

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 8, 2021

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee"

Hymn #376

**1. Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!**

**2. All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise:
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Blooming meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.**

**3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are Thine:
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.**

Opening Verse, Confession & Absolution

Officiant Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us examine our lives in the presence of God, humbly confessing our sins and opening our hearts. I invite you to bow your head, or take some other posture of humility before God.

A brief silence for reflection follows.

Officiant 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.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Officiant We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Officiant 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.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

The Priest pronounces absolution, saying,

Our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority, I declare to you the forgiveness of your sins. God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to abundance of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

Hymn #10, verses 1 & 2

**1 New every morning is the love
our wak'ning and uprising prove;
through sleep and darkness safely brought,
restored to life and power and thought.**

**2 New mercies, each returning day,
hover around us while we pray;
new perils past, new sins forgiven,
new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.**

The Collect of the Day

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray. Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Epistle: Ephesians 4:25 - 5:2

Reader A reading from the letter to the church in Ephesus.

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come

out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I called to you; O God, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

**If you were to note what is done amiss, *
O God, who could stand?**

For there is forgiveness with you, *
therefore you shall be feared.

**I wait for you, O God; my soul waits for you; *
in your word is my hope.**

My soul waits for you,
more than sentries for the morning, *
more than sentries for the morning.

**O Israel, wait upon God, *
for with God there is mercy.**

With God there is plenteous redemption; *
God shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Gospel Introduction: Rev. Miranda

The Gospel: John 6:25-50

This Gospel text is almost entirely a dialogue, so we will read it this way.

THE CROWD

Rabbi, how did you get here?

JESUS

You're looking for me because yesterday I gave you all the bread you could eat. Don't work for earthly food that will decay, but for the food that will last for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. God the Father has commissioned him for this work.

THE CROWD

What must we do in order to accomplish what God requires?

JESUS

This is what God requires: that you believe in him whom God sent.

THE CROWD

What miraculous sign will you do, that we can see and believe you? What will you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, just as it is written, *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*

JESUS

I assure you, it wasn't Moses who gave the bread from heaven to you, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. The bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

THE CROWD

Sir, give us this bread all the time!

JESUS

I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I told you that you have seen me and still don't believe. Everyone whom the Father gives to me will come to me, and I won't send away anyone who comes to me. I have come down from heaven not to do my will, but the will of him who sent me. This is the will of the one who sent me, that I won't lose anything he has given me, but I will raise it up at the last day. This is my Father's will: that all who see the Son and believe in him will have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.

THE CROWD (*indignantly*)

Isn't this Jesus, Joseph's son, whose mother and father we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?

JESUS

Don't grumble among yourselves. No one can come to me unless they are drawn to me by the Father who sent me, and I will raise them up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has listened to the Father and learned from him comes to me. No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God. He has seen the Father. I assure you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven so that whoever eats from it will never die.

Homily

The Rev. Miranda Hassett

The Prayers

Priest We now enter a time of prayer. You may wish to bow your head, open your hands, or prepare your body for prayer in some other way.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Now, let us pray as God's beloved children, using the prayer Jesus taught us.

**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 for ever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Send prayer requests to to prayers@stdunstans.com.

Officiant Let us continue in prayer. We will hold up our needs and blessings to God. You can speak your prayers out loud, type them into the Chat area, or hold them in your heart. As you are able, please hold others' prayer requests before God in your heart as well.

Let us pray for all churches and their leaders, and for all God's people everywhere.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for all those in authority.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for all nations and peoples.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for the earth and the whole created order.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for our local communities.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for those in any need or trouble, especially those on our parish prayer list:

You are invited to name others in need of prayer, and to hold up your own struggles to the light of God's love.

The people may offer additional names.

Officiant Let us pray for all who have died, and for those who mourn.

The people may offer additional names.

Officiant Let us pray for our common life and work as God's people.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Priest Eternal God, creator and ruler of heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of Blessings

The Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you!**

We greet one another, wishing one another the peace of Christ.

The Blessing

Priest God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing God, the Holy and Undivided Trinity, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

Sending Hymn: "God, who stretched the spangled heavens"

Hymn #580

**1. God, who stretched the spangled heavens,
infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance
through the silent fields of space,
we, your children, in your likeness,
share inventive powers with you.
Great Creator, still creating,
show us what we yet may do.**

**2. Proudly rise our modern cities,
stately buildings row on row;
yet their windows, blank, unfeeling,
stare on canyoned streets below,
where the lonely drift unnoticed
in the city's ebb and flow,
lost to purpose and to meaning,
scarcely caring where they go.**

**3. We have conquered worlds undreamed of
since the childhood of our race;
known the ecstasy of winging
through uncharted realms of space;
probed the secrets of the atom,
yielding unimagined power,
facing us with life's destruction
or our most triumphant hour.**

**4. As each far horizon beckons,
may it challenge us anew,
children of creative purpose,
serving others, honoring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise,
each endeavor well begun.
Great Creator, give us guidance
till our goals and yours are one.**