

MORNING WORSHIP

15 PENTECOST

13 SEPTEMBER 2020

ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Saint Paul reminds us that “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (*Romans 8:38–39*)

¶ *Before the Voluntary, the tower bell is rung three times.*

VOLUNTARY

Adagio in C Major, KV 356

W. A. Mozart

INTROIT (*sung by the Cantor*)

Grant peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you; *

hear the prayers of your servants, and of your people Israel.

I was glad when they said unto me, * Let us go into the house of the Lord. (*Sir. 36:21a–22; Ps. 122:1*)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider Blessèd be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessèd be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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

KYRIE ELEISON

Presider Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Presider Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. 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.**

THE LESSON

Romans 14:1–12

W elcome 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

¶ *Please stand*

ALLELUIA AND VERSE (*sung by the Cantor*)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The nations will fear your Name, O Lord; *

and all the kings of the earth your glory. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21–25

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev’d Robert A. Picken

¶ *A period of silence for meditation follows the Sermon. Then please stand for*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: FORM III

¶ *The Intercessor and People pray responsively.*

Father, we pray for your Holy Catholic Church;
that we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
that your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons;
that they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
that there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
that our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
that they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
may we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

¶ *Additional prayers may be offered.*

Gathering now our prayers into one, we pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

MEDITATION

Concerto in G, Op. 13: *Allegro moderato*
Leif Johnson soloist

F. Seitz

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Giver of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through your Son Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

¶ *The Presider blesses the people, who respond: Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**



The flowers at the High Altar and in the Narthex are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of James & Mary Louise Herendeen, Mary Jane Reoch, and James Herendeen, Jr. and Beatrice & Boyd Hoar and Marion and Nancy Hoar

We thank Charles Tellier for serving as our Cantor this morning, and to Leif Johnson for offering our musical meditation.

Please follow the direction of the ushers for departing the church.

We ask that you take this Order of Service with you, and to be sure you have all your belongings as you leave.