

Morning Prayer for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 15)

*From Enriching Our Worship
Psalm from the Saint Helena Breviary*

August 16, 2020

Hymn 544

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Doth his successive journeys run;
His Kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made.
And princes throng to crown His head,
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns:
The prisoner leaps to lose his chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen.

God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth.

John 4:2

Confession

The Minister says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and 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.*

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Opening Versicle

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.
People And your glory all the day long

*Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen
Alleluia.*

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Psalm 67

1 Be merciful to us, O God, and bless us, *
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.

2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has brought forth its increase; *
may you, our own God, give us your blessing.

7 May you give us your blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

Glory to God, Source of all being, Incarnate Word, and
Holy Spirit,*
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, Amen.

Isaiah 56:1,6-8

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant-- these I will bring to

my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

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

People *Thanks be to God.*

Canticle D A Song of the Wilderness

Isaiah 35:1-7,10

*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
It shall blossom abundantly, *
and rejoice with joy and singing.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, *
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weary hands, *
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear!" *
Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you.
"Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, *
and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.
Then shall the lame leap like a deer, *
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness *
and streams in the desert;
The burning sand shall become a pool *
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.
The ransomed of God shall return with singing, *
with everlasting joy upon their heads.
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, *
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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People *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn 470

There's a wideness in God's mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner,
and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.

There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.
There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of the mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we should take him at his word;

and our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

[Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

In our Old Testament reading today, the prophet, Isaiah, says we are called by God to “maintain justice and do what is right.” In the crazy world we live right now that has never been more important. Due to the death of George Floyd at the hands of the Milwaukee police, we have been made aware once again of the systemic injustice that is so prevalent for our black and brown neighbors in this country. The protests are necessary to keep that knowledge in the forefront so that something will finally be done to eliminate racism. But the violence that has been added to the protests is not necessary and uncalled for. Change can happen nonviolently. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King showed this country how it can be done. Let us learn from his example and his words. Let us maintain justice and do what is right.

As we go about living our everyday lives, let us continue to do what is right to keep ourselves and our neighbors safe. Wear a face covering when out in public, use hand sanitizer, wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and maintain at least 6 feet of distance between you and any other person in the vicinity. If someone near you is not wearing a mask, please do not try to change them. Perhaps that person does not have access to a mask. Please carry an extra one with you to offer them. If they still refuse to wear a mask, then maintain your distance. That is their right but they are ignoring their part in keeping their neighbors safe. Again that is their decision. That person may also have a medical reason for not wearing a mask. Please respect that but continue to keep your distance. As it says in our baptismal covenant, respect the dignity of every human being. Hopefully, other people will respect our dignity as well.

Our Gospel reading for today is full of information that is so pertinent today. The story of what goes into the mouth does not defile but what comes out of the mouth is what defiles explains a lot about how racism and intolerance work. Words can build up your neighbor and words can tear down your neighbor. Words can hurt and words can heal. Words can be used for evil and words can be used for good. Even Jesus was taken to task by the Canaanite woman when she reminded him that even the dogs under the master’s table get the crumbs that fall and thus have something to eat. Even Jesus then realized that he was called not just to the Hebrew people but to everyone. That everyone deserved the same respect and concern from

him. By the same token everyone deserves respect and concern from us.

Our world today is full of confusion, hatred, disrespect, ignorance, and bewilderment. It is also full of love, compassion, knowledge, respect and faith. Let us as followers of Jesus Christ be the ones to share love, respect, compassion and faith. Let us give our neighbors the benefit of the doubt, maintain justice and do what is right. Amen,

The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*

*On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Officiant	Hear our cry, O God.
People	And listen to our prayer.
Officiant	Let us pray.

*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.

V. Look upon your congregation;

R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.

V. Declare your glory among the nations;

R. And your wonders among all peoples.

V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

R. Never forget the lives of your poor.

V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.

V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Collect of the day

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and
earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and
strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hymn 530

Spread, O spread thou mighty word

1 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word,
spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound
all may heed the joyful sound;

2 word of how the Father's will
made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave,
earth from sin and death to save;

3 word of how the Savior's love
earth's sore burden doth remove;
how forever, in its need,
through his death the world is freed;

4 word of how the Spirit came
bringing peace in Jesus' name;
how his never-failing love
guides us on to heaven above.

5 Word of life, most pure and strong,
word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night
all the world awakes to light.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to
generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.
Amen.

Ephesians 3:20,21