

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 19, 2020 10 a.m.

Virtual Worship – Morning Prayer Rite II (Alternative Form)

www.stthomasgreenville.org or

Saint Thomas Episcopal Church, Greenville, Alabama Youtube Channel



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
210 Church Street, Greenville, Alabama 36037
334.382.8914

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast*

The Rev. Linda Suzanne Borgen, *Rector*

James Warren, *Director of Music*; Gary Mather, *Organist*

Dent Neilson, *Verger*

Noel Seale, *Parish Administrator*

Julie Smith, *Nursery Nanny*

Vestry

Jean Hancock, *Senior Warden*; Lori Neilson, *Junior Warden*

Laura Watts, *Clerk*, Cemira Powell, *Treasurer*

Kenneth Edwards, Ed McFerrin, Lucy McGowin,
Magoo Hamilton, Travis Powell and Mickey Worthington

DAILY MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO

Processional Hymn

Immortal, invisible, God only wise (verses 1)

H 423

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

Opening Acclamation

BCP 78

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him.

The Confession of Sin

BCP 79

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.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

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 Absolution

BCP 80

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 Invitatory

BCP 81

Officiant The mercy of the Lord is everlasting
People *Come let us adore him*

Officiant and People together,

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

 let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

 and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

 and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

 and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

 Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Harden not your hearts,

as your forebears did in the wilderness, *

 at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,

 when they tempted me.

They put me to the test, *

 though they had seen my works.

Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *

 "This people are wayward in their hearts;

 they do not know my ways.

So I swore in my wrath, *

 "They shall not enter into my rest."

Officiant The mercy of the Lord is everlasting

People *Come let us adore him*

The Psalm

Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23

BCP 794

Lay Reader

¹ LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *

 you know my sitting down and my rising up;

 you discern my thoughts from afar.

² You trace my journeys and my resting-places *

 and are acquainted with all my ways.

³ Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *

 but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

⁴ You press upon me behind and before *

 and lay your hand upon me.

⁵ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *

 it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

⁶ Where can I go then from your Spirit? *

 where can I flee from your presence?

7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
 if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
8 If I take the wings of the morning *
 and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
9 Even there your hand will lead me *
 and your right hand hold me fast.
10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
 and the light around me turn to night,"
11 Darkness is not dark to you;
 the night is as bright as the day; *
 darkness and light to you are both alike.
22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; *
 try me and know my restless thoughts.
23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me *
 and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

A Reading from Genesis 28:10-19a

Lay Reader

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Here ends the First Lesson.

The Song of Zechariah

BCP 92

Lay Reader
Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
 he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
 born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
 that he would save us from our enemies, *
 from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
 and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,*
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear,*
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

A Reading from Romans 8:12-25

Lay Reader

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

The Song of the Lamb

BCP 93

Lay Reader

Splendor and honor and kingly power *
are yours by right, O Lord our God,
For you created everything that is, *
and by your will they were created and have their being;
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, *
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people, and nation, *
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.
And so, to him who sits upon the throne, *
and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, *
for ever and for evermore.

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?'

But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

The Sermon

The Reverend Linda Suzanne C. Borgen

The Apostles' Creed

BCP 96

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.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 97

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and 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.

The People kneel

The Suffrages

BCP 98

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
R. *Govern and uphold them, now and always.*
V. Day by day we bless you;
R. *We praise your name for ever.*
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
R. *Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.*
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. *For we put our trust in you.*
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. *And we shall never hope in vain.*

The Collect

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.*

A Prayer for our Country

BCP 820

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought here out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with a spirit of wisdom, in your Name, those to whom we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to your law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Intercessor

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For the world, the nation, our state and our community; praying especially for our president, Donald Trump; our Governor, Kay Ivey and our Mayor, Dexter McLendon.

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Russell our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list _____.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Officiant

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 General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

Officiant and People

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.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP 102

Officiant and People

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.*

Closing Hymn *Immortal, invisible, God only wise (verse 4)*

H 423

Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia.

People *Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia.*

The Closing Sentence

BCP 102

Officiant

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen.*