



All Saints Episcopal Church

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The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 27, Year A

November 8, 2020



9:00 a.m., The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Rev. William Petersen Celebrant

Holly Simons, Music Minister

Eucharistic Minister: Sandi Johnson

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

Organ Prelude Organ Prelude: "Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes Sohn (O Thou of God the Father)" - *J.S. Bach*

Opening Acclamation

Eucharistic minister stands at the lectern for all responses of the people.

Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.**

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.

Collect of the Day *We center ourselves for worship in prayer.*

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray together.

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

WORD OF GOD *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

First Lesson **Amos 5:18-24**

Reader A reading from Amos.

In this Hebrew Bible lesson the prophet proclaims that the day of Lord will be a day of deep gloom. God despises the ceremonies of his people and calls for a continuous stream of justice and righteousness. In this era people looked forward to "the day of the Lord" as an annual time of festival and also a symbol of the great final day when God would make all things well. How wrong they are! It will be a day of darkness, not light. No matter where a man turns, disaster awaits him. The Lord is done with rites without righteousness, and religiosity as a substitute for equity.

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord:

Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 70 *We respond to the first lesson with a portion of the Psalter.*

A prayer for help and vindication.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; *

O LORD, make haste to help me.

Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed; *

let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, *

because they are ashamed.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; *

let those who love your salvation say for ever, "Great is the LORD!"

But as for me, I am poor and needy; *

come to me speedily, O God.

You are my helper and my deliverer; *

O LORD, do not tarry.

The Second Lesson **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

Reader A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

In this reading Paul offers a vision of how the dead in Christ will rise and then, together with those who are alive, be caught up to meet the Lord in the sky. Apparently some members of the Thessalonian church had died, and there was this concern: would they miss the Lord's coming? First, Paul reminds them that the Christian hope is rooted in the God who raised Jesus. He then describes the day of the Lord's appearing and the raising up of the dead and the living, using highly poetic imagery conditioned by the worldview of his time. The essential meaning is clear: we shall be with the Lord..

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God**

The Gospel **Matthew 25:1-13** *We hear the Good News of Jesus our Lord and Savior.*

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Our gospel is the parable of the wise and foolish maidens—those prepared and unprepared for the bridegroom’s coming. In several ways the details of the story may strike us as odd and even a little unfair, but such a concern misses the main point, which has much in common with other of Jesus’ parables. One must at all times be ready with repentance and decision for the kingdom’s coming. In a later period this story was read with allegorical overtones. Jesus is the bridegroom whose return is delayed. Some in the church are falling asleep while others remain expectant.

Jesus said, “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Eucharistic minister sits.

SERMON

The Rev. William Petersen, preacher

Silence for reflection may be kept.

Hymn of the Day

The word of God is proclaimed in song.

ELW #723 Canticle of the turning (verses 1, 3, 4)



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow’r to the for - tress tow’r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God’s mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



Refrain
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

NICENE CREED

We profess our faith with the whole church.

Eucharistic minister stands

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 ad and confirmed in 381 ad, the Nicene Creed is said at the Holy Eucharist and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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, who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified, who 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.**

Prayers of the People

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for God's power to come upon the church, the world, and all in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "O Lord, make haste to help us."

A brief silence.

Holy God, rouse us to prayer and praise, both when we gather for worship and when we cannot. Sustain all those who help us to worship at this time.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Creator, delight us with the autumn beauty of your earth. At this change of seasons, give the animals what they need for survival.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Peacemaker, give peace to our conflicted nation. Quell all attempts at violence and halt the desire for retribution. Cure our nation from prejudice of every kind. Teach us how to abide

together as one diverse people. Restore families and friendships torn apart by political differences.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Sovereign, grant that all newly elected officials of government will work faithfully for the common good. Give them wisdom, honesty, and humility. Illumine their convictions with a spirit of cooperation. Bless especially our President-elect. Pour upon him and upon all his advisors a right spirit of dedication to justice and truth.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Protector, bless the observance of Veterans Day. Bring armistice to areas of conflict and keep safe the military who serve in harm's way. Give to all the armed forces a dedication to defend the common good. Heal the wounds, both physical and emotional, experienced by active and retired service members.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Healer, bring health and wholeness to those who are sick, those who live with chronic pain, and the thousands who daily contract COVID-19. Console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Protect those living in resettlement camps. Uphold medical care workers, especially in third-world countries. We pray especially for those we name here before you. . .

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Beloved, form us into a people close to your heart, and receive now our silent petitions:

A longer period of silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy and immortal One, we remember before you all who have died in the faith, especially the military and the civilians who died in armed conflicts, and those we name before you here.... At the end, bring us with them to be with our Lord forever.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Receive these prayers for the sake of him who lived, died, and rose for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution *We confess together and hear God's forgiveness.*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence for reflection may be kept.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

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

The Peace *We greet one another in the peace of the risen Christ.*

Celebrant May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Eucharistic minister sits.

Announcements

Thank you to Jacqueline McLaughlin for the Altar Flower arrangement this Sunday.

The Offering *An offering is gathered for the mission of God in the world.*

I appeal to you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

HOLY COMMUNION *God feeds us with the real presence of Jesus Christ.*

Eucharistic minister stands.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Celebrant Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread and Fraction Anthem

The presider breaks the bread in silence.

People Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Invitation to Holy Communion

This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little; You who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before; You who have tried to follow and you who have failed; Come, not because the Church invites you; It is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

The Iona Community Worship Book

Celebrant There is a long-standing practice in the Episcopal Church to offer a means for people to receive Holy Communion spiritually when it cannot be received physically.

People My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SENDING *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Blessing *The celebrant proclaims God's blessing to the people.*

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, ☩ be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Eucharistic minister sits

Sending Hymn ELW #722 O Christ, Your heart compassionate (v 1, 2, 3)



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Dismissal *The people are sent forth in love and service to the world.*

Eucharistic minister stands

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR PRAYER LIST

The family of Bob Champagne

Bob Pierpont	Ruth Gray	Dylan Allwine	Mark Luken
Rodney Morgan	Stephanie Schroeder	Shirley Bentley	Carolyn Toshney
Gina Vivian	Penny Meyer	Jan Sauda	Faye Juul
Penelope Bennis	Mary McAuley	Gwendolyn Deneault	Mary Ellen Davis
Prue Fitts	Judy Hess	Michael Dowd	Zell Kellogg
Joe Blackett	Jacqueline McLaughlin		

Note: The names on the prayer list have been updated to remove names that were added over a year ago. If you would like a name placed back on the list, please send the request to Debra at the office email address allsaints@metrocast.net. *Thank you*



Thank you for all who have continued to support the work of All Saints during this time. You may make contributions by mail, using your financial institution's automated check writing service, or secure online giving via [Donate](https://www.wolfesaints.com/donate) at www.wolfesaints.com/donate

Creator of all we enjoy, we give you thanks for the countless people you have gathered to do your work as All Saints' Wolfboro. We thank you for your Holy Spirit inspiring some as they longed for this church, others as they built this church and still others as they lovingly and boldly led this church through times of abundance and times of scarcity. Help us to be bold as we model giving of time and money during this time. Make our generous giving a symbol of both our faith and our gratitude. We pray in the name of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Ministers: All the People of All Saints'
Rector: The Rev. Bill Petersen
Minister of Music: Holly Simons
Parish Administrator: Deb Hoyt
Sexton: Mark McLaughlin

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