

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion
Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020
Sunday, Oct. 4, 2020

PRELUDE Meditation | Paul Hindemith

Gathering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN #727 Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth

Sung by cantor.



1 Lord Christ, when first you came to earth, up -
2 O awe - some Love, which finds no room in
3 New ad - vent of the love of Christ, will
4 O wound - ed hands of Je - sus, build in



on a cross they bound you, and mocked your sav - ing
life where sin de - nies you, and, doomed to death, shall
we a - gain re - fuse you, till in the night of
us your new cre - a - tion; our pride is dust, our



king - ship's worth by thorns with which they crowned you. And
bring to doom the pow'r that cru - ci - fies you, till
hate and war we per - ish as we lose you? From
vaunt is stilled; we wait your rev - e - la - tion. O



still our wrongs may fash - ion now new thorns to pierce that
 not a stone is left on stone, and then the na - tions'
 an - cient doubts our minds re - lease to seek the king - dom
 Love that tri - umphs o - ver loss, we bring our hearts be -



stead - y brow, and robe of sor - row round you.
 pride, o'er - thrown, will nev - er - more de - fy you!
 of your peace, by which a - lone we choose you.
 fore your cross; come, fin - ish your sal - va - tion.

Text: W. Russell Bowie, 1882–1969, alt.
 Music: MIT FREUDEN ZART, medieval European tune

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Beloved God and Father: all good things come from you. By your Spirit, inspire us to know what is right; and by the gracious mercy of your beloved Son, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Word

FIRST READING *Isaiah 5:1–7*

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:7–15

Sung by cantor.

Restore us, O | God of hosts;*
 let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
 You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;*
 you cast out the nations and | planted it.
 You cleared the | ground for it;*
 it took root and | filled the land.

The mountains were covered | by its shadow*
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.
You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea*
and its branches | to the river.
Why have you broken | down its wall,*
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?
The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,*
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.
Turn now, O | God of hosts,*
look | down from heaven;
behold and | tend this vine;*
preserve what your right | hand has planted.

SECOND READING *Philippians 3:4b–14*

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung by cantor.

GOSPEL *Matthew 21:33–46*

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’

Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”?’

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN #729 The Church of Christ, in Every Age

Sung by cantor.



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

... Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

PEACE

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

Meal

Please stand.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

Sung by cantor.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

... Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Spoken by 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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Please sit.

THE COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion.

We receive the Body of Christ (bread) in our open hands. Christ is fully present in both bread and cup; persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread.

LAMB OF GOD

Sung by cantor.

Please stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sending


BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.


Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN #826 Thine the Amen


Sung by cantor.



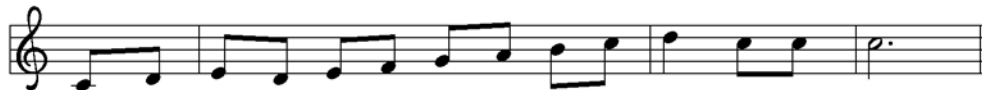
1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
 4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Marche from Sept Pieces, op. 27* | Marcel Dupré

Our thanks to Laura Conger, serving as cantor, and to Rolf Wulfsberg, violin, for offering the prelude.

Today

from the life of the church

O Christ our God, thou, even thou, art now the one God and lover of thy children: We pray thee to grant us and thy whole people a mind free from care, a clear understanding, that we may know and understand what profit there is in that holy teaching of thine, which now is being delivered unto us, and how far it resembles thee, O Prince of Life! So also make us worthy to be like unto it in every work, and in faith, and to glorify thy holy name and to rejoice in thy cross. Amen.

Gregory of Nazianzus
(330–389)

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