

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 12, 2021

Welcome & Silence

Gathering Hymn: "Come and seek the ways of Wisdom"

Voices Found #60



1. Come and seek the ways of
2. Lis - ten to the voice of
3. Sis - ter Wis - dom, come as -



Wis - dom, she who danced when earth was new. Fol - low
Wis - dom, cry - ing in the mar - ket - place. Hear the
sist us; nur - ture all who seek re - birth. Spi - rit -



close - ly what she teach - es, for her words are right and
Word made flesh a - mong us, full of glo - ry, truth and
guide and close com - pan - ion, bring to light our sa - cred



true. Wis - dom clears the path of jus - tice, show - ing
grace. When the word takes root and ri - pens, peace and
worth. Free us to be - come your peo - ple, ho - ly



us what love must do.
right - eous - ness em - brace.
friends of God and earth.

Opening Verse, Confession & Absolution

Officiant Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, that God may come and rain righteousness upon us. Amen.
(Hosea 10:12)

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 God the Creator and Source, Lord of creation,

People **have mercy upon us.**

Officiant God the Incarnate Word, through whom all things were made,

People **have mercy upon us.**

Officiant God the Holy Spirit, who renews the face of the earth,

People **have mercy upon us.**

Officiant Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, creating and saving God,

People **have mercy upon us.**

Priest

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 - September

Hymnal #405, verses 3 & 4

Refrain:

**All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.**

3. **The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them, every one.**
4. **God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.**

The Collect of the Day

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest 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.

First Reading: James 3:1-12

Reader A reading from the letter of James.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder

wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Poem of Faith: Proverbs I, selected verses

The proverbs of Solomon, King David's son, from Israel:

Their purpose is to teach wisdom and discipline.

They make the naive mature,

and the young knowledgeable and discreet.

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction;

don't neglect your mother's teaching,

for they are a graceful wreath on your head,

and beads for your neck.

My son, don't let sinners entice you.

Don't go when they say: "Come with us.

Let's set up a deadly ambush.

Let's secretly wait for the innocent just for fun.

Throw in your lot with us;

we'll share our money."

My son, don't go on the path with them;

keep your feet from their way,

because their feet run to evil;

they hurry to spill blood.

Wisdom shouts in the street;

in the public square she raises her voice.

Above the noisy crowd, she calls out.

At the entrances of the city gates, she has her say:

"How long will you clueless people love your naïveté,

mockers cling to their mockery, and fools hate knowledge?

You should respond when I correct you.

Look, I'll pour out my spirit on you; I'll reveal my words to you.

The thoughtless will die because they turn away;

smugness will destroy fools.

Those who obey me will dwell securely,

untroubled by the dread of harm."

The Gospel Reading: Mark 8:27-38

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. Miranda Hassett

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray, using the prayer Jesus taught us. You may unmute yourself if you choose, and you may pray using any version of this prayer that is in your heart.

**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

Passing of the Peace

Celebrant You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. The peace of the Lord be always with you!

People **And also with you!**

Celebrant Let us speak Christ's peace to one another. ...

The Blessing & Dismissal

Celebrant Holy God, your mercy is over all your works,
and in the web of life each creature has its role and place.
We praise you for ocelot and owl, cactus and kelp, tide and topsoil.
Give us humility to recognize all creatures as your beloved ones,
And share the bounty of creation with all our neighbors.
And may the blessing of the Holy and Undivided Trinity be upon us, now and always.
Amen.

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

Sending Song

**Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God surround you,
everywhere, everywhere you may go.**