

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 26, 2021

Welcome & Silence

Gathering Song: "She who would valiant be"

Hymnal #564

*This hymn is about being courageous in following God. To be a pilgrim means to be someone who is on a holy journey, wherever it may lead. The hymn was written with all male pronouns, but we sing the first verse with female pronouns, to help more people find themselves in the song.*

**1 She who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,  
let her in constancy follow the Master.  
There's no discouragement shall make her once relent  
Her first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.**

**2 Who so beset him round with dismal stories,  
do but themselves confound—his strength the more is.  
No foes shall stay his might, though he with giants fight;  
he will make good his right to be a pilgrim.**

**3 Since, Lord, Thou dost defend us with Thy Spirit,  
we know we at the end shall life inherit.  
Then, fancies, flee away! I'll fear not what folk say,  
I'll labor night and day to be a pilgrim.!**

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, Ruler 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.**

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, our help in alien and contentious places: As Esther prayed faithfully and worked courageously for the deliverance of your people, strengthen us to confront the oppressor and free the oppressed, so that all people may know the justice of your realm. Amen.

Scripture Drama: The Story of Esther

*See the rest of this packet for the script!*

The Gospel Reading: Mark 9:38-41

Reader    A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone throwing demons out in your name, and we tried to stop him because he wasn't following us." Jesus replied, "Don't stop him. No one who does powerful acts in my name can quickly turn around and curse me. Whoever isn't against us is for us. I assure you that whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will certainly be rewarded."

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

People    **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

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 [prayers@stdunstans.com](mailto: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

*Prepared by the Rev. Tom McAlpine*

### **CHORUS:**

**Enviado soy de Dios,  
mis manos lista está  
para construir con El  
un mundo fraternal. (repeat)**

### **Refrain**

**Los ángeles no son enviados acambiar  
un mundo de dolor por un mundo de paz.  
Me ha tocado a m hacerlo realidad;  
ayúdame, Señor, a hacer tu voluntad.**

### TRANSLATION:

I am sent by God,  
I'm ready to serve;  
to make the world a place  
of justice and shalom.

The angels cannot do  
the work that must be done,  
to change a hurting world  
into a world of peace.  
The task is giv'n to us  
to build a better world.  
Please help me, God to do  
the things you ask of me.