

Morning Prayer

Proper 27A, Pentecost 10

November 8, 2020

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: stb

Prelude

Announcements

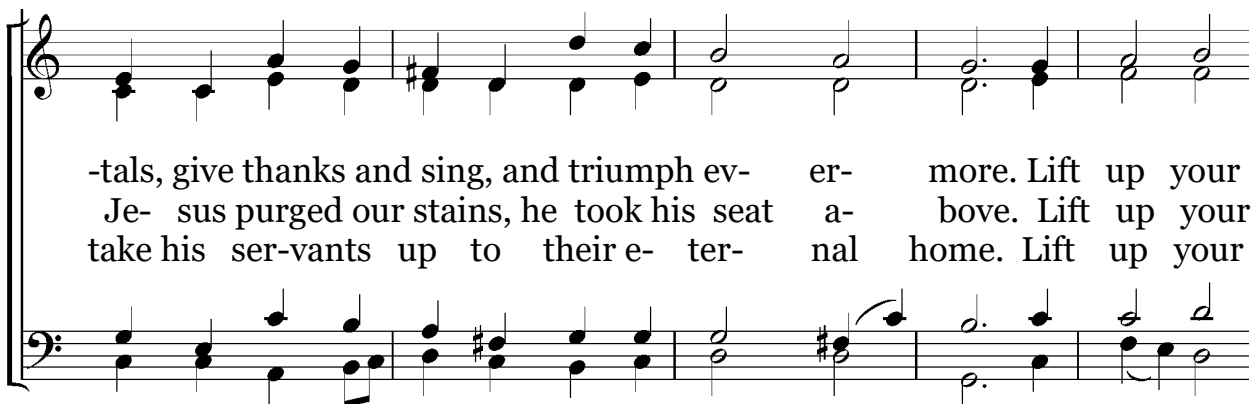
Opening Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord is King

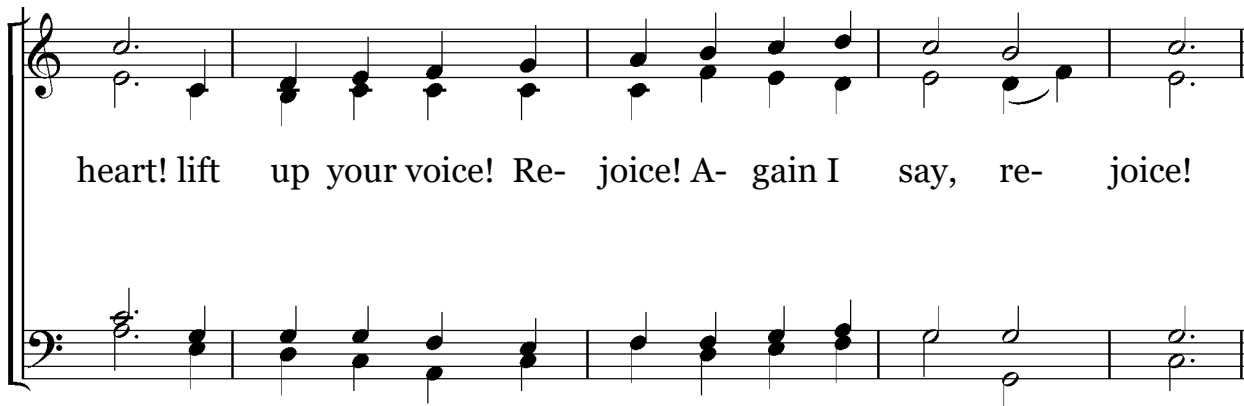
Tune: *Darwall's 148th*



Re- joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a- dore! Mor-
The Lord the Sav- ior reigns, the God of truth and love: when
Re- joice in glor- ious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, and



-tals, give thanks and sing, and triumph ev- er- more. Lift up your
Je- sus purged our stains, he took his seat a- bove. Lift up your
take his ser- vants up to their e- ter- nal home. Lift up your



The Presider says

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

Confession of Sin

The Presider says to the people

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth God's praise, to hear the Holy One's 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, 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 may be kept.

Presider and People together

**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.

Christ has triumphed over death:
O come let us worship.

Venite: Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving *
and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.**

For you are a great God; *
you are great above all gods.

**In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.**

The sea is yours, for you made it, *
and your hands have molded the dry land.

**Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. *

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

Psalm 78:1-7

¹Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

²**I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.**

³That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us,
we will not hide from their children.

⁴**We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD,
and the wonderful works he has done.**

⁵He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel,
which he commanded them to teach their children;

⁶**That the generations to come might know,**

**and the children yet unborn;
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;**
⁷So that they might put their trust in God,
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments.

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

Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16

A Reading from the book of Wisdom.

¹²Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
¹³She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
¹⁴One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
¹⁵To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
¹⁶because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.

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

Canticle 9: The first song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18A

Reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

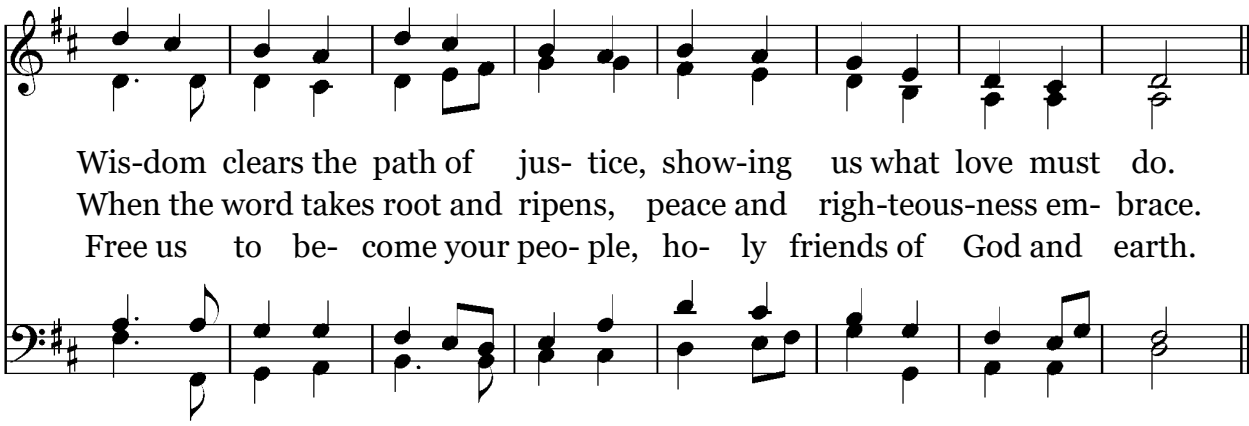
Tune: *Lauda anima*

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

Come and seek the ways of Wis- dom, she who danced when earth was new.
Lis- ten to the voice of Wis- dom, crying in the mar- ket- place.
Ho- ly Wis- dom, come, as- sist us; nur- ture all who seek re- birth.

Fol- low close- ly what she teaches, for her words are right and true.
Hear the Word made flesh a- mong us, full of glo- ry, truth, and grace.
Spi- rit, guide and close com- pan- ion, bring to light our sa- cred worth.



Wis-dom clears the path of jus- tice, show-ing us what love must do.
 When the word takes root and ripens, peace and righ-teous-ness em- brace.
 Free us to be- come your peo- ple, ho- ly friends of God and earth.

Third Reading

Matthew 25:1-13

A Reading from Matthew.

[Jesus said,] ¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”



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

Reflection

The Apostles' Creed

The Presider and the People together

**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

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let 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

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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 Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions and thanksgivings

Presider We offer our prayers in the presence of the Spirit, Holy Wisdom, who makes herself known to all who seek her gifts, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Intercessor Keep us ever watchful for your face shining through the faces of the downtrodden and those of low wealth, the food server and the salesperson, the toll collector and the crossing guard, lest that in missing them we may not see you; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

Place your wisdom in the heart and mind of our national and state leaders, that the decisions they make this year may bring righteousness and justice to all peoples everywhere; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

Inspire us with a sense of urgency, that we may relate to others the joy of a Christ-centered life, welcoming others into our fold, and showing increase in the household of faith; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

In thanksgiving for those who have served in the armed forces, defending our country in times of war, and ensuring peace in places where there is instability; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

In thanksgiving for those who have died during military service, and for [_____]; may they and all the faithful departed live with the Lord forever; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

As we await the coming of the Bridegroom, let us be attentive through the continuation of our prayers, lifting up to 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 Stephen's, Wyandotte; and Holy Trinity, Santo Domingo, in the Dominican Republic.

In thanksgiving for all Christian teachers who awaken in their students the mystery of faith: Yahweh's great acts of deliverance, Christ's victory of life over death, and the eternal light that breaks through every darkness; and for all the blessings of this life [remembering _____], let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, or in any need or trouble [especially _____].

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 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

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

Voices Found 61

Give me oil in my lamp

E E7 A

1 Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burn-ing. Give me
 3 Give me joy in my heart, keep me sing-ing. Give me
 4 Give me love in my heart, keep me serv-ing. Give me

E B7

oil in my lamp, I pray. Give me
 joy in my heart, I pray. Give me
 love in my heart, I pray. Give me

E E7 A

oil in my lamp, keep me burn - ing, keep me
 joy in my heart, keep me sing - ing, keep me
 love in my heart, keep me serv - ing, keep me

E B7 E

burn - ing 'til the break of day.
 sing - ing 'til the break of day.
 serv - ing 'til the break of day.

Dismissal and Blessing

Presider Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey the way with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with us, and remain with us always. **Amen.**

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

Presider Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

Postlude

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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.

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: Shelf-stable groceries and financial donations; 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 November 15, 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 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/whatshe said/sermons/>

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Upcoming Commemorations

- Nov. 8 Elizabeth of the Trinity, Mystic, 1906; and, Ammonius, Hermit, 4th c.
- 10 Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, 461
- 11 Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397;
and, Lili'uokalani of Hawai'i, Queen and Hymnographer, 1917
- 12 Charles Simeon, Priest, 1836
- 14 Samuel Seabury, Consecrated the first American Bishop, 1784;
and, Gregory Palamas, Bishop and Mystic, 1369

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Scripture preparation for November 15, 2020: Pentecost 24, Proper 28A

Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites are seeking to take the land of Canaan and this chapter of Judges discusses the events that took place leading up to the capture of this land. Deborah is one of the major “Judges” or “charismatic leaders” of the Israelite people; she is also the only female prophet, or prophetess, in the book of Judges. In this passage, Deborah is summoning a general for the army, General Barak, who will lead the Israelite army against the Canaanite leader, Jabin, and his army. Jabin’s army is led by a general, a man named Sisera. Sisera, upon being defeated by Deborah’s army, flees and seeks refuge in the home of a woman named Jael. Jael, in the night, kills Sisera with a tent peg (Judges 4:17-22). Jael’s killing of Sisera completes Deborah’s prophecy that Sisera “will be given into your hand.”

In this passage from Judges, especially as it connects to the story of Sisera and Jael later in chapter 4, depicts two very strong and courageous women. These women in Judges are leading and conquering for Israel in surprising ways. We do not often see women in Scripture performing actions to honor God outside of their ability to bear children or be decent wives to men. But in Judges, we have both a female prophet who leads an Israelite army and an unsuspecting woman working undercover for the Israelite army, who is willing to kill the Canaanite general.

Outside of the violence of this chapter, it is important to uphold and name the impact of

these female characters and what it says about women's gifts for ministry. Women, like men, are capable of anything. Women, created in the image of God, have spiritual gifts that go far beyond biology and the societal definitions and expectations we have attached to that biology. Women have gifts to share in leadership within our congregations and within the larger tent of the Christian tradition.

- How do you see the spiritual gifts of women being used and utilized in your parish? How are they honored for their gifts?
- Where is God working within those around you in surprising and unprecedented ways, whether those people be male, female, trans, gay, straight, black, white?

Psalm 123

This psalm is a prayer for help or a *psalm of lament*. It begins as a personal lamentation, but then goes into a communal plea for help. This psalm describes God as being high above all of creation; you can almost imagine the speaker of this psalm looking up to the sky as he or she cries out to God. The psalmist conjures images of God, describing God as both Master and Mistress, male and female. The psalmist also talks to God directly, "To *you* I lift up my eyes." This psalm is short but rich in imagery, displaying a personal relationship with a dynamic God. Most importantly, the psalmist is demonstrating how honest and transparent we can be with God, individually and in community. God hears all our cries and sorrows, all our fears and worries. There is nothing God will not hear, there is nothing we must hide from our God.

- Do you cry out to God in prayer? How?
- Do you feel like you must hide your feelings from God? How come?

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

While Paul believed that Jesus would be coming "any day now," stressing at times that God might catch anyone, at any time, in the act of morally questionable behavior, this letter also suggests that Paul may have been advocating the living of faithful lives for *the long haul*.

Let's give Paul the benefit of the doubt; Paul's metaphor of a woman in labor, for example, articulates the work of *transformation* that lasts a lifetime. When a woman grows a child and then goes into labor, she and that new life are going through transformation: the woman is going into motherhood, the child is beginning his or her life. This transformation has its pains, but on the other side of the pain is a new life for all involved. This new life is not completely new; the woman is still the woman she was before. However, there's a shift that has occurred and her life is now full of newness, a newness she is now responsible for nurturing and growing. The woman is now full of the new life that has begun and full of the new ways she now sees and interacts with the world around her, as a result of the transformation.

- How has becoming a Christian or claiming your faith transformed you?

- What labor pains have you been through in your faith journey? What does your faith look like on the other side of those labor pains? And where is God in the midst of the pains, the journey, the transformation?

Matthew 25:14-30

If we try to understand this passage as one where the “talents” are the actual talents, or spiritual gifts and skills we each possess, then we may begin to understand this passage differently. Let’s frame it this way: God is the master, and God has written into our individual lives our specific talents and spiritual gifts. God has given us these gifts and talents to be used, to be shared, in order to help make this world a better place. God is asking us to use our gifts, to follow Jesus and help make God’s kingdom manifest on this Earth. But if we are the last servant, the one who goes and hides his gifts and talents for fear of using them, then we are ignoring the gifts we have been given by God and are therefore not helping in the work of making God’s Kingdom manifest.

In this frame, the parable articulates how the relationship between master and servant, God and us, can be broken or at least put “on the rocks”. When we are not in right relationship with God, we are in our own version of despair. When we are not able to live out our individual calls, using our talents and skills for the betterment of God’s creation, then we are suffering. Surely in this place of brokenness, fear, and solitude, there is much “weeping and gnashing of teeth”. If we cannot live fully into our relationship with God by living out those gifts, callings, and skills we have been given, it can surely lead to a state of darkness and confusion.

- What are the skills, gifts, and talents you have been hiding or have been afraid to share?
- Heaven and Hell can be states of existence we pass in and out of in this life. Have you ever experienced moments of Heaven and Hell? Where was God in those moments?

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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.



St Barnabas Episcopal Church
20500 W Old US-12
Chelsea MI 48118
stbarnabaschelsea.org