

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 13, 2020, 8:00 am

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

Page 323

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung or said, in addition to, or in place of, the preceding, all standing

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Page 324

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect

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

People: Amen.

THE LESSONS

The people sit. One or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

THE FIRST READING (seated)

Genesis 50:15-21

Tammy Verrette

A Reading from the Book of Genesis:

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A Psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.

THE PSALM (In Unison)

Psalm 103:1-13

pg. 733

Benedic, anima mea

- ¹ **B**less the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- ² Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.
- ³ He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- ⁴ He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- ⁵ He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- ⁶ The LORD executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

- ⁷ He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- ⁸ The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- ¹⁰ He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- ¹² As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- ¹³ As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 14:1-12

Tammy Verrette

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

The Very Rev. AJ Heine, Jr.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience

with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. AJ Heine, Jr.

On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing

THE NICENE CREED

Page 326

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Lord, in thy mercy.....

Hear our prayer

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; Morris, Bishop of Louisiana; AJ, our clergy, Benjamin, our seminarian; that they may both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Lord, in thy mercy.....

Hear our prayer

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here and at home, the Church in the Dioceses of Louisiana and Honduras, St. Augustine's Pre-School, and our partners in Mission: Church of the Holy Spirit, Tela, and Bissonet Plaza Elementary School; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Lord, in thy mercy.....

Hear our prayer

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Donald, our President, John Bel, our Governor, and Cynthia, our Parish President, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Lord, in thy mercy.....

Hear our prayer

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

Lord, in thy mercy.....

Hear our prayer

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Debbie Means, Wendy Womack, Francis Allen, Mary Servia, Doris Dupuy, Kathy Comer, Moses, Mike, Jennifer, Stephanie Royes, Kenny and Christia Barrett, Rick Samantha, Adelyn and Rylen Reeves, Adrielle, Jose, Carol Britt, Kris Hartnell, The Rev. Walter Vann Windsor, Joey P., Renee Verver, Wayne Brown, those affected by COVID-19, Health Care Workers, first responders, those serving in the military, all those persecuted for their faith; and anyone we now name, either silently or aloud (pause) and any who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Lord, in thy mercy.....

Hear our prayer

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially those murdered in the community this week (pause) and those we name either silently or aloud... (pause)... beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Augustine and all thy saints that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Lord, in thy mercy.....

Hear our prayer

For the members of St. Augustine's celebrating their birthday this week: Judy White, Charles Cranford, Hugh Boimare, Netti Scudari, Kathleen Comer, Kay Johnson, Shirley Bernadas, Patrick Urban, and Joseph Ferry.

Lord, in thy mercy.....

Hear our prayer

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. **Amen.**

The Priest, stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

THE PEACE

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: *The Very Rev. AJ Heine, Jr.*

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on pages 343-344, or with some other sentence of Scripture.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer I

The people stand. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

Celebrant: *The Lord be with you.*
Congregation: *And with thy spirit.*
Celebrant: *Lift up your hearts.*
Congregation: *We lift them up unto the Lord.*
Celebrant: *Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.*
Congregation: *It is meet and right so to do.*

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Here may be added

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept

Then may be sung or said

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. *Alleluia.*

In Lent, Alleluia is omitted, and may be omitted at other times except during Easter Season

The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

Behold what you are. May we become what we receive.

Please come forward, collect a paper cup with the Sacrament, return to your pew, and wait until everyone is ready to receive Holy Communion.

THE ST. AUGUSTINE'S COMMUNION PRAYER

There's a short liturgy from The St. Augustine's Prayer Book, which includes this prayer, called an "Act of Reception." If you are watching the Sunday morning celebration of Holy Communion, consider praying this during the time when you would normally be coming to the altar rail to receive Communion.

ACT OF RECEPTION

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive Communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. **Amen.**

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

OUR CONTINUING PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR: Ted, Kathleen, Joyce & Roy Lilly, Lori Andras, Chris and Ann Nick, Lurline Bernadas, Rowen and Finn Scharwath, Carol Grenn, Laurie Wogan, Edgar and Eleanor Walker, Billy Knapp, Ava, Paul Armstrong, Bill Carter, Leah Eskine, and Bobbie Sharp.

THE BLESSINGS OF THIS LIFE: *The decorations on the altar today are given to the glory of the Almighty God.*

Serving this Sunday:

Chuck Blanchard, Usher; Dotty Suthon, Priest Server