

"Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!"

**The Twenty-First Sunday
 after Pentecost**

Proper 25
 October 25, 2020

The Holy Eucharist
The Word of God



Prelude *Voluntary "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"* Sherri Hansen
Hymn Tune: "Ein feste Burg"

Processional Hymn (*Please stand as able*) *Please see page 8* #423 | *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

Children's Chat - *Robert Freeman*

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

Celebrant 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.**

Canticle of Praise: *Glory to God* *Hymnal S280*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, Al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor - shipyou, we give you thanks, we
 praiseyou for your glo - ry. 3. LordJe - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord

God, Lamb of God, 4. you take away the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For
you alone are the Ho-ly One, you alone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People ***Amen.***

First Reading (*Please be seated*)

Reader A Reading from Leviticus:

Introduction to the First Reading

In this reading the people of Israel are called to live lives of love and justice---to be holy because the Lord their God is holy. As God's chosen ones, they are to care for the poor and weak, to love one's neighbor as oneself.

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 1



Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on his law day and night. [ANT.]

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away. [ANT.]

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked is doomed. [ANT.]

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Second Reading

Reader A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:

Introduction to the Second Reading

Paul here speaks of the caring and nurturing relationship he shares with the Thessalonian Christians. He came to their city not to benefit himself but to share the Gospel with them as an apostle of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (*Please stand as able*) – Please see page 9

#680 | “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Holy Gospel (*The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.*)

Matthew 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”?’

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

THE SERMON

The Nicene Creed *(Please stand as able)*

*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 *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

As a people entrusted by God with the proclamation of good news, let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings.

That we may love our neighbor as ourselves, sacrificing personal comforts to provide shelter for the poor, sound education for all children, psychiatric care for those suffering from mental illness, living wages to employees, and respite for those who attend to those living with illness; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That our personal trials may be seen as pathways to faithfulness, roads upon which we walk in order to gain a deeper understanding of God's enduring love; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That peace may reign throughout the world, loosening the chains of incessant poverty, political imprisonment, religious persecution, and the abuse of power that raises a few to prosperity at the expense of the masses; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may do the work and ministry that reflect God's reign, knowing that we may not see beyond our offerings or the fruit of our labors; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For a renewed commitment to righteousness and peace, that we may join with the leaders of the nations in seeking ways to promote harmony in warring lands, and mutual respect across cultures, races, religions, and languages; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may put aside any vengeance of heart, so that we may offer to one another true forgiveness and amendment of ways; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In companionship with those who have died, and with all the saints, let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)

(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.)

The Confession of Sin *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

Reader Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

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.**

The Absolution

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 *(Please stand as able)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.

*Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:
The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR
Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>*

Offertory Sentence & Interlude

Doxology *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung.
Please stand as able)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here be-low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

Offertory Hymn

Please see page 10

#517 | "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place"

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People ***We lift them to the Lord.***
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Hymnal S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Hos - san - na in the High-est.

The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,
People ***Our Father, who art in heaven,*** ***And forgive us our trespasses,***
hallowed be thy Name, ***as we forgive those***
thy kingdom come, ***who trespass against us.***
thy will be done, ***And lead us not into temptation,***
on earth as it is in heaven. ***but deliver us from evil.***
Give us this day our daily bread. ***For thine is the kingdom,***
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!***

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and my soul. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you, my Lord and my God! Amen.

Distribution Anthem - "I Am the Bread of Life" Text & Music: Suzanne Toolan
(Based on John 6) © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.
Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge

Post Communion Prayer (Please kneel or be seated)

Celebrant Let us pray.
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 presence, that as we lament our separation from one another, we may continually 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.

Benediction

Recessional Hymn (Please stand as able) Please see pages 11 #688 | "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude "Andante" Georg Philipp Telemann

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The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector
J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte
Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming
Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist
Elizabeth Scheer, Videography/Streaming

Praise to God

423

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt.

Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877);
 harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

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The Christian Life

680

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pening day.

6 O God, our help in ages past, be thou our guide while life shall last,
 our hope for years to come, and our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 90:1-5

Music: *St. Anne*, melody att. William Croft (1678-1727), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

CM

Offertory Hymn

"How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place"

The Church

517

1 How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to
 2 Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a
 3 They who go through the des - ert vale will find it filled with
 4 One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou - sand spent a -

me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with -
 nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and
 springs, and they shall climb from height to height till
 way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor

in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and
 praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose
 Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in
 from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly

flesh cry out, O liv - ing God, for thee.
 hearts are set up - on the pil - grim's quest.
 glo - ry throned, Lord God, great King of kings.
 bless all those who live the words they pray.

Words: Para. of Psalm 84; sts. 1-2, *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, 1650; sts. 3-4, Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)
 Music: *Brother James' Air*, J. L. Macbeth Bain (1840?-1925)

86. 86. 86

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood
los - ing; were not the right man on our side,
do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed
bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours

of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing: for still our an - cient foe
the man of God's own choos - ing: dost ask who that may be?
his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,
through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,

doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,
we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:

and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king - dom is for ev - er.