

Holy Eucharist

Proper 24A, Pentecost 20

October 18, 2020

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=eig4MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: stb

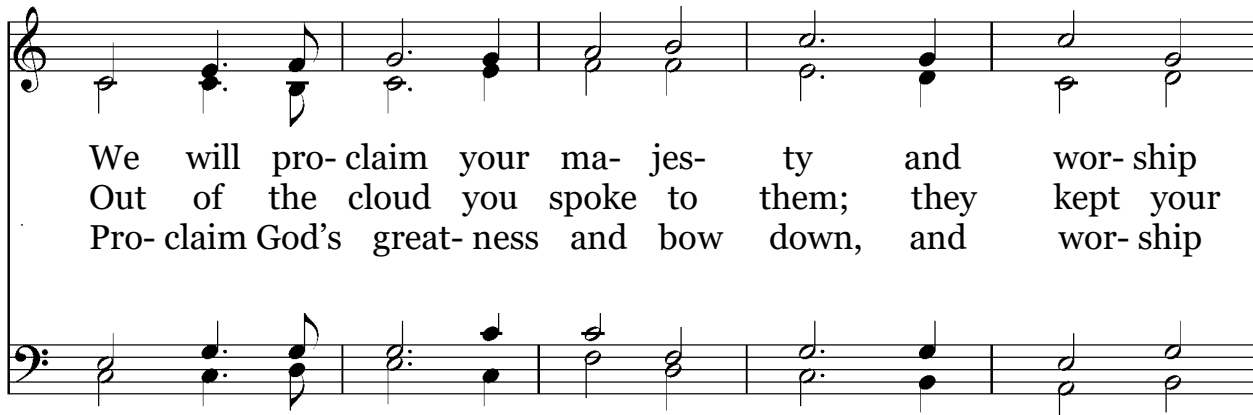
Prelude

Announcements

Opening Hymn

Tune: *Truro*

We will proclaim your majesty



We will pro-claim your ma-jes-ty and wor-ship
Out of the cloud you spoke to them; they kept your
Pro-claim God's great-ness and bow down, and wor-ship



you, the Ho-ly Lord; for Mo-ses, Aa-ron,
law and your de-crees. O Lord, you an-swered
on God's ho-ly hill; you are the Lord, our

Sam- uel, too, once called on you and heard your word.
 and for- gave, yet pun- ished all their e- vil deeds.
 sove- reign God, the Ho- ly One, our Sa- vior still.

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

|
The Presider begins the Collect for Purity

Collect for Purity

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.**

Song of Praise

Presider and People say together

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

**with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

First Reading

Exodus 33:12-23

A reading from the book of Exodus.

¹²Moses said to the LORD, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people’; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ ¹³Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” ¹⁴He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” ¹⁵And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. ¹⁶For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

¹⁷The LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” ¹⁸Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.” ¹⁹And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The LORD’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” ²¹And the LORD continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; ²²and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; ²³then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

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

Psalm 99

¹The LORD is King;
let the people tremble. *
God is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.
²The LORD is great in Zion; *
God is high above all peoples.
³Let them confess the Holy Name, which is great and awesome; *
God is the Holy One.
⁴“O mighty Ruler, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”
⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
God is the Holy One.
⁶Moses and Aaron among the priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon God’s Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
⁷God spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept God’s testimonies and the decree that God gave them.
⁸O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship upon the holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God

has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

Tune: *Beach Spring*

Is it lawful to pay taxes?

Is it law-ful to pay tax-es when they prop up Cae-sar's rule?"
"Find a tax coin in your trea-sure; see the im-age that it bears.
Still, we al-so hear your teach-ing: "Give to God what God is due."

So some peo-ple asked of Je-sus, want-ing him to seem a fool.
Give to Cae-sar what is Cae-sar's. (Give to rul-ers what is theirs.)"
May no ru-ler—ov-er-reach-ing—try to take the place of you.

Saying "no" would be se- di- tion; say- ing "yes" would be a sin.
 Yet he pressed on with his mes- sage; "Give to God what is God's own."
 May we list- en to your mes- sage, may we ho- nor what is yours;

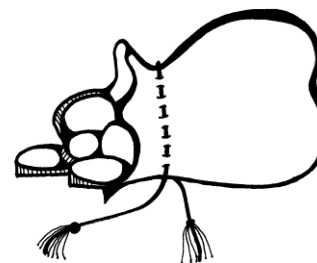
Je- sus changed the con- ver- sa- tion, call- ing them to look with- in.
 We who bear our Ma- ker's im- age wor- ship God and God a- lone.
 May we, liv- ing in your im- age, seek your king- dom that en- dures.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹⁵The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.



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

Sermon

All stand as they are able.

Nicene Creed

Presider Let us affirm the faith of the Church using the words of 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

All remain standing as they are able.

Prayers of the People

Deacon In the Name of Jesus, let us offer our prayers, responding, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Intercessor For the desire to reflect God’s abundant treasures, freely giving for the mission of the Church in the world, our faithful commitment to the poor and those in need; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

In thanksgiving for missionaries who serve in many lands; may they proclaim the gospel message of hope to those who live in places of instability, and reveal to us their extraordinary faith and charity; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

In thanksgiving for those who serve in our government, especially those unseen workers who toil in federal and state offices, and who attend to the details of daily responsibilities; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

Continuing in the Holy Name of Jesus, let us add to these prayers those who are sick, unhappy, lonely or bereft, [especially_____], that they may be healed and comforted, let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

In thanksgiving for our Creator who formed the darkness and formed the light, leading us through both, so that we may be transformed into a holy people; for [_____ and] all God’s gifts to us, let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

For [_____ and] all the faithful departed, that they may rest in peace and rise in glory through the mercy of God; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

We pray for our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Julio, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig. We pray for all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our brothers and sisters worshipping in this congregation, and at All Saints’, Pontiac, St Michael’s, Lansing; and St Luke’s, Santiago, in the Dominican Republic. And for what is in our hearts today, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

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 if 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.**

Confession of Sin

The Presider says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

The Deacon then says

Let us confess our sins to God.

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

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Presider then says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.
Psalm 50:14

Holy Communion

How the Holy Communion is prepared

The Officiant, Deacon, other Eucharistic Ministers, and any participating Acolytes must wash their hands, or use hand sanitizer, before celebrating and before distribution. Gloves will not be used.

The Officiant alone will bring the bread and wine from the credence table to the Altar at the time of the offertory. All of the elements for Holy Communion will be placed on the Altar for the Eucharistic Prayer.

The Officiant alone stands at the altar, with others 6 feet or more away.

The **priest's wafer and chalice** will be uncovered in front of the officiant during the Eucharistic Prayer. They **are for the officiant alone**. They are consumed entirely by the officiant, or appropriately disposed of after the service.

The priest's wafer and the people's wafers will be kept separate at all times. The **people's wafers will be a container** on the Altar, which will remain covered throughout the Eucharistic Prayer. During consecration, the Officiant will touch the container, not the wafers.

The **distribution** of consecrated wine is not permitted at this time (as of June 19, 2020 Diocese of Michigan directive).

How the Holy Communion will be distributed

Everyone distributing communion will use hand sanitizer before they begin distribution. Gloves will not be used.

Communicants will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer before receiving. Hand sanitizer will be available in each pew.

The bread will be distributed at the communion rail, while maintaining six feet of distance between households. The people will be directed forward to receive.

Masks must continue to be worn during the distribution of communion. Communicants should only lift their mask and consume the bread when they are back in their pews, or at least six feet **away from** the distribution point.

The Minister will place the bread in the hand. The distribution will happen without directly touching the hand of the person receiving. Hand-to-mouth distribution is not permitted. If hand-to-hand contact happens, the minister will re-sanitize.

If a blessing is preferred, the blessing will be given without touch.

When the Instructions have been reviewed, the Priest then says

The people stand as a minister brings forward the alms basin.

Offertory Hymn

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The people remain standing.

Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our 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.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people continue to stand, or kneel as they are able.

The Presider 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.

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.

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.

The Presider then continues

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Presider says

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Deacon then says

Christ makes himself known to us
in the breaking of bread.
He offers us his body broken for our sake
and his blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins.
**We accept his promises and gifts
and depend on his life to sustain ours.
In turn we offer ourselves in thanksgiving
to the risen Lord who has conquered death.**

The Presider continues

So we celebrate his victory here and now
and anticipate the joyous feast in his coming kingdom.
**United around one loaf and cup,
we receive strength and courage
to continue our pilgrimage with God in the world.**

Communion Music

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

**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 Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

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 the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Concluding Hymn

Hymnal 348

Lord, we have come at your own invitation



1 Lord, we have come at your own in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Here, at your ta - ble, con - firm our in - ten - tion
3 When, at your ta - ble, each time of re - turn - ing,
4 So, in the world where each du - ty as - signed us



cho - sen by you, to be coun - ted as friends:
 ev - er to cher - ish the gifts you pro - vide;
 vows are re - newed, and our cour - age re - stored:
 gives us the chance to cre - ate or des - troy,



yours is the strength that sus - tains our vo - ca - tion,
 teach us to serve with - out pride or pre - ten - sion,
 may we in - creas - ing - ly glo - ry in learn - ing
 help us to make those de - ci - sions that bind us,



ours a com - mit - ment we know nev - er ends.
 led by your Spi - rit, de - fend - er and guide.
 all that it means to ac - cept you as Lord.
 Lord, to your - self, in o - be - dience and joy.

Dismissal

Deacon My sisters and my brothers, let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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We welcome Liza Dale, violinist, to this morning’s service. Thank you!

REGARDING OFFERINGS TO ST. BARNABAS CHURCH

To make an 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.

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: 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. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. ***Food will also be collected at the church on October 18, the next BC meeting date. The building will be open for you to leave your donations on the table.***

Donations to help us combat the continuing effects of the pandemic can be made by PayPal at www.faithinaction1.org, by [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/faithinaction1), 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**

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Enrichment for Our Spiritual Journey

The Way of Love material can be found here:

<https://episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love>



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

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: <https://episcopalchurch.org/habits-of-grace>

Watch Bishop Bonnie Perry's sermons, <https://www.edomi.org/whatsheaid/sermons/>

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Upcoming Commemorations

- Oct. 18 Luke the Evangelist
- 19 Henry Martyn, Priest and Missionary to India and Persia, 1812; and, William Carey, Missionary to India, 1834
- 23 James of Jerusalem, Brother of our Lord Jesus Christ
- 24 Hiram Hisanori Kano, Priest and Missionary, 1986

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Entrance Hymn text from Webber, Christopher L. *A New Metrical Psalter*. NY: Church Publishing, 2008, p.177; Tune *Truro* in the public domain.

Sequence Hymn Text: Copyright © 2014 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved; used by permission. Tune *Beach Spring* from *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844.

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

Invitation to the Table from <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/bcr-132/> Accessed 12 June 2019

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In preparation for Pentecost 21, Proper 25A

October 25, 2020

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Our text from Deuteronomy marks the end of Moses' corporeal participation in the lives of the ancient Israelites. He spent much of his life being faithful to God's call, even over his own self-doubts and insecurities. He shepherded the ancient Israelites during their time in the wilderness, acting as God's emissary, even when the people were less than faithful. Moses was their deliverer, but he would not be the one who would carry his people into the Promised Land.

Still, Moses left behind Joshua, who was neither Moses' son nor brother, to take up the mantle and to fulfill the covenant that God had made with him.

One of the things I think about when I read this passage is how Moses must have felt to see the Promised Land on the other side of the Jordan, but not be able to reach it. It must have been hard to be in his position – to be so close, but unable to see the promise fulfilled.

I think it's not easy to be the driving force behind something and have to accept that you won't be able to see it through. But Moses had prepared Joshua – he had made sure that someone would continue the work he had started.

- Where might God be calling you to raise others up? Where may God be asking you to make a way, but recognize that it's not your voice that is the most important?

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

Psalm 90 is the only psalm attributed to Moses. When viewed through this lens, perhaps we can better feel the contours of the petition, asking when this season of trial may come to an end. The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for forty years, time for an entire generation to live and die, and for those younger to take up the mantle.

I see echoes of our current fight for civil rights, as so many of those who fought so valiantly in the 1960s and beyond are leaving us: John Lewis, C.T. Vivian, Joseph Lowery, to name just a few. But here we are, more than 50 years later, and yet we seem to be lost in that same wilderness.

- What part of the mantle from those whose shoes aren't easy to fill are you willing to take up? What is your petition in this time of unease and uncertainty?

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

1 Thessalonians is thought to be Paul's earliest letter included in the New Testament. Having left the community at Thessalonica behind, Paul and his associates, Silvanus and Timothy, are sending their regards and well-wishes to the community with whom they became very familiar.

The letter speaks plainly of the contrast between Paul's reception in Thessalonica and Philippi - received warmly in one and mistreated in the other. Nevertheless, he persists, continuing to do the work to which God has called him, sharing the Gospel.

- Sometimes when we are doing the work of God, the reception we get from others is not what we hope or expect it to be. In those times, how do you react? What fuels you and keeps you going in those moments?

Matthew 22: 34-46

In today's Gospel lesson, we find Jesus being questioned by the Pharisees, as they try to trip him on his own words. Jesus turns around their questions and provides a question of his own for them to ponder.

Oh, the Pharisees and Sadducees — they are often the foils of our New Testament readings. Much like the Canaanites in the Old Testament, it is easy to see them doing the wrong thing and dismiss them as different than ourselves – doing things we would never do. But how different are they really?

- How often do we question God's plan for us? Or push the edges until it resembles something more like what we may want it to be? How often do we try to discredit the messenger so we can feel better about not listening to the message?

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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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