, to thine as - pir - ing eye.
 an im - mor - tal crown, and an im - mor - tal crown.

SENT FORTH TO THE WORLD

THE DISMISSAL

The preacher offers a dismissal, then the people respond

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE

Sonata II: *Allegro maestoso e vivace*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

How do we deal with difficult Bible passages when we encounter them?

How do we deal with passages which historically have been used by others to vilify groups of people—passages that may seem to condone exclusion or condemnation of groups we may perceive as “other than us”? Everyone looks at scripture through a lens of some kind—a lens which will subsequently help shape the way they approach a given passage and ultimately interpret it.

We use the Baptismal Covenant as our lens, specifically “to seek and serve Christ in all persons,” and “to strive for justice and peace among all people.” (See the *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 304.) Through the Covenant, we understand how we are called to follow Christ and approach the difficult biblical passages with this knowledge in mind.

Why use incense in worship?

Incense has a long history in Christianity, Judaism and other religions. It adds our noses to the multi-sensory experience of worship. The psalmist expresses the symbolism of incense and prayer: “Let my prayer rise like incense before you; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

The clouds of incense represent cleansing and purification. The sweet smell suggests Christ's righteousness that covers sin. In some traditions, incense is used to honor holy things and holy people (the gathered people, that is, the body of Christ). The altar/table, the bread and wine, the ministers and the assembly may be “censed” as a way of showing their importance in the liturgy. Incense adds a festive accompaniment to processions, creating “holy clouds” and “holy smells” in the air.

The sweet smell of incense is a doorway to the holy in the same way that beautiful music, flowers, stained glass, or a room/building can lead us to ponder the mystery of God's presence. Incense in worship is an ancient practice that connects us to the Church around the world and through the ages.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven,” Text: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847), alt. Tune: LAUDA ANIMA, John Goss (1800-1880). Psalm 33: response setting © 1982, James Barrett. “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” Text: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); composite translation. Tune: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark. *Land of Rest* mass setting: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner. “Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve,” Text: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751). Tune: SIROË, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759). The Scripture texts are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Music reprinted under OneLicense.net, license # A-720489.

*Welcome to the transformative power
of Christ's love;
if you're here, you belong!*



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND ACADEMY

120 East First Street

630-323-4900

Hinsdale, Illinois 60521

gracehinsdale.org