

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2020

8:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite One



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Services: Sunday at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 10 AM • Saturday at 5 PM

Our Sunday services are livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

During this time of social distancing: Please sit in one of the spaces in a pew marked with a piece of white masking tape. People in the same household may sit together, but everyone else should sit 6 feet apart.

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

Hymnals, Prayer Books and Bibles are in a bookcase in the back of the church. If you would like to use one, please take one and return it in the box after the service.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Sarabande

S. Bingham

[During the Prelude, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Please remain seated.]

Symbols in the Bulletin P Priest, D Deacon, C Congregation, L Leader, A Everyone.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

[Please stand.]

P Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

A **Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy Spirit.**

P Let us pray... You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The Readings: 1 Kings 3:5-12, Psalm 119:129-136, Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

[Please be seated.]

The First Reading

L *The First Reading is taken from 1 Kings, Chapter 3...*

The Lord appeared to Solomon at Gibeon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask whatever you wish, and I'll give it to you."

Solomon responded, "You showed so much kindness to your servant my father David when he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and with a heart true to you. You've kept this great loyalty and kindness for him and have now given him a son to sit on his throne. And now, Lord my God, you have made me, your servant, king in my father David's place. But I'm young and inexperienced. I know next to nothing. But I'm here, your servant, in the middle of the people you have chosen, a large population that can't be numbered or counted due to its vast size. Please give your servant a discerning mind in order to govern your people and to distinguish good from evil, because no one is able to govern this important people of yours without your help."

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had made this request. God said to him, "Because you have asked for this instead of requesting long life, wealth, or victory over your enemies—asking for discernment so as to acquire good judgment—I will now do just what you said. Look, I hereby give you a wise and understanding mind. There has been no one like you before now, nor will there be anyone like you afterward."

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

L *We will read responsively Psalm 119...*

L Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

C **When your word goes forth it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.**

L I open my mouth and pant; I long for your commandments.

C **Turn to me in mercy, as you always do to those who love your Name.**

L Steady my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

C **Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.**

L Let your countenance shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

C **My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law.**

The Second Reading

📖 *The Second Reading is taken from Romans, chapter 8*

In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will. We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose. We know this because God knew them in advance, and he decided in advance that they would be conformed to the image of his Son. That way his Son would be the first of many brothers and sisters. Those who God decided in advance would be conformed to his Son, he also called. Those whom he called, he also made righteous. Those whom he made righteous, he also glorified.

So what are we going to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He didn't spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. Won't he also freely give us all things with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's elect people? It is God who acquits them. Who is going to convict them? It is Christ Jesus who died, even more, who was raised, and who also is at God's right side. It is Christ Jesus who also pleads our case for us.

Who will separate us from Christ's love? Will we be separated by trouble, or distress, or harassment, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, *We are being put to death all day long for your sake. We are treated like sheep for slaughter.*

But in all these things we win a sweeping victory through the one who loved us. I'm convinced that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord: not death or life, not angels or rulers, not present things or future things, not powers or height or depth, or any other thing that is created.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

[*Please stand.*]

📖 The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

🙏 **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

📖 He told another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and planted in his field. It's the smallest of all seeds. But when it's grown, it's the largest of all vegetable plants. It becomes a tree so that the birds in the sky come and nest in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in a bushel of wheat flour until the yeast had worked its way through all the dough.

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure that somebody hid in a field, which someone else found and covered up. Full of joy, the finder sold everything and bought that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he found one very precious pearl, he went and sold all that he owned and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that people threw into the lake and gathered all kinds of fish. When it was full, they pulled it to the shore, where they sat down and put the good fish together into containers. But the bad fish they threw away. That's the way it will be at the end of the present age. The angels will go out and separate the evil people from the righteous people, and will throw the evil ones into a burning furnace. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

“Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked.

They said to him, “Yes.”

Then he said to them, “Therefore, every legal expert who has been trained as a disciple for the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings old and new things out of their treasure chest.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

Becky Robbins-Penniman

[Please be seated.]

THE NICENE CREED

[Please stand.]

☑ **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. 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.]

☐ Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church and the world.

☒ Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. God of Justice,

☑ **Hear our prayer.**

☒ Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Barry and Michael, our Assisting Bishops; Becky, our Rector; Cindy, our Deacon; Ann, our Priest Associate; to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese; St. Chad’s, Tampa; St. John’s, Brooksville; Church of the Ascension, Clearwater and the Clearwater Deanery Collaboration Partners; and to all priests, deacons, and the laity in their ministry; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. God of Justice,

☑ **Hear our prayer.**

ℒ And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. God of Justice,

☞ Hear our prayer.

ℒ We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially President Trump, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. We pray that all God's children might live in the hope of the world peace for which we are created. God of Justice,

☞ Hear our prayer.

ℒ And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [*Add handwritten names from notebook*] and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those listed in the weekly news who have asked for our prayers. I now invite you to pray for others by name, aloud or in your hearts. [*Leave time...*] God of Justice,

☞ Hear our prayer.

ℒ Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We give thanks for the flowers given by Maureen & Gene Belote in celebration of their 36th Wedding Anniversary and for the birthdays this coming week of Sherry Conte, Gail Robinson, Brian Levy, Gabby Gallagher, Dawn Gordon, Carmen Sakala, Penelope Statile, Pat Elmendorf, Nancy Campbell and for those celebrating anniversaries this week, Laurie & Barbara Rennie, Gene & Maureen Belote, and Mary Anne & Ted Dorner.. God of Justice,

☞ Hear our prayer.

ℒ And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, [*especially... add names from notebook*]. Please add names of those on your heart, silently or aloud. [*Leave time...*] We beseech thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. God of Justice,

☞ Hear our prayer.

ℒ Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

☞ Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

[*Please kneel or stand.*]

ℒ Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God. [*Silence is kept.*] Most merciful God, . . .

ℒ We confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

ℒ Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon

you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☩ Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

[Please stand. **During this time of social distancing**, a wave or bow, accompanied by a smile and “the Peace of the Lord be with you,” will do nicely.]

P The peace of the Lord be always with you.

☩ And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

D Worthy art thou, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for thou hast created all things, and by thy will they were created and have their being.

[Please be seated. **The offering plates are on stands in the front and the back of the church. If you wish, you may place an offering there.**]

OFFERTORY

Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace

E. Thiman

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

[Please stand when invited by the Deacon.]

D As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge

☩ All things come from thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II

P The Lord be with you.

☩ And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

☩ We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

☩ It is meet and right so to do.

P It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

☩ Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]

P All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made

there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

- ☐ For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
- ☐ Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."
- ☐ Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.
- ☑ **And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;**
- ☐ By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

☑ **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- ☐ And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,
- ☑ **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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

- ☐ Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains were gathered and made into this one Bread.
- ☑ **So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**
- ☐ The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*[You may be seated. All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the directions of the usher, who will let you know when it's your turn to go to the altar rail. **During this time of social distancing, we need***

to approach the altar rail one at a time. Small cups with a wafer and wine will be on the altar rail. Please pick them up and consume them in turn when the server invites you to with the words, “The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven” and “The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation.” Place the cups you used into the basket on the altar rail. When you are finished, please return to your seat by the side aisle.]

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]

P Let us pray.

C Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

[Please stand.]

P God bless your eyes to see the world as God sees, your lips to speak to others as if to Christ, your hands to work and heal in the power of the Holy Spirit, your minds to discern what is excellent, admirable, true, holy, just, pure, lovely, and worthy of praise. Our Triune God, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit bless your hearts and set them on fire.

C Amen.

D Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Chant Heroique

G. Young

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher	Becky Robbins-Penniman
Deacon	Cindy Roehl
Priest Associate	Ann Chaplin
Organist	Robert Moncrief
Chalicer/Acolyte	Cheryl Sharpe
Lector	John Schmidt
Prayers of the People	Cheryl Sharpe
Ushers	John Schmidt & Jay Harvey
Building & Grounds	Pat Cates