

Morning Prayer

February 20, 2022

Zoom link:

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

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Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

Epiphany 7C

Prelude

Announcements

Opening Sentence

The Presider says

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. *Isaiah 60:3*

Opening Hymn

Hymnal 581

Where charity and love prevail

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear his char - i - ty we learn;
3 For - give we now each o - ther's faults as we our faults con - fess;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known, let all con - ten - tion cease;
5 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells God's be - got - ten Son;

1 brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love by love are we thus bound.
2 let us with heart and mind and strength now love him in re - turn.
3 and let us love each o - ther well in Chris-tian ho - li - ness.
4 be his the glo - ry that we seek, be ours his ho - ly peace.
5 as mem-bers of his Bo - dy joined we are in him made one.

Confession of Sin

The Presider says to the people

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of the Holy One, to set forth God's 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, 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.

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

Fear not, sisters and brothers: God, who is full of grace and abounding in steadfast love, meets us in our sin and transforms us for God's glory and the healing of God's world. In the name of the + Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven; be now at peace. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Presider Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Presider and People

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.

God is the Rock of our salvation:
O come let us worship.

Invitatory: Jubilate Psalm 100

to be prayed in unison

**1 May all lands be joyful before you, O God, *
serve you with gladness and come before your presence with a song.**

**2 For we know that you are God; *
you yourself have made us, and we are yours; we are your people and the
sheep of your pasture.**

**3 We shall enter your gates with thanksgiving,
go into your courts with praise, *
give thanks to you and call upon your Name.**

**4 For you are good; your mercy is everlasting, *
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

¹Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

²For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.

³**Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.**

⁴**Take delight in the LORD, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.

⁶He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.

⁷**Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.**

⁸**Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.**

⁹Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

¹⁰For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.

**¹¹In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.**

**¹²But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.**

⁴¹But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

**⁴²The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.**

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

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 45:3-11, 15

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ” ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.



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

Canticle 14: A Song of Penitence

Kyrie Pantokrator; the Prayer of Manasseh 1-2, 4, 6-7, 11-15

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, *
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and of all their righteous offspring:
You made the heavens and the earth, *
with all their vast array.

**All things quake with fear at your presence; *
they tremble because of your power.**

**But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.**

O Lord, you are full of compassion, *
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

You hold back your hand; *
you do not punish as we deserve.

In your great goodness, Lord,
**you have promised forgiveness to sinners, *
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.**

**And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.**

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *
and I know my wickedness only too well.

Therefore I make this prayer to you: *
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.

**Do not let me perish in my sin, *
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.**

**For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *
and in me you will show forth your goodness.**

Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
in accordance with your great mercy, *
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

**For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.**

**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 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

³⁵Someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?”

³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.

³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.

⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven.

⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

LEVAS 74

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 6/8. The melody begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, then a half note B4. This is followed by a quarter rest, then a half note A4, then a quarter note G4. The next measure contains a half note F#4, then a quarter note E4. This is followed by a quarter rest, then a half note D4, then a quarter note C#4. The final measure contains a half note B3, then a quarter note A3. The lyrics are: Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show. The melody is simple and suitable for congregational singing.

Fine

us how to serve the neigh - bors we have from you._____

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
 2. Neigh - bors are rich_____ and poor, neigh - bors are black_____ and
 3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should

D.C.

1. feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave_____ to them._____
 2. white, neigh - bors are near_____ and far_____ a - way._____
 3. love; all these are neigh - bors to us_____ and you._____

Third Reading

Luke 6:27-38

A Reading from Luke.

[Jesus said,] ²⁷“I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But

love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks 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

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. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through 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 My brothers and my sisters, do to others as you would have them do to you. Let us pray for others, saying, "We have come before you, O God; and here will we wait for you."

Intercessor Merciful God, help us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us. It is a hard thing for us. Give strength to our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig. Bless all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our brothers and sisters worshipping at St John's, Westland, St Stephen's, Wyandotte, and St George's, Azuza, in the Dominican Republic; those in the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East, and for all the members of Christ's body. Make us merciful, just as you are merciful. We have come before you, O God; **And here will we wait for you.**

Silence is kept.

Holy God, make your justice shine like the noonday sun. Vindicate the meek; save the righteous; rescue those who find their refuge in you. We have come before you, O God; **And here will we wait for you.**

Silence is kept.

We pray, Creator God, for those who experience the pangs of hunger. We cry to you for those dying of starvation. Bless them with provision. Give us a new appreciation for the

abundance in our lives [especially for _____]. We have come before you, O God; **And here will we wait for you.**

Silence is kept.

Heal families. Heal our families. Heal the families in our community. Mend our divisions. Make us ministers of reconciliation. We have come before you, O God; **And here will we wait for you.**

Silence is kept.

Heal these bodies, O God, that you have made from the dust of the earth. Deliver us, and those for whom we now pray, from our infirmities, fears, and loneliness [especially _____]. We have come before you, O God; **And here will we wait for you.**

Silence is kept.

Raise in power those who have died in weakness, mighty Redeemer. Raise to imperishability those who have died in the flesh. Raise those whose bodies have returned to the dust to greater and eternal glory [especially _____]. We have come before you, O God; **And here will we wait for you.**

Silence is kept.

Presider In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. **Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. 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

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

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.**

Concluding Hymn

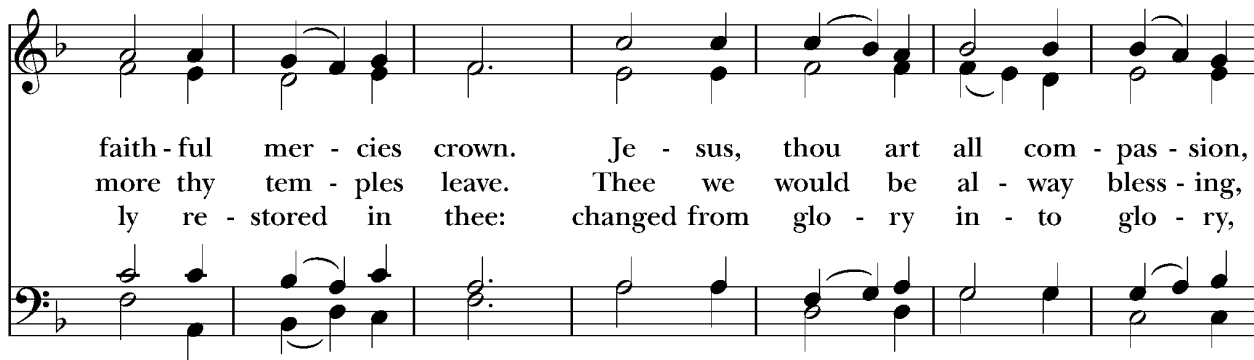
Hymnal 657

Love divine, all loves excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Love divine, all loves excelling'. It is written for three voices (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) and piano accompaniment. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are arranged in three parts, with the first part being the most common. The piano accompaniment consists of a simple harmonic pattern in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Presider Let us bless the Holy One.

People **Thanks be to God!**

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.**

Romans 15:13

Postlude

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Due to the continuing spread of COVID Omicron virus in our county, we will be worshipping **only on Zoom through February 27, 2022**. It is the Ministry Support Team's intention to resume in-church worship on the First Sunday in Lent, March 6, 2022. According to the most recent directive from the Bishops of the state of Michigan (Feb. 3, 2022), "masks are required to be worn (covering mouth and nose) for all indoor gatherings." We remain attentive for further updates from the Diocese.

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Faith in Action provides leadership in collecting donations of food to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They are in need of our continuing help. 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. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*. The **next Food Drive is TODAY February 20**. Please contribute as generously as you can. Contributors are asked to take their donations to Nancy's house rather than leave them at the church; thank you!

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Upcoming Commemorations

- February 20 Frederick Douglass, Social Reformer, 1895
- 21 John Henry Newman, Priest and Theologian, 1890
- 22 Eric Liddell, Missionary to China, 1945
- 23 Polycarp of Smyrna, Bishop and Martyr, 156
- 24 Matthias the Apostle
- 25 John Roberts: Priest, 1949
- 26 Emily Malbone Morgan, Lay Leader and Contemplative, 1937

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Epiphany 7C February 20, 2022

Genesis 45: 3-11, 15

This passage marks the climax of the Joseph story. In Genesis, Joseph has been betrayed by his brothers after being marked as his father's favorite. Joseph's family is no stranger to dysfunction: His lineage has included deception and stolen birthrights. At a tender young age, Joseph was sold into slavery and was believed to be dead. Joseph tells his brothers that God has worked the situation for the greater good: Joseph's soft landing in the Egyptian court has actually been his family's salvation from the famine plaguing the land. The passage ends with reconciliation between Joseph and his brothers. Perhaps we can rest in the comfort of this mending of relationships, but

for those of us who come from families fraught with resentments that perhaps also climaxed this holiday season, it may not be of much comfort if we cannot see God in our suffering. We may long for this kind of reconciliation in our lives, but not find it possible. We may see suffering, and need to look for God there, as well.

- Where do we struggle to see God in our own pain and broken relationships?
- How are we called to be as Christians when this sort of resolution as seen in the Joseph story does not seem possible?

Psalms 37: 1-12, 41-42

In these uncertain times, with political unrest and a raging pandemic that seems to re-emerge just as we feel hope on the horizon, it may seem simplistic to be told to “put your trust in the Lord.” However, imagining the other side of this psalm may bring us some comfort in these unsettled times. We can imagine that the psalmist is responding to the fears of a person who sees the evils of this world and wonders why nothing is being done to stop them. The psalmist urges their companion to remember that God’s time may not be like ours: God is always in the present, but also tending the future we cannot see. In the meantime, the psalmist urges their friend - and us - to go about the business of goodness: keeping anger in check, trying not to fret, and doing what God asks of us.

- What is one good thing I can do today — in spite of my very real fears — with God’s help?
- How can I seek refuge from my fears in God, as the psalmist urges us to do?

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

This passage can be confusing when taken out of context. While an impassioned argument for the nexus of the body and soul, it is part of a longer, ongoing debate Paul is having with the community in Corinth. While we perhaps no longer argue about the bodily resurrection, the rifts in communities of faith and even society at large are familiar to us, particularly as we look at the last several years of American politics. What Paul makes clear is that God’s plan for resurrection is nothing like our current world: what is weak is made strong, and what is considered shameful will be raised in glory. Today’s audiences may struggle with Paul’s arguments, but it should be clear to us: God’s commonwealth will surprise us with its inversion of our current systems.

- Where do I see God’s commonwealth breaking through in the current (dis)order?
- How does Christ invert our structures of power?

Luke 6: 27-38

What would it take to break a generational curse? A cycle of violence that stretches back through millennia? How can humans assist in the in-breaking of God’s commonwealth? The answers may be found here, in this portion of the Sermon on the Plain. But what Jesus asks of us is not easy, and in fact, may seem impossible: We are to love our enemies

and do good to those who hate us. This is not about accepting abuse, but rather refusing to participate in the human cycles of vengeance and retribution. God's economy is not transactional: Love does not write checks and keep a ledger. In the abstract, this sounds simple. However, in the real-world scenario of dog-eat-dog, this may not be as easy as it sounds. Jesus is clear, though: To be a Christian is to go against the grain. It is to step outside of our comfort zones in and into the Commonwealth of God.

- Where do I focus exclusively on welcoming those who are already familiar to me?
- Where do I need to be uncomfortable and go with God into the unfamiliar?
- Where can forgiveness of a person or situation release me from a cycle of fear and suffering?

This Bible study was written by Kristen Ostendorf.

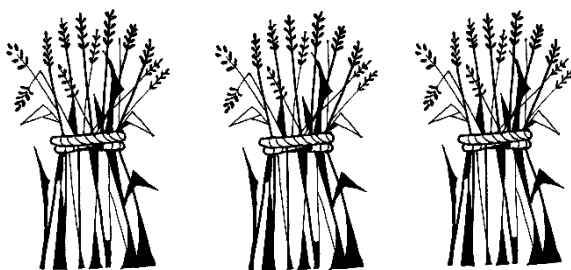
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Absolution from Bolz-Weber, Nadia. *Pastrix*. NY: Jericho, 2013, p.75
Jubilate Psalm 100 from the *St Helena Psalter*

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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

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