

Trinity Episcopal Church

Lime Rock, CT

Offering Companionship Along The Way

The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Roy Bickley, Leader and Homilist

August 29, 2021

Leader: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Leader and 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.

Leader: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Leader: Lord, open our lips.

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

***Leader and people:* 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. Alleluia.**

Leader: Let us sing together the Jubilate.

The Jubilate S 11

Plainsong, Tone 7; adapt. Bruce E Ford (b. 1947)

**1. Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

***Antiphon:* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: O come, let us adore him.**

**2. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; *
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

***Antiphon:* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: O come, let us adore him.**

**3. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise; *
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.**

Antiphon: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: O come, let us adore him.

**4. For the Lord is gracious; his mercy is everlasting; *
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.**

Antiphon: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: O come, let us adore him.

**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.**

Antiphon: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: O come, let us adore him.

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10

- 1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
- 2 You are the fairest of men; *
grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.
- 7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.
- 8 Therefore God, your God, has anointed you *
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- 9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.
- 10 Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; *
on your right hand is the queen,
adorned with the gold of Ophir.

The Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.
My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag.
Look, there he stands behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.
My beloved speaks and says to me:
"Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;
for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.
The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Let us say together the Third Song of Isaiah.

The Third Song of Isaiah *Surge, illuminare*
Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.

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.

The Letter of James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Let us say together the Song of the Redeemed.

The Song of the Redeemed *Magna et mirabilia* [Revelation 15:3-4]

**O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done, *
surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, *
O King of all the ages.
Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name? *
for you only are the Holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, *
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**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.**

Reader: **A reading from the Gospel of Matthew**

25:14-30

"For 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.'

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Let us sing together the Apostles' Creed.

The Apostles' Creed

Christine Gevert (b. 1964)

1. I be-lieve in God the Fa-ther al-migh-ty, cre-a-tor of heav-en and earth. . . .

2. I be-lieve in Je-sus Christ, his on-ly Son, our Lord. . . .
 He was con-ceived by the pow-er of the Ho-ly Spi-rit and born of the Vir-gin Ma-ry.
 He suf-fered un-der Pon-tius Pi-late, was cru-ci-fied, died, and was bur-ied.
 He des-cend-ed to the dead. On the third day he rose a-gain.
 He asc-end-ed in-to heav-en, and is seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther.
 He will come a-gain to judge the liv-ing and the dead. . . .

3. I be-lieve in the Ho-ly Spi-rit, the ho-ly ca-tho-lic Church,
 the com-mun-ion of saints, the for-give-ness of sins, the re-sur-rec-tion of the bo-dy,
 and the life ev-er-last-ing. A-men.

The Offertory

Leader: Let us now present our offerings and oblations with gladness unto the Lord.

Offertory Hymn 416 “For the beauty of the earth”

Lucerna Laudoniae

Doxology “Praise God from whom all blessings flow”

William Kethe (d. 1594) *Old 100th*

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**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.**

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: **Let your people sing with joy.**

Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People: **For only in you can we live in safety.**

Leader: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People: **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Leader: Let your way be known upon earth;

People: **Your saving health among all nations.**

Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Leader: Let us pray together the collect of the day.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking; Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The leader continues:

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.**

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks to you, Lord God, for all your blessings. We pray in gratitude for the celebrations of our lives.

Lord in your goodness: **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours. Grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as God loves us.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially any who you now name. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died and those whom you lift up in prayer. We pray that your will for them may be fulfilled, and that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Leader: We say together the General Thanksgiving:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 493 “O for a thousand tongues to sing”

Azmon

Leader: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Serving Today

Rector: The Rev. Heidi Truax
Worship Leader Today: Roy Bickley
Music Director: Christine Gevert
Lector: Pari Forood
Epistler: Alan Swide
Gospel reader: Roy Bickley
Intercessor: Danielle Gaherty
Flowers: Theresa Kenny
Counter: Martha Nesbitt
Altar Guild: Mike Cuoco
Greeter/Usher: Mike Cuoco
Verger: Geoff Brown

Announcements

During Pastor Heidi’s sabbatical please contact Sr. Warden, Linda Lloyd or Jr. Warden, M. E. Freeman if there are pastoral needs.

Next Sunday, September 5, we resume our normal schedule of Holy Eucharist at 8 AM and 10:30 AM. We also welcome our Rector, the Rev. Heidi Truax, back from her sabbatical next Sunday.

Trinity Episcopal Church

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