THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ANTE-COMMUNION: RITE II JULY 26, 2020 AT 10:15AM



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 <u>Website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>YouTube</u> 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

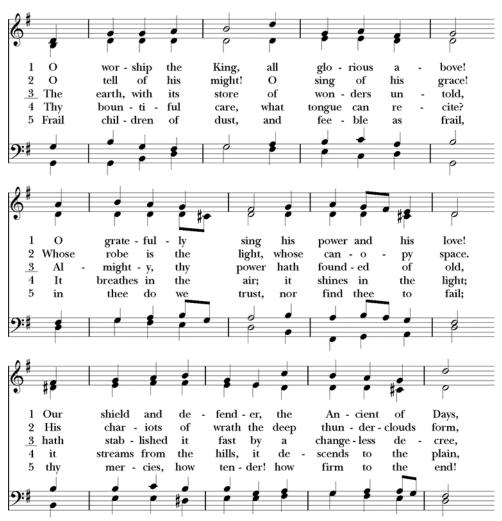
WELCOME

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C major

arr. J. Bach

Opening Hymn O worship the King, all glorious above!



OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

Officiant People Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

COLLECT FOR PURITY BCP 355

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*.

THE GLORIA (spoken)

BCP 356

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 230

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

First Lesson: Genesis 29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

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

PSALM 105:1-11, 45B

¹ Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; * make known his deeds among the peoples.

² Sing to him, sing praises to him, *

and speak of all his marvelous works.

³ Glory in his holy Name; *

let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴ Search for the LORD and his strength; * continually seek his face.

⁵ Remember the marvels he has done, *

his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

⁶ O offspring of Abraham his servant, *

O children of Jacob his chosen.

⁷ He is the LORD our God; *

his judgments prevail in all the world.

⁸ He has always been mindful of his covenant, *

the promise he made for a thousand generations:

⁹ The covenant he made with Abraham, * the oath that he swore to Isaac,

Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
 an everlasting covenant for Israel,
 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
 to be your allotted inheritance."
 Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN Fairest Lord Jesus

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GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ. People

THE HOMILY

THE REV. MATT MACDOUGALL

THE NICENE CREED (Please stand)

BCP 358

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. (pause) 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 and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; we lift up Trinity, Chambersburg in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer and in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the team responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference which was due to be taking place now – please pray for them as they consider the implications of its postponement in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; especially Donald, our President; Tom, our Governor; and Danene, our Mayor. *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble. *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed, eternal rest; *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE CONFESSION BCP 360

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

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 (take a moment to send someone a text, an email, or post on social media!)

BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY

Thank you for your continual support of the mission and ministry of St. John's. Contributions can be placed in the offertory plate as you exit, given online on our website, or mailed to the church office (321 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster, PA 17603). Again, THANK YOU!

Musical Offering This is My Father's World

arr. D. Bolks

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 364

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

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today 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

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

I sing the almighty power of God

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GOOD NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE DISMISSAL **BCP 366**

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia!

Theme from Jupiter G. Holst/J.Scott **POSTLUDE**

Upcoming Ministry Opportunities this week at St. John's:

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

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 2:30 p.m. Food Pantry

6:00 p.m. V.H. Dance (Auditorium)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

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

THURSDAY, JULY 30

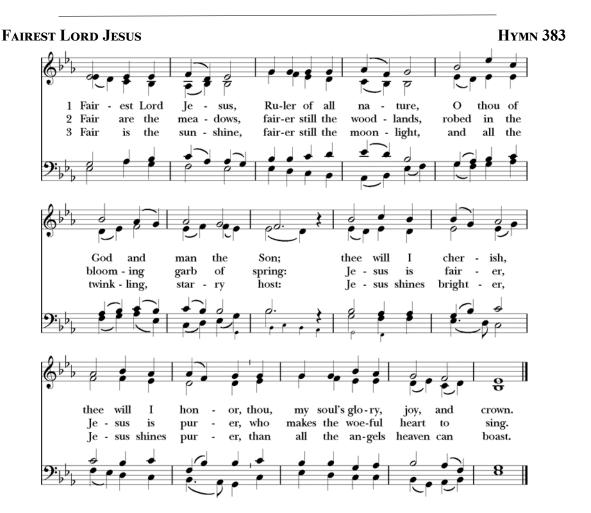
2:30 p.m. Food Pantry

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.





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