

Church of the Epiphany

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost | Proper 20

19 September 2021 ~ 11:00AM in the sanctuary & via Zoom

Join Zoom Worship on computer/smartdevice: <https://zoom.us/j/99005230944>

Call-in to Zoom Worship: 1-646-876-9923, Enter Meeting ID: 990 0523 0944 #

Hello & good day! We are glad indeed that you are here indeed.

This is a place where we nurture souls with prayerful worship.

If we can help you in any way, please let us know!

Office: 570-563-1564 Rev. Lou Divis: 570-878-4670 Rev. John Davis: 570-575-8689

Prelude

Processional: Hymnal #379 *God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him*

1 God is Love, let heaven adore him; God is Love, let earth rejoice; let creation sing before him and exalt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foundation, God who spread the heavens above, God who breathes through all creation: God is Love, eternal Love.

2 God is Love; and love enfolds us, all the world in one embrace: with unfailing grasp God holds us, every child of every race. And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow's iron rod, then we find that selfsame aching deep within the heart of God.

3 God is Love; and though with blindness sin afflicts all human life, God's eternal loving-kindness guides us through our earthly strife. Sin and death and hell shall never o'er us final triumph gain; God is Love, so Love for ever o'er the universe must reign.

Opening Prayer

Celebrant Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Gloria: Hymnal #S 280

1. Glory to god in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. 2. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. 3. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; 5. you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. 6. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, 7. you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

The Lord be with you.

Peopl
e **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah, chapter 11, verses 18-20

It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds.

But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying,

"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

The Word of the Lord. **Response: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm is 54, read by a lector. *Please pray to yourself, silently or aloud.*

**Folk IN the sanctuary can pray quietly aloud; folks at home need to mute.*

1 Save me, O God, by your Name; *in your might, defend my cause.

2 Hear my prayer, O God; *give ear to the words of my mouth.

3 For the arrogant have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, *those who have no regard for God.

4 Behold, God is my helper; *it is the Lord who sustains my life.

5 Render evil to those who spy on me; *in your faithfulness, destroy them.

6 I will offer you a freewill sacrifice *and praise your Name, O Lord, for it is good.

7 For you have rescued me from every trouble, *and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

A reading from the Letter of James, Chapters 3 verse 13 to 4 verses 3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The Word of the Lord. **Response: Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Hymnal #660

O Master Let Me Walk with Thee

1 O Master let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.

2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.

3 Teach me thy patience; still with thee in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong,

4 in hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (9:30-37) Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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.

Prayers of the People

We look to you, O God, to teach us how to be whom you created us to be. Shine your light on the path ahead. Catch us when we take a wrong turn, and by your Spirit, move us in the right direction.

We are your children;

Teach us how to live, O God.

We yearn for peace but are constantly at war with ourselves, our neighbors, and the nations throughout the world.

We are your children;

Teach us how to make peace, O God.

We, your church, are easily distracted by things that don't matter. Turn our eyes to you; open our hearts to you; deepen our love of you. Bless our bishops, priests, and deacons. May we teach each other how to walk in love. I ask your prayers for the Epiphany School in Uganda, its Primary Class Seven; for St. Joseph's, Pen Argyl; St. Mary's, Wind Gap.

For Carole McGarry, in whose honor the Altar Flowers are given today.

We are your children;

Teach us how to serve you, O God.

Our bodies ache, our spirits are restless, and our minds grow weary with constant worry. Lead us to a place of wholeness and make each of us agents of healing in this world. We pray for those who have asked our prayers today:

Canon Bill & Fran; Rev. Tom; Maureen; Mary-Jo; David D.; Robert; David; the Johnson family; Tristan; Nancy & Derry; Joyce; Michael, Mikey, Allie; Rick; Carol; Luke; Wilmer; Pat; Mason; Beth; James, Laura & Cristina; Ryan & Michelle; Mel; Donna; Paula; Mike and the residents & staff at Abington Manor; Jimmy; Adele; Molly; Judy; John; Amy and Jim; Beth; Jack; Susan; Scott; Lynn; Richelle; Kim; Ceil; Jim; Don; Eleanore & George; Amy & Todd; Sandi; Bob; Betsy & Ed; for Jane; Louise; Daryl; Addiction Sufferers & their families; all whose lives are touched by COVID-19.

We are your children;

Teach us how to trust in your healing embrace.

When a dear one dies, we ask that you receive them into your eternal kingdom as promised. We pray today for the repose of the soul of Father Graham Cliff, recently departed. Assure those who grieve that you will not leave them desolate in their sorrow but hold their loved one close to your heart.

We are your children;

Teach us the way home to you.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Deacon or Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister 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.**

The Priest, stands and says: 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 & The Announcements

Prayer For a Birthday (#50 BCP page 830)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on you servants & N. as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer For those we Love (for Anniversary, #54 BCP page 831)

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to thy never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that thou art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Deacon: **Offertory sentence**

**Please remember that you can give on-line at www.onrealm.org or by texting BREAD to 73256
Thank you for your financial support!**

Offertory: Hymnal #482 Lord of All Hopefulness, Lord of All Joy

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy, be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace, be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm, be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Holy Communion Prayer B

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.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(Proper Preface)

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: **Hymnal #S 128: Sanctus Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.** [Remain standing or kneel.]

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him,

being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal #S 156 Fraction: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Prayer of Spiritual Reception: **In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of Thy Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our soul and body with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our heart. We unite ourselves to you, and embrace you with all the affections of our soul. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live and die in your love. Amen.** *Adapted: The Armed Forces PBk 1951*

Communion: Hymnal #492 *Sing, Ye Faithful, Sing with Gladness*

1 Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness, wake your noblest, sweetest strain, with the praises of your Savior let his house resound again; him let all your music honor, and your songs exalt his reign.

2 Sing how he come forth from heaven, bowed himself to Bethlehem's cave, stooped to wear the servant's vesture, bore the pain, the cross, the grave, passed within the gates of darkness, thence his banished ones to save.

3 So, he tasted death for mortals, he, of human-kind the head, sinless one, among the sinful, Prince of life, among the dead; thus he wrought the full redemption, and the captor captive led.

4 Now on high, yet ever with us, from his Father's throne the Son rules and guides the world he ransomed, till the-appointed work be done, till he see, renewed and perfect, all things gathered into one.

Prayer after Communion – BCP pg. 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing & Dismissal

People Thanks be to God.

Recessional: Hymnal #637 *How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord*

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word!

What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you that for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed! For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 "When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

4 "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

5 "The soul that to Jesus hath fled for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell shall endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

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Officiant: Mo. Lou Divis

Assistant: Deacon John Davis

Organist: Mary-Jo Cliff

Choir Director: Melissa Driscoll

Soloist: Gail Prye

Broadcast Media: Rick Little

Readers: Rachel Baidon, Adrien Lambert

Prayers: John Baidon

Ushers: Joe Skinner (8) – John & Rachel Baidon (11)

Social Media Director: Barbara Little

Sexton: Jeff Napierala

Admin: Adrien Lambert

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