

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 26, 2022

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "Take up your cross"

Hymn #675

**I Take up your cross, the Savior said,
If you would my disciple be;
Take up your cross with willing heart,
And humbly follow after me.**

**2 Take up your cross, let not its weight
Fill your weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear your spirit up,
And brace your heart, and nerve your arm.**

**3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame,
And let your foolish heart be still;
The Lord for you accepted death
Upon a cross, on Calv'ry's hill.**

**4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength,
And calmly every danger brave:
It guides you to abundant life
And leads to victory o'er the grave.**

**4 Take up your cross, and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down;
For only those who bear the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.**

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.**

Celebrant Take heart! God's Spirit empowers us to move from the ways of death to the ways of new life. I declare to you that God forgives your sins. Let us forgive one another and give ourselves to one another in joyful community of justice and peace.

- Adapted from "Seeing the Face of God in Each Other"

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. God, you call us to go where Christ leads. Turn us from the ways of the world; guide us to fullness of joy in the Spirit, where bodies and souls rest secure; and grant us strength to follow the way of the cross, which frees us to love one another for the sake of all creation. **Amen.**

The First Story - from 1 Kings 21

NARRATOR

In the time of King Ahab, there was a man named Naboth. And he had a vineyard, a field full of grapevines, that was right next door to King Ahab's palace. King Ahab told Naboth,

VOICE 1

Give me your vineyard, so that I may use it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house. I will give you a better vineyard, in exchange; or I can pay you if you want.

VOICE 2

Absolutely not! This vineyard is the land of my ancestors. It belonged to my father, and his father before him, going all the way back. God gave my family this land and tending it is my holy responsibility. I won't trade it and I won't sell it.

NARRATOR

Ahab went home feeling sulky and mad because Naboth wouldn't give him his land. He went to bed and refused to eat anything. Then his wife Jezebel came to see what was going on.

VOICE 2

Why are you being so sulky and refusing to eat?

VOICE 1

Because I asked Naboth to sell me his vineyard and wouldn't!

VOICE 2

Oh, for Pete's sake. Aren't you the King?! Get up, eat something, stop sulking. I'll get you that vineyard.

NARRATOR

Jezebel wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal, so it seemed as if they came from him. She wrote to the leaders of the city. She told them to have a trial for Naboth, and have some people lie about him, and say that he had done bad things, things that were punished by death; and to find him guilty, and have him killed.

And the leaders did what she asked. I wonder why? ...

Then they wrote back to Jezebel and told her, "Naboth is dead."

VOICE 2

Ahab! Go, take possession of that vineyard you wanted so much. It's yours now; Naboth is dead.

VOICE 1

Wow, that's terrific! Thanks so much, honey! I don't know how you did that... and I don't care, so long as I have my new vegetable garden!

NARRATOR

Then the word of the Lord came to the prophet Elijah, saying, Go down to meet King Ahab at the vineyard of Naboth. Say to him: "Have you killed someone, and taken their goods? Thus says the Lord: You will die just as brutally and senselessly as Naboth did."

Wondering Together

The Second Story - from 1 Kings 19

NARRATOR

Queen Jezebel was trying to kill Elijah. So he ran away into the wilderness, and eventually made his way to Mount Horeb, where Moses had talked with God long ago. He hid in a cave to sleep, but in the middle of the night, he heard a voice.

VOICE 2

What are you doing here, Elijah?

VOICE 1

I have been fighting for you, God! Your people have turned away from you, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets. I am the only one left, and they're trying to kill me too.

NARRATOR

Then there came a great wind.... so strong it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces!... But the LORD was not in the wind.

After the wind there was a terrifying earthquake - the earth shivered and shook!... But the LORD was not in the earthquake.

And after the earthquake there was fire, rushing across the landscape, devouring everything and then disappearing as quickly as it had come!...

But the LORD was not in the fire.

Then there was a sound of sheer silence. [pause]

When Elijah heard the silence, he wrapped his cloak around his face, because he was afraid to see God; and he went and stood at the entrance of the cave. And the voice spoke to him again.

VOICE 2

What are you doing here, Elijah?

VOICE 1

I have been fighting for you, God! Your people have turned away from you, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets. I am the only one left, and they're trying to kill me too.

VOICE 2

Go back, Elijah. Leave the wilderness. As bad as things are, there are many people worth saving; and you have a part to play in making things better. You will help a new king rise up in Ahab's place. And Elisha son of Shaphat will become your helper, and will be my prophet when you are gone.

Wondering Together

The Third Story - from 1 Kings 19

NARRATOR

So Elijah set out from the cave on Mount Horeb, back from the wilderness. And on the way, he met Elisha son of Shaphat, who was ploughing a field, preparing it for planting. He was using a plough pulled by many oxen. As he passed by, Elijah threw his cloak over Elisha.

VOICE 2

What are you doing? What does this mean?

VOICE 1

Follow me. God has called you to be a prophet.

VOICE 2

Let me run home and kiss my parents goodbye, and then I will follow you!

VOICE 1

What have I done to you? Forget this; go home to your parents!

NARRATOR

Then Elisha broke up the plough, and killed the oxen. He made a fire with the broken pieces of the plough, and cooked the meat from the oxen, and gave it to the neighbors. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

The Gospel Reading: Luke 9:51, 57-58, 61-62

NARRATOR

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem, where he knew his story must end. As they were going along the road, someone said to him,

VOICE 1

I will follow you wherever you go.

NARRATOR

And Jesus said to him,

VOICE 2

Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.

NARRATOR

To another person, Jesus said,

VOICE 2

Follow me.

VOICE 1

I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.

VOICE 2

No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.

Narrator Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Wondering Together/Homily

The Rev. Miranda Hassett

The Prayers

Officiant 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.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant 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.

- Officiant* 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.
- Celebrant* 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

Celebrant 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.

Announcements

The General Thanksgiving

Celebrant As we conclude our time together this morning, let us say the Prayer of General Thanksgiving.

All:

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and lovingkindness
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 Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

The Blessing

You may wish to trace the sign of the cross on your body during the blessing.

Celebrant Go in peace. Love God. Keep the commandments. Give alms to the poor and in as much as within each of you lies, live at peace with all people. May the blessing of God, the Mystery we know as Christ, and the Holy Spirit rest and remain deep in your heart this day and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God!**