Morning Prayer Proper 11A, Pentecost 7

July 19, 2020

Prelude

Announcements

Opening Hymn

Tune: Darwall's 148th

To God with gladness sing





Confession of Sin

The Presider says

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

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth our praise, to hear God's 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 keep silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Presider then says

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

The Invitatory and Psalter

Presider Lord, open our lips.*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

The Earth of the Lord's, for God made it: **O come let us worship.**

Venite: Psalm 195

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!

Psalm 139: 1-11, 22-23

¹LORD, you have searched me out and known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

²You trace my journeys and my resting-places * and are acquainted with all my ways.

³Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * but you, O LORD, know it altogether. 4You press upon me behind and before * and lay your hand upon me. ⁵Such knowledge is too wonderful for me: * it is so high that I cannot attain to it. ⁶Where can I go then from your Spirit? * where can I flee from your presence? 7If I climb up to heaven, you are there; * if I make the grave my bed, you are there also. ⁸If I take the wings of the morning * and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea. ⁹Even there your hand will lead me * and your right hand hold me fast. ¹⁰If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, * and the light around me turn to night," ¹¹Darkness is not dark to you: the night is as bright as the day; * darkness and light to you are both alike. ²²Search me out, O God, and know my heart; * try me and know my restless thoughts. ²³Look well whether there be any wickedness in me * and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

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 Lessons

First Reading

Genesis 28:10-19a

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

¹⁰Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹He 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. ¹²And 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. ¹³And 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; ¹⁴and 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. ¹⁵Know 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." ¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place and I did not know it!" ¹⁷And 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."

¹⁸So 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. ^{19a}He called that place Bethel.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Canticle K: A Song of Our Adoption

Ephesians 1:3-10

The Reader, the People's Respondent, and the People

Blessed are vou, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, * for you have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, * that we should be holy and blameless before you. You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ, * according to the good pleasure of your will, To the praise of your glorious grace, * that you have freely given us in the Beloved. In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ. the forgiveness of our sins, According to the riches of your grace * which you have lavished upon us. You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, * the mystery of your will, According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, * as a plan for the fullness of time, To gather together all things in Christ, * things in heaven and things on earth.

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.

Second Reading

Romans 8:12-25

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³for 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. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For 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!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and 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.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the

children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that 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. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and 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. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

Hymn

For the fruit of all creation

Tune: *Ar Hyd y Nos*





Third Reading

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

A Reading from Matthew.

²⁴[Jesus put another parable before the crowds:] "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And 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?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let 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.'"

³⁶Then 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." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son



of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

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 Prayers

PresiderThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.PresiderLet us pray.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

- V. Help us, O God our Savior;
- **R.** Deliver us and forgive us our sins.
- V. Look upon your congregation;
- **R.** Give to your people the blessing of peace.
- V. Declare your glory among the nations;
- **R.** And your wonders among all peoples.
- V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;
- **R.** Never forget the lives of your poor.
- V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;
- R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.
- V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
- R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

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**.

A Collect for Sundays

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**.

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen**.

Intercessions and thanksgivings

Presider We lift our prayers to God, who knows our necessities before we ask and rejoices in our asking, as we respond, "Hear us, good Lord."

Intercessor That judges, attorneys, and juries may be fair and just in their dealings with those who come before them, relying on the law and legal precedence, and weighing their decisions with compassion and forbearance; let us pray. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Silence is kept.

That the Church may welcome young adults into its life, inviting them into positions of responsibility and leadership, listening to their ideas, and joining with them in building for the future; let us pray. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Silence is kept.

That God's will may break through the hardened hearts of those who release their despair through violence, abuse, gang membership, vengeful societies, and terrorist organizations, so that they may be changed into the architects of a peaceful and prosperous world; let us pray. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Silence is kept.

That the hope of the poor be not in vain, and those with a troubled spirit be not forgotten, but assisted through the generosity of those whose hearts are fertile soil in which the ministry Christ bears much fruit; let us pray. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Silence is kept.

That the leaders of all the nations may work and strive to usher in the peace of God's reign; let us pray. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Silence is kept.

That all who have returned to the dust, [especially _____], may be raised to the glory of everlasting life; let us pray. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Silence is kept.

In the light that knows no setting of the sun, we continue our prayers, remembering before you our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Julio, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig. We pray for all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams and those in formation; and our brothers and sisters worshipping at St Luke's, Shelby Township; and St George's, Azuza, and St John the Baptist, Bonao, in the Dominican Republic. We give you thanks for all the blessings and

mercies we have received [especially]. We pray for those who are sick,
or in any distress or trouble [especially	/].

Silence is kept.

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; for this we pray. **Hear us, good Lord.**

Presider In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer our praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies 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 hearts. We unite ourselves to you, and embrace you with all the affections of our souls. Let nothing ever separate us from you. **Amen.**

The Presider then says

My brothers and sisters, I invite you- wherever you are- to take into your hands the gifts you offer today. Gifts of food, gifts of money, gifts of whatever form, and join me as we offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good our vows to the Most High.

Let us pray.

Loving God and merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: we come to you with thanksgiving and praise. We offer to you this day our gifts of time, talent, and possessions, knowing that all we are, and all we have, is a gift from you. Please accept these gifts, and help us to reach out to others as you, our God, have reached out to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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

LEVAS 220

We are climbing Jacob's ladder



Dismissal and Blessing

Presider Go into the world, and know how much a tired and hurting world needs your strength and gladness. For there are deeds of compassion and courage that will never be done, unless you do them; and words of hope and healing that will never be spoken, unless you speak them.

And may the blessing of God, + Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, be with us, now and forever. **Amen**.

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

Presider The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen**. *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Postlude

REGARDING OFFERINGS TO ST. BARNABAS CHURCH

To make your regular offering to St Barnabas, please mail your check to the church: 20500 W Old US-12, Chelsea MI 48118-1309. Mail is being collected daily.

If you wish to make an offering online, you can use this link provided by the Diocese to do so securely: <u>https://www.edomi.org/give/</u> Contributions given here will be transferred by the diocesan Treasurer to St Barnabas.

CONTINUING OUR DONATIONS OF FOOD AND FUNDS TO FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Action is providing leadership in collecting donations to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas.

Needed right now: 64-oz. juices, cereal (no Cheerios, please), baking mix, chips, shampoo, conditioner; cleaning products, and personal products are always needed, as these items cannot be purchased with food stamps. **You may bring your donations to FIA**, or to Nancy who will see that they get there.

Donations to help us combat the continuing effects of the pandemic can be made by PayPal at <u>www.faithinaction1.org</u>, by <u>Facebook</u>, or by mailing a check to *Faith in Action, 603 S. Main Street, Chelsea MI 48118*.

If you need help, please call FIA at (734) 475-3305

Enrichment for Our Spiritual Journey

Join St Barnabas' twice-weekly Zoom check-in! Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Contact Bill or Marion if you need the link.

Watch Bishop Bonnie Perry's sermons, https://www.edomi.org/whatshesaid/sermons/

Watch Washington National Cathedral's live-streamed Eucharist and Daily Office services, https://cathedral.org/calendar/

Join in a short, weekly, meditation with Presiding Bishop Curry here: <u>https://episcopalchurch.org/habits-of-grace</u>

Upcoming Commemorations

- July 19 Macrina, Monastic and Teacher, 379
 - 20 Elizabeth Cady Stanton, 1902; Amelia Bloomer, 1894; Sojourner Truth, 1883; and Harriet Ross Tubman, 1913, Liberators and Prophets
 - 20 Maria Skobtsoba, Monastic and Martyr, 1945
 - 21 Albert John Luthuli, Prophetic Witness in South Africa, 1967 22
 - 22 Mary of Magdala, Companion of Jesus
 - 23 John Cassian, Abbot at Marseilles, 435
 - 24 Thomas à Kempis, Priest, 1471
 - 25 James the Apostle

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Concluding prayer at the Intercessions adapted from The Armed Forces Prayer Book, 1951.



Scripture preparation for July 26, 2020: Pentecost 8, Proper 12A

Genesis 29:15-28

In the story of Jacob and Laban, the trickster is tricked. Jacob, who stole his brother's birthright, is tricked into marriage with Leah, the first daughter, displacing Rachel, the second daughter. Through this manipulation, Jacob and Laban treat Leah and Rachel as objects to be earned and bargained for. In turn, the women use their slaves as commodities to be used for sexual services in order to continue Jacob's line. Jacob's deceitfulness leads to a long story of continuing deceit and abuse of power. His trickery and manipulation of power set up the origin story of the dissension among the twelve tribes.

Manipulation and abuse of power incite additional manipulation and abuse of power. It is often difficult to see where the ripples of abuse land, and how our sins feed a continuation of greed, abuse of power, and trickery. This spring we have seen again the result of the manipulation and abuse of power which began with slavery and continues in racial injustice today.

- Have you ever been the victim of trickery leading to personal loss? How did you respond?
- Jacob, the trickster, is an important patriarch. What does that tell you about human nature?
- Later in the story, Jacob wrestles with God. How do you wrestle with God when you hear this story?

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

This morning I stood outside on my porch with a cup of coffee and my whole heart sang out praise to God for the beauty of our world. It was a respite from everyday life, which is filled with fear. Fear of the pandemic. Fear of our neighbor as protests become violent and racial injustice continues unabated.

This psalm of praise reminds me that God created a world worthy of thanksgiving. Humanity creates fear and fear divides us. Songs of praise give us an opportunity to come together, united in love rather than divided by fear and hate.

- The isolation of restrictions to prevent the spread of coronavirus has eroded our sense of community. How can we rebuild community in ways which respect the dangers of COVID-19, while bringing us together as the unified body of Christ?
- In what ways do songs of praise call us to love one another and work towards racial reconciliation?
- The covenant which God made with Abraham was for "a multitude of nations" (Genesis 17:4). How can you embody the plurality of God's promise in today's world?

Romans 8:26-39

Paul wrote the letter to the Romans at the pinnacle of his ministry. In the letter, he articulates his mature understanding of God and his mature understanding of his reliance on the Holy Spirit. This

reading resonates with me as the humanity of Paul – especially his recognition that he is not always able to pray. In it, I hear Paul convincing himself that in the face of the many difficulties experienced by him and the early Christians, nothing can draw him or us away from Jesus. I find comfort in Paul's words when I face situations that leave me with no words for God. Only silence.

When I learned about the murder of George Floyd at the hands of men whose job it is to protect us all, I had no words. I had only sighs too deep for words. All I could do is put my full faith in Jesus being with us all. Even in moments like this.

- Paul finds the Spirit in "sighs too deep for words." Where do you find the Spirit in moments of sorrow, doubt, and fear?
- Try to sit with silence for five minutes. Do you feel the presence of God?
- Think of a time when you were truly sorrowful. How did you experience God in that moment?

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

"The kingdom of heaven is like..." what is the kingdom of heaven like? We need Jesus to tell us because we are mired in the kingdoms of the earth and find it hard to imagine what God truly wants for all of us. Our tiny seed of faith maturing into a place to provide shelter for all. Faith and love mixed like yeast into a community where all can feel the abundance of God's grace. The treasures of God's love for which we would give up every material thing. A net which gathers up all that we are and sorts out the pain, anger, and fear so that only love and grace remain. The kingdom of heaven... in times such as these, we need to cling to the parables about the kingdom of heaven so that we remember who we are and who made us.

- Who yearns to be sheltered in your community of faith? How can you create a space for all?
- How can the abundance of God's love be spread throughout your whole community? What concrete ways can you reach out to your neighbors and help them to know God's love and grace?
- What material things hold you back from embracing the full love and grace of God's kingdom? How can you learn to give those things up?
- What do you need to separate out of your own net? Anger, fear, unjust privilege? What does it look like to live through grace and love?

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Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ, and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



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