



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Raleigh, NC

July 19, 2020

Greeting by Fr. Tyrone

Voluntary "Variations on 'Jacob's Ladder'", setting by Greg Bottomley

Acclamation

Officiant Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

People **Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, 231

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 ask, 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.

✠ **The Holy Gospel** Matthew 13:2-30, 36-43

The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

Jesus put to 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!

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Homily

Musical Interlude “Praise to the living God!” arrangement by Valerie Shields

The Prayers (For individual use or with a family)

As we extend our thoughts and our energies beyond our homes and throughout the world, hoping that God's reign may be the deepest desire of every human heart, let us pray, saying: In the Spirit we plead, hear us, O God.

O God, we pray that the seeds we sow in this life may bear good fruit and not be vanquished by the enemy. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, help us to see clearly the weeds which have grown in our own lives: the weeds which smother our well-being and the weeds which teach us lessons and help us to grow in wisdom. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, may your dominion grasp us and ravish the hearts of all who claim Christ as Lord. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, make your justice grow in our land, that the victims of this age will find shelter in its branches. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

To you, Abba, we raise our eyes in hope. Search us and know us. Inspire those whose decisions influence the lives of others, that they may discern wisely and act compassionately. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, imaginative Creator, bless artists, poets, and writers with the creative touch of your word. Make them avenues of your vision. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, we pray for all the oppressed, all the needy, all in terror, all the sick especially, **Doris Jacobs, Rudolph McEwan, David Myher, Elayne Karickoff, Dave Bergum, Barbara O'Neal, JoAnn Roebuck, Elliot Phillips, Gary Schaffer, Arlene McCullers, Abbie Silvia, Geoff Funkhouser, BettyJo Jacobs, Paul Bamford, Lee Witcher, Audrey Witcher, Carol Prgent, Deanna Hill, Sophia Vaughan, Morning, Sarah Roholt, Marilyn Adams, Mary Mainwaring, Becca Valone, Katie Critcher, Samuel Davenport, Rachael London, Beauty Munawa, John Monahan, Mike Newton-Ward and Mike Wilson,**. On the last day gather us all into your heavenly realm. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, give health and peace to all who suffer with addiction. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, we pray for those who are incarcerated; for those unjustly convicted and for those who are struggling through the lack of freedom. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

For our own needs. (Silence) In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, we give you thanks for all who celebrate birthdays this week including, **Paul Bamford, Denise Davis, Larry LoMonte (14th).** In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

That we may always give thanks for the blessings of this life. (Silence) In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

O God, we pray for the dead: for the more than half-million people whose lives have been lost to Coronavirus worldwide and for those who have died in the peace of Christ. In the Spirit we plead: **hear us, O God.**

The Officiant adds a concluding Collect.

The Blessing

Life is short and there is little time to make the glad the hearts of those who walk this journey of faith with us. So, let us be swift to love and make haste to be kind; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Voluntary: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" setting by Becki Slagle Mayo

Notes



The Rev. Tyrone Fowlkes, Officiant; **Marcia Klinder-Badgley**, Director of Music; **David Both**, IT Communications
St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 1725 N. New Hope Road, Raleigh, NC, 27604 Phone: (919) 231-6767
Website: www.stmarks-ral.org, Rector: The Rev. Tyrone Fowlkes, Rector's Email: tfowlkes@stmarks-ral.org