A SERVICE OF HEALING AND HOPE

ANTE-COMMUNION: RITE II JULY 22, 2020 AT 12:00PM



First Free Church of Pennsylvania Est. 1853

During this time when not everyone is able to be together physically, we invite you to join us in other ways. Please check our Website, Facebook, and YouTube pages regularly for new information and video messages. If you are in need of groceries, medicine, or any other essentials please let us know by calling (717) 299-1188 or emailing equilla@stjohns-lancaster.org. We have a number of volunteers and staff members willing and able to run errands as needed.

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the

Communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Holy Women, Holy Men 455

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and of mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed from all our infirmities and know you in the power of his unending life; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A COLLECT FOR HEALING

God, our healer, whose mercy is like a refining fire; by the loving kindness of Jesus, heal us and those for whom we pray, that being renewed by you, we may witness your wholeness to our broken world; through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*.

FIRST LESSON: JUDITH 9:1,11-14

Then Judith prostrated herself, put ashes on her head, and uncovered the sackcloth she was wearing. At the very time when the evening incense was being offered in the house of God in Jerusalem, Judith cried out to the Lord with a loud voice, and said: 'For your strength does not depend on numbers, nor your might on the powerful. But you are the God of the lowly, helper of the oppressed, upholder of the weak, protector of the forsaken, saviour of those without hope. Please, please, God of my father, God of the heritage of Israel, Lord of heaven and earth, Creator of the waters, King of all your creation, hear my prayer! Make my deceitful words bring wound and bruise on those who have planned cruel things against your covenant, and against your sacred house, and against Mount Zion, and against the house your children possess. Let your whole nation and every tribe know and understand that you are God, the God of all power and might, and that there is no other who protects the people of Israel but you alone!'

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 42:1-7

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When shall I come and behold the face of God?

My tears have been my food day and night,

while people say to me continually,

"Where is your God?"

⁴ These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:

how I went with the throng,

and led them in procession to the house of God,

with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,

a multitude keeping festival.

5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help ⁶ and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;

therefore I remember you

from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,

from Mount Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep

at the thunder of your cataracts;

all your waves and your billows have gone over me.

Gospel Lesson: John 20:11-18

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?'

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." 'Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

THE REV. MATT MACDOUGALL

LIGHTING OF THE PRAYER CANDLES

In place of the laying on of hands, please feel free to light a candle as an offering to God for healing for whatever ails you or your loved ones.

THE LITANY OF HEALING

Celebrant Together we lift our prayers to you, O God of love and healing. Let us remember those whom we hold in prayer.

The Parish Prayer List is read. The people name those for whom they are interceding.

God the Father, you breathe life into your whole Creation. *Help us breathe deeply of your peace and presence.*

God the Son, you give us yourself to make our joy complete. Help us give our doubt, fear, hurt, and grief to you.

God the Holy Spirit, you move through our lives in unexpected ways. *Help us move in concert with your life-giving directions.*

Holy Trinity, One God, accept our thanks and praise for all the blessings of this life, especially for those blessings that our present circumstances may make difficult to see. *Lord, hear our prayer*.

Shed the light of your healing love on all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit, that they may find new wholeness illumined by your grace. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Knit together in your love all whose relationships have frayed, that they may find reconciliation and new beginnings. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Bless all who work to improve the health of others that they may bring hope, care, wisdom, and skill to all they serve.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Hold in the palm of your hand all who are near death and all who care for them, that they may know the peace that passes all understanding. *Lord, hear our prayer*.

Grant all who turn to you the courage to participate with you in restoring this broken world to wholeness that everyone and everything may share in the hope of your kingdom. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For these and for all other petitions that are too deep for words, we pray to you. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

You are the Lord whose promises never cease. You are the Lord whose presence never fails.

Celebrant

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart [and especially the hearts of the people of this land], that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Gracious God, you are close to us no matter how far we feel from you: draw us into the very heart of your grace and help us to live into the truth that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant Let us confess our need for God's healing grace.

Celebrant and People

Compassionate God, we confess our weaknesses and our need for your strengthening touch. We confess that some illnesses stem from our own fault, while others are beyond our control. We turn to you, Source of Life, and ask in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ for the gifts of true healing and life in you. Amen.

Celebrant

May the God of love visit you in your times of trial and weakness, and raise you to newness of life, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*.

THE PEACE BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY

Thank you for your support during this season of our lives: your generosity enables the work of Christ to continue here and now. Contributions can be placed in the offertory plates in the back of the church, or mailed to the church office (321 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster, PA 17603) or given online at https://stjohns-lancaster.org.

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 364

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR WHEN WE CANNOT RECEIVE HOLY EUCHARIST

In union, O Lord Jesus Christ, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, we join in offering the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving to you. We present to you ourselves, our souls and our bodies, with the earnest longing that we may ever be united to you. And since we cannot receive the Holy Sacrament, come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves to you, and love you with all our hearts, with all our souls, with all our minds, and with all our strength. Let nothing ever separate us from you. Let us live and die in your love. Amen.

THE BLESSING

God the Father Bless you. God the Son heal you. God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to the heavenly city, where God lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen*.

THE DISMISSAL BCP 366

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

UPCOMING MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S:

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

12:00 p.m. Ante-Communion Rite II with Healing Prayers (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, JULY 23

2:30 p.m. Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

3:00 p.m. Yard Give Drop Off (Courtyard)

Sunday, July 26

8:00 a.m. Ante-Communion Rite I 10:15 a.m. Ante-Communion Rite II 11:15 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour (Zoom)

TUESDAY, JULY 28

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 2:30 p.m. Food Pantry

6:00 p.m. VH Dance (Auditorium)

Weekly Support Ministries

AA:Tuesday - 6:00-7:00 p.m. (All Purpose Room)

NA: Mon/Wed/Fri - 12:00 Noon (All Purpose Room)

FOOD PANTRY— Thank you for your continual support of our food pantry ministry. Your donations allow us to feed so many neighbors struggling to make ends meet during this difficult time. Thank you for being good news to those in need. We are currently in need of toiletry items (please leave on the back porch of Becker House).

3RD ANNUAL YARD GIVE — Our Yard give is scheduled for Friday, August 7th and Saturday, August 8th from 7:00am—1:00PM. Everyone is invited to take what they want and give what they can. Donations are currently being accepted on every Wednesday from 3PM-5PM and every Sunday from 8AM-1PM. For additional information, please contact Pam Loose.

To worship in-person please sign up each week. The sign up sheet will be available every Monday on the website.

OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

The Rt. Rev. Audrey C. Scanlan, Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Amanda Knouse, Rector amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Matt MacDougall, Associate Rector matt@stjohns-lancaster.org

VESTRY

Debbie Carter (Senior Warden), Webb Cook (Junior Warden), Sue Heilman, Tim Huber, Molly Moyer, Nicole Pham, Heather Trenary, John Gouveia, Joe Way, Annie Lattanzio Hale

STAFF

Equilla Curry, Parish Administrator
Gina Keiser, Financial Secretary
Paul Reese, Minister of Music
Richard Kuhn, Sexton
Maria Weaver-Hollowniczky, Nursery and Security

PRIESTS AND CANONS ASSOCIATED WITH ST. JOHN'S

Canon William F. Honaman, DHL The Rev. William Archer The Rev. Faith D'Urbano The Rev. Elizabeth Mollard

GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE