

Zoom Worship for Sunday, September 29, 2024

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome & Silence

Gathering Hymn: "Amazing Grace"

Hymnal #671

**1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.**

**4. Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come,
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**5. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.**

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 **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. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. 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. Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

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.**

Officiant Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; come let us adore God.

Song of Faith: Psalm 1

If God had not been on our side, let God's people now say;

If God had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us,

Then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;

Then would the raging waters have gone right over us.

Blessed be God, who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the Name of God, the maker of heaven and earth.

Glory to the Holy and Undivided Trinity, one God;

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

The First Reading: Esther 4:13-17, 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Reader A reading from the book of Esther.

Mordecai sent this reply to his cousin Esther: 'Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape the doom that Haman has planned, any more than all the other Jews. For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.' Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, 'Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.' Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: A Song of Holy Wisdom

(Wisdom of Solomon chapter 7)

**Wisdom is a breath of the power of God,
and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty.**

**She is a reflection of eternal light,
and an image of divine goodness.**

**In every generation she passes into holy souls
and makes them friends of God, and prophets;
for God loves nothing so much
as the person who lives with Wisdom.**

**She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other,
and she orders all things well.**

The Second Reading: James 5:13-16

Reader A reading from the letter of James.

If any of you are suffering, they should pray. If any of you are happy, they should sing. If any of you are sick, they should call for the elders of the church. The elders should pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord, and God will restore them. If any have sinned, they will be forgiven. So confess your sins to each other, and pray for each other, so that you can be restored.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading: Mark 9:38-41, 50

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

John said to Jesus, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. Salt is good; but if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again? Keep salt in yourselves and keep peace with each other.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People

Thanks be to God.

The 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 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. In this election season, we pray especially for all candidates for public office, and for ordinary people doing what they can to shape our common life towards justice, mercy, and peace.
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.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant

Let us pray. O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Officiant may read one of the following Collects as well:

A Collect for Peace

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your Church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. **Amen.**

A Collect for Joy in Creation

O heavenly Father, you have filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to recognize your gracious hand in all your works, that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of the One through whom all things were made, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting One, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Guidance

O God, our Creator and Sustainer, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of Blessings

Officiant Does anyone have a blessing or thanksgiving they'd like to share with the assembly today?...

The 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!**

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

Announcements

The Pontifical Blessing

Bishop Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

People **The maker of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Blessed be the Name of the Lord.

People **From this time forth for evermore.**

Bishop The blessing, mercy and grace of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**