

# SEVENTEETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

## MORNING PRAYER

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### Musical Prelude

*Officiant* Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Philippians 1:2*

*The officiant says to the people*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together,*

**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.**

*The officiant says*

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.

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*All* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Jubilate* *The invitatory psalm is now said in unison.*

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.  
Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.  
For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 *Attendite, popule*

Hear my teaching, O my people; \*incline your ears  
to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable; \*I will declare  
the mysteries of ancient times.

That which we have heard and known, and what  
our forefathers have told us, \*we will not hide  
from their children.

We will recount to generations to come the  
praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,  
\*and the wonderful works he has done.

He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers,  
\*in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*he  
made the waters stand up like walls.

He led them with a cloud by day, \*and all the night  
through with a glow of fire.

He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*and gave  
them drink as from the great deep.

He brought streams out of the cliff, \*and the waters  
gushed out like rivers.

## THE LESSONS

### First Lesson – Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

### First Song of Isaiah

**Surely, it is God who saves me; \***

**I will trust in him and not be afraid.**

**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.**

**Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.**

**And on that day you shall say, \***

**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.**

**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.**

**Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

### Second Lesson – Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death--  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

#### The Gospel Reading – Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Sermon – The Rev. Polly H. Robb

#### **The Apostles Creed**

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

**The Lord's Prayer** (*said in unison*)

*The suffrages are now said responsively*

V: Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
V: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
V: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
V: Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
V: Let your way be known upon earth;  
V: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
V: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R: **And grant us your salvation.**  
R: **Let your people sing with joy.**  
R: **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
R: **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
R: **Your saving health among all nations.**  
R: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
R: **And sustain us by your Holy Spirit.**

*The Collect of the Day*

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*A Collect for Sundays*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A Collect for Mission*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

Almighty God, we pray today especially for those ill or distressed, for Brevy and Kathy, Sherry, John, Danny, John Will, Bob, Garry, Kathleen, Alyssa, Debra, Clifton, Nancy, Bob, Mack, Brad, Tommy and family, Alan, Jim, Richard, Carolyn and Wayne, John, Jonathan, Lannie, Mike, Cindy, Jameson, Charlotte, and Cherri.

We pray for those who have died, especially Robert and any in your prayers (pause)  
Grant *them* an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week: Charles Heath and Johnny Cantrell.

**Announcements and Offertory**

**Anthem**

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord  
to make our common supplication to you;  
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son  
that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them:  
Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions  
as may be best for us; granting us in this world  
knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**