

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 8, 2020

The congregation's part is in **bold**.

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

*Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in
Lord still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name*

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

*You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name*

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Amos 5:18-24

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord: Alas for you who desire the day of
the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went
into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel of the Lord according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out

to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Christ.

SERMON

To You We Cry

Bishop Bonnie Perry, EDOMI

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 into hell.

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 Elizabeth and Michael our Presiding Bishops, and Don and Bonnie our Bishops; and
for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation for Wilma, Buggs, Andrea and
Greg and all those you name aloud or in your heart.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. For all those celebrating birthdays
and anniversaries this month; and any other thanksgivings you offer either aloud
or in your heart.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

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

Holy Protector, be with all observing Veterans Day. Guard the lives of active duty and
retired military personnel. Comfort all who mourn those who have died in the line
of duty. Heal the wounds, both physical and mental, experienced by service
members.

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. You
may add the names of those you wish to remember aloud or in your heart.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions

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

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

We are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through Jesus we are forgiven, by Jesus we are welcome, in Jesus we are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

Let us pray as our Savior, Christ has taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

MUSICAL OFFERING TO GOD

SHOUT TO THE LORD

My Jesus my Savior
Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort, my Shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am Never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord
All the earth let us sing
Power and majesty Praise to the King
Mountains bow down
And the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

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SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Friends in Christ, we are distanced from each other in love today but grateful to be gathered here in our sacred space. We are outside the walls of our sanctuary but we hold our sanctuary in our hearts and extend the sanctuary and recognize the holiness in our gathering. As we will not be partaking in the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus due to circumstances beyond all control, let us in unison pray the prayer of Spiritual Communion and invite the communion of the Holy Spirit into our hearts.

In unity, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. we remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we implore you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM GOD'S PEOPLE

MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Beloved in the Lord, God has shown you what is good. What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
(This Far By Faith, p. 90)

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

SENDING SONG

SOON AND VERY SOON

Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King
Soon and very soon
We are going to see the King

*Hallelujah hallelujah
We're going to see the King*

No more crying there
We are going to see the King
No more crying there
We are going to see the King
No more crying there
We are going to see the King

No more dying there
We are going to see the King
No more dying there
We are going to see the King
No more dying there
We are going to see the King

Hallelujah Hallelujah Hallelujah

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DISMISSAL

Acolyte Go in peace to serve the risen Lord. ALLELUIA!
People **THANKS BE TO GOD! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**