



## MORNING PRAYER

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Raleigh, NC  
September 5, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

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### THE GATHERING

Officiant      God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

#### Confession of Sin

Officiant      Let us confess our sins to God.

The People may kneel or bow.

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Officiant announces the Absolution of Sin

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

### THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant      O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People      **And your glory all the day long.**

#### Venite

Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

**For the Lord is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands have molded the dry land.**

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice! (Psalm 95:1-7)

### **Jubilate**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.

**Know this: The Lord himself is God;  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.  
For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting;  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age. (Psalm 100)**

### **Psalm 146**

Hallelujah!  
Praise the LORD, O my soul!  
I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth,  
for there is no help in them.  
When they breathe their last, they return to earth,  
and in that day their thoughts perish.  
Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;  
Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps his promise for ever;  
Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,  
and food to those who hunger.**

The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind;  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

**The LORD loves the righteous;  
the LORD cares for the stranger;  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

**The LORD shall reign for ever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!**

## THE LESSONS

### Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
'Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you.'  
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches. **Thanks be to God.**

### **A Song of Praise** (Song of the Three Young Men)

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;  
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.  
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;  
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.  
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.  
Glory to you, beholding the depths;**

in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.  
**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;**  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

### **James 2:1-17**

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Mark 7:24-37**

Deacon        The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.  
People        **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Deacon        The Gospel of the Lord.  
People        **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

## The Homily

**Period of Silence** A marked period of silence follows the Homily.

## 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

Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
**And grant us your salvation.**

For the church we pray. That we may bring God's word of life to all in silence, darkness, and despair, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our parish of St. Mark's we pray. That we may grow into the mystery of God's life among and in us, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the world we pray. That nations will come to cooperate for the health and well-being of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our neighborhood of Wilder's Grove and community of Northeast Raleigh we pray. That hospitals, hospice centers and retirement communities may be equipped to deal with our sick and dying, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all in the healing professions we pray. That those who search for cures and those who attend the sick may be strengthened for their tasks, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and dying we pray. That **Rudolph McEwan, David Myher, Lee Witcher, Audrey Witcher, Deanna Hill, Sophia** Vaughan Morning, **Marilyn Adams, Mary Mainwaring, Katie Critcher, Denise Davis, Carmen Reeve, Ramsey Zengbean, James Barber, Ginny Barber, Betty Johnson, Nancy Halbert, William Nail, and Celia Nail** and all who have asked for our prayers may know the healing power of God, and that those who die today may not die alone, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those celebrating birthdays this week: **Julie Leak (5<sup>th</sup>); Colleen Aguirre (8<sup>th</sup>),** let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Hear our prayers O, Lord. *[Here other intercessions may be offered.]*

For all who have died from the COVID-19 Coronavirus and for mourners we pray. That all who grieve the coming of death may come to know life in the mercy of God, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
**And grant us your salvation.**

**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 for ever. Amen.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **A Collect for Sundays**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Two Collects for the Renewal of Life**

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **A Greeting, Announcements, Words of Encouragement and Passing of the Peace**

Here, the people may reverently bow or wave in acknowledgment of others; avoiding handshakes and hugs.

## **The Gathering of Tithes and Offerings**

# **THE SENDING**

## **The General Thanksgiving**

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.****

## A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** (*Ephesians 3:20, 21*)

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**The Rev. Dr. Ruthann Savage-King, Officiant**



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