



THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Raleigh, NC

October 24, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

Opening Sentences

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
I will glory in the LORD;
let the humble hear and rejoice.
Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt his Name together.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me out of all my terror.
Look upon him and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

**I called in my affliction and the LORD heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.
The angel of the LORD encompasses those who fear him,
and he will deliver them.**

Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who trust in him!
Fear the LORD, you that are his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing.

**The young lions lack and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

Come, children, and listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
Who among you loves life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?
Keep your tongue from evil-speaking and your lips from lying words.
Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it. (Psalm 34:1-14)

Presider Blessed be the one, holy and living God.
People **Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.**

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 Gloria

**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.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

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

Psalm 126 (Prayed responsively)

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."
The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

Hebrews 7:23-28

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

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

✦ **The Holy Gospel** Mark 10:46-52

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

Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

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

The Homily A marked period of silence follows the Homily.

The Nicene Creed

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

Our faith is centered on Christ, who revealed to us the healing touch of God's justice and mercy. We now call on God to continue that same healing and justice in our lives and in our world, saying: Lord, have mercy.

May the leaders of governments see the needs of the oppressed and respond in justice. For this we pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

May ministers continue Christ's mission of healing for all that is blind in their communities. For this we pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

May those who are blind, know the gift of sight and insight and of the joy of serving the Lord. For this we pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

May those who are in need of healing especially, **Rudolph McEwan, David Myher, Lee Witcher, Audrey Witcher, Deanna Hill, Sophia Vaughan Morning, Marilyn Adams, Mary Mainwaring, Katie Critcher, Denise Davis, Carmen Reeve, James Barber, Ginny Barber, Betty Johnson, Nancy Halbert, William Nail, Celia Nail, Ron Daniels, Janice Fowlkes, Harriet Banner and Susan Tobie**, find in Christ a source of strength in their struggles. For this we pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

May we remain mindful of our own need for healing. [*Here other intercessions may be offered, ending each with, For this we pray: Lord, have mercy.*]

May those who cannot discover ways to be of service be challenged in their lives of faith. For this we pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

May those celebrating birthdays including Penny Gallins (24th), experience the gift of a renewed life. For this we pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

May those who are battling the Coronavirus, find healing and hope. And may all who have died from this disease, including nearly 5 million global citizens, find their home in God's holy courts. For this we pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

May those who have died in the peace of Christ find the Savior for whom they yearn, For this we pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon May we admit to our blindness and the times where we deny our own need for healing, come to behold a merciful Savior and confess our sins with honesty and humility.

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 Presider announces the Absolution of Sin

The Exchange of Peace

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

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: All things come from you, O God.

People: **And of your own have we given you.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

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; of Sarah, Ruth and Rachel; 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 Lord's Prayer

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 Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread also known as 'The Fraction'.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Please remain masked during the distribution of Communion. You may wish to hold your communion bread/wafer until the end of distribution, so we may all commune together.

Prayer after Communion

The people stand.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

When communion is being carried from the altar to those who are home bound.

Presider The bread which we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

People **Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.**

[N.], In the name of God and of this congregation, bear these gifts to those who are bound; share the Lord and bless His name.

Amen.

THE SENDING

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The Rev. Tyrone Fowlkes, Presider



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