

St. John's Episcopal Church

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Rite II

October 18, 2020

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Virginia W. G. Army



Prelude

Processional Hymn #377

All People That On Earth Do Dwell

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer

BCP p.355

Gloria

The Collect for Purity

The Collect of the Day: Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson Exodus 33:12-23: Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth." The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Psalm 99, Dominus regnavit

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 The LORD is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake. | 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call
upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he
answered them. |
| 2 The LORD is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples. | 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of
cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the
decree that he gave them. |
| 3 Let them confess his Name, which is
great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One. | 8 O LORD our God, you answered them
indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil
deeds. |
| 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and
righteousness in Jacob." | 9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our
God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One. |
| 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our
God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One. | |

The Second Lesson 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10: Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you,

and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Gradual Hymn #684

O For A Closer Walk With God

(vs.1-2 before, vs. 3 after)

The Gospel Matthew 22:15-22: The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Homily: Virginia

The Nicene Creed

BCP p.392

Prayers of the People – Form VI

The Peace

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer A

BCP p.361

A Prayer for Assurance of Christ's Presence ("An Act of Spiritual Communion")

God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord, Amen.

Communion Solo

Post Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, He declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.

Benediction and Blessing

Recessional Hymn #372

Praise to the Living God

Postlude

Dismissal

God of servant rule, your kingdom breaks our tangled webs where state and church collude to worship power and trade on fear: grant us the wit and will to give you what is your own, no more nor less than all the world and time; through Jesus Christ, whose kingdom comes. Amen.

20Pentecost10-18-20

Follow – *Jesus loves you. If you didn't wake up today with that awareness, Jesus has news for you, good news. God loves you and has big plans for you that span all eternity. In the meantime, where will this good news lead you? Where will Jesus lead you? I wouldn't know. His invitation to all of us is simply to follow.*

–Br. Curtis Almquist