



All Saints Episcopal Church

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The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 28, Year A

November 15, 2020



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

The Rev. William Petersen Celebrant

Holly Simons, Music Minister

Eucharistic Minister: Dianne Wasmuth

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

Pre-recorded Prelude: "Alleluia!" - W.A. Mozart; Claudia Bissett, flute

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.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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

First Lesson **Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

Reader A reading from Zephaniah.

In this opening lesson the prophet proclaims the hastening approach of the day of the Lord, a day of judgment and fearful distress. Zephaniah calls for silence as the Lord prepares what will be a sacrifice of terror. Everywhere in Judah there is corruption. People are drunk with wine and say that the Lord will do nothing, either good or bad. But they will never enjoy their wealth, nor will their silver or gold be of any use. The portrayal of the end is vivid and terrifying.

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, the LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."

Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 90:1-8, 12 *We respond to the first lesson with a portion of the Psalter.*

The psalmist reflects on the passing character of human life in the face of the Lord's wrath, and asks the everlasting God for wisdom to make use of the time.

Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Second Lesson 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

In this reading Paul counsels the new disciples to be alert as in the daylight, for the day of the Lord will come swiftly and unexpectedly, although at a time unknown to mortals. Many early Christians believed that the course of world history would soon come to an end. Paul urges the Thessalonians not to live like people of the night but soberly and expectantly. Whether they first die or remain alive they may look forward, not to God's wrath, but to a salvation that has been gained through Jesus. Paul's central point remains valid for us: we do not know when the consummation of history will take place, but are to live always prepared for judgment.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People **Thanks be to God**

The Gospel **Matthew 25:14-30** *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.

Our gospel is the parable of the servants who made different uses of the money entrusted to them. The evangelist intends the story to be instructive to Christian disciples. The master Jesus is now away. When he returns, he will expect his followers to have made diligent use of the faith he has left in their charge. If it has not grown, then it has been without value and will be taken away. One also recognizes how immense are the sums left with the servants. The parable warns against the false security of only guarding the traditions and not investing them in life and in others.

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had

received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

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 #710 (ELW) Let Streams of Living Justice (v 1, 2, 3)



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



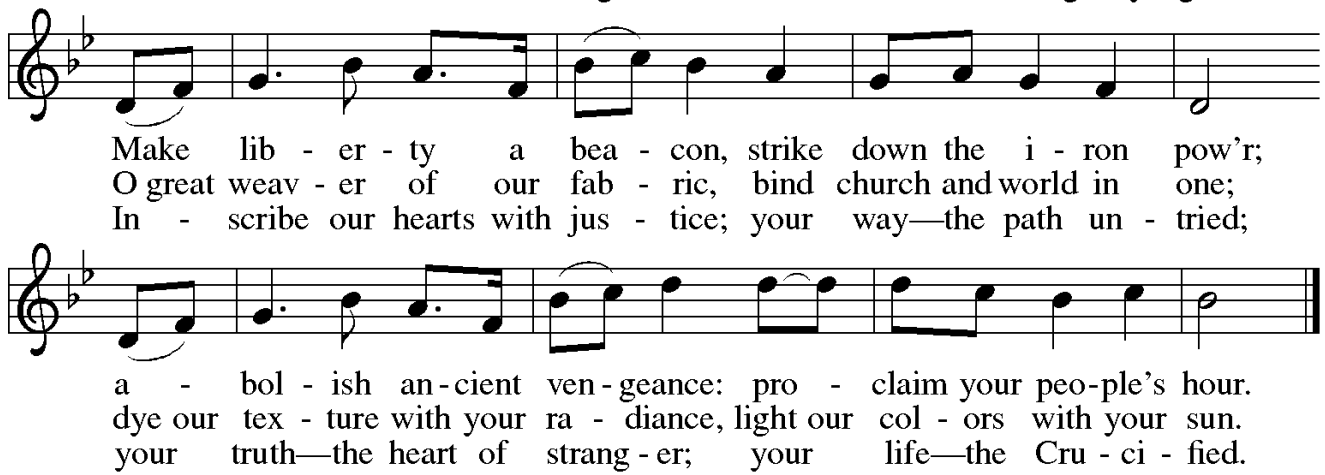
give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;
 a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

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, let us pray to see God's power in the church and in the world, responding to each petition with the words "Hear us and encourage us."

A brief silence.

We pray, O God, for the church in our community and throughout the world. Raise up and sustain believers who will use their talents to encourage one another, assist with worship and to lead congregational ministries in this difficult time. Grant an extra measure of the Spirit to Bishop Rob and Pastor Bill. Protect your people with the armor of your Word.

A brief silence.

O God, you are the Temple of your people: **Hear us and encourage us.**

For the earth we pray. During this autumn season, give to plants and wild animals a time of rest. Keep the coronavirus and other pathogens away from the animals that we farm.

A brief silence.

O God, you are the Maker of the heavens and the earth: **Hear us and encourage us.**

For all the nations we pray. Bring an end to war and terrorism. Cultivate a worldwide spirit of cooperation that will seek just international agreements and shared human rights. Rescue humankind from the worship of wealth, and give a homeland to migrants.

A brief silence.

O God, you are the Haven we seek: **Hear us and encourage us.**

For the United States we pray. Quell attempts at violence, and restore national good will. End prejudice of all kinds, and lead us into a unity that embraces diversity. Comfort those who live in fear of the future. Bless all newly elected officials, especially President-elect Biden, with a passion for justice and a commitment to honesty.

A brief silence.

O God, you are our Mighty Fortress: **Hear us and encourage us.**

We pray for all who are in need. Visit with health and good medical care all the sick, especially the thousands who each day are contracting the coronavirus. Prepare a vaccine to save our world from COVID-19. Give food, employment, and housing to the countless who are struggling to live. We pray especially for. . . .

A brief silence.

O God, you are our Physician, our Nurse: **Hear us and encourage us.**

For many of us, what the ancient prophet said is now true: these are days of distress and anguish. We beg you to listen to the prayers of our hearts.

A longer period of silence.

O God, you are Father, Mother, Lover, Master, Friend: **Hear us and encourage us.**

We remember before you all the saints who have lived and died in the faith, especially Elizabeth of Hungary in her ministry to the sick, and those we name here now. . . . At the end of time, bring us all into your peace.

A brief silence.

O God, you are the Light perpetual: **Hear us and encourage us.**

Receive these prayers, and in your gracious mercy grant your strength to our neediness, through 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 Cate McMahon for the Altar Flower arrangement this Sunday.

The Offering *A prayer of thanksgiving for pledge commitment.*

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 #785 (ELW) When peace like a river (v 1, 2, & 3)



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

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](#) 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' Wolfeboro. 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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