

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 27, 2020, 8:00 am

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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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

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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, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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) Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Susan Scotton

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel:

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

THE PSALM (In Unison)

Psalm 25:1-8
Ad te, Domine, levavi

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¹ **T**o you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

² Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

³ Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.

- ⁴ Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- ⁵ Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- ⁶ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- ⁷ Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- ⁸ He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

Susan Scotton

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians:

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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 21:23-3

The Very Rev. AJ Heine, Jr.

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

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard

today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

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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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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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 Ara Vining, Jared Rogers, Judy, Trudy, Nettie, Aleta, Greer, Debbie Means, Wendy Womack, Francis Allen, Mary Servia, Doris Dupuy, Mike, Jennifer, Stephanie & Irwin Royes, Carol Britt, Kris Hartnell, 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: Alan Dixon, Stephanie Anne Pecquet, Jane Kennedy, Wayne Brown, Ken Roy, Christina Billedeau, Nathan Billedeau, Jennifer Smith, and Patricia Mortillaro-Percy.

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

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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

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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 Almighty God, and in thanksgiving for children and grandchildren, by Jane Ard.*

Serving this Sunday:

Pat Roy, Priest Server