

❖ Zoom Worship for Sunday, November 19, 2023 ❖

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Opening Hymn: "Hark, a thrilling voice"

Blue Hymnal #59, verses 1, 2, 5

**1. Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding;
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say,
"Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day."**

**2. Wakened by the solemn warning,
From earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.**

**5. Honor, glory, might, and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
And the everlasting Spirit,
While unending ages run.**

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)

I invite you to bow your head, or take some other posture of humility before God.

A brief silence for reflection follows.

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,
and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have
done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us,
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will.
Amen.**

Officiant May God forgive us; may we forgive one another and ourselves, and be at peace.

For Christ brings reconciliation to all the human race, and the whole of creation.

Amen.

(Adapted from the New Zealand Prayer Book - Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia)

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Song of Faith: Psalm 78:1-8

To you I lift up my eyes, *

to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *

and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the Holy One our God, *

until God shows us mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O God, have mercy, *

for we have had more than enough of contempt,

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *

and of the derision of the proud.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

The First Lesson: Judges 4:4-9

Reader A reading from the Book of Judges.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, a fiery woman, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'" Barak said to her, 'If you will go with me, I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go.' And she said, 'I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman.' Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Lesson: I Thessalonians 5:4-11

Reader A reading from the letter of Paul to the church in Thessalonica.

But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for the day of the Lord to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

Reader

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'" Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People

Thanks be to God.

Homily

The Rev. Miranda Hassett

The Prayers

Officiant

We will continue in prayer. Let us hold a brief silence now, while we allow things to come into our minds and hearts that we want to hold in prayer with our community today, or blessings we would like to share.

A brief silence is kept.

Officiant

You may wish to bow your head, open your hands, or prepare your body for prayer in some other way.

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 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 the communities where we live.
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.

The Collects of the Day

Officiant

Let us pray. Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Sharing of Blessings

Officiant Does anyone have any particular joys, blessings or gratitudes to share with the assembly today?

When all have been shared:

The Peace

Officiant 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.

Blessing of Pledges

Announcements

The Blessing & Dismissal

Celebrant 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. And 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.**

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**