

# Morning Prayer for the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 23)

From 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*  
*Psalm from the Saint Helena Breviary*

October 11, 2020

## Hymn 7

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return  
'til thy mercy's beams I see;  
'til they inward light impart,  
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

3 Visit, then, this soul of mine;  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, Radiancy divine;  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my  
redeemer. *Psalm 19:14*

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together

*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.*

The Officiant says

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

## **The Invitatory and Psalter**

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

Officiant and People

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.  
Alleluia!*

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: *Come let us adore him.*

**Venite** Psalm 95:1-7

*Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.*

*For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.*

*Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!*

## **Psalms 23**

1 O God, you are my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

2 You make me lie down in green pastures \*  
and lead me beside still waters.

3 You revive my soul \*  
and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your name.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of God for ever.

*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 25:1-9**

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The Word of the Lord  
People *Thanks be to God*

### **19 The Song of the Redeemed** *Magna et mirabilia Revelation 15:3-4*

*O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.*

*Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

### **Philippians 4:1-9**

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace

of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God*

### Hymn 316

### This is the hour of banquet and of song

1. This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
this is the heavenly table spread for me;  
here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong  
the brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.

2. Too soon we rise; we go our several ways;  
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone,  
the Bread and Wine consumed: yet all our days  
thou still art here with us--our Shield and Sun.

3. Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
yet, passing, points to the glad feast above,  
giving us foretaste of the festal joy,  
the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

### Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I

have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are.”

The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God*

### Sermon

### The Rev. Nancy Threadgill

It is October 2020. It has been an unbelievable year and yes, it has been a year that I don't think any one of us could have possibly imagined, even those who imagine far out things for a living like authors and soothsayers. It is a year that is unprecedented. On New Year's Day there is no way we could have known that a worldwide pandemic would change our lives like never before. Who could have foreseen the multiple damaging hurricanes in the South? How would anyone look at the hillsides in California, Oregon and Washington and see the devastation that wild fires would bring to them this summer and fall with a multitude of homes burned and lives lost. Who could have known that our country would go into an important presidential election with the incumbent sickened by the pandemic virus and people scrambling to determine how to vote safely, without fear of contracting the virus themselves? It continues to be a year that no one saw coming and yet we continue to live through it with perseverance and hope that we will come out on the other side.

My perseverance rests on my faith. Paul puts it nicely in his letter to the Philippians that was read to us today: “The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” That is what gets me through each day. I know that God is with me all the time. I know that no matter what happens, I will be better for it because God is with me all the time. I know that even if I die, Jesus will come for me and I will live with God in eternity.

I mentioned the coming election earlier. This election is like no other in our history. The people of this wonderful country are divided like never before in my life time. There are lies, innuendo, hateful speech, and so many unknowns on both sides. It is difficult to look at the issues with unbiased eyes and minds. It is difficult to make a decision based on truth and character. And yet, that is what we are called to do as Christians. Again, Paul states it well in our reading today: “whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” We need to think about these things as we make our decision about our next president and members of congress. It is not an easy decision to make but make it with God’s help and then: “the God of peace will be with you.” Amen

## The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
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.*

## The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

<i>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.</i>	<i>Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.</i>
<i>Give us this day our daily bread.</i>	<i>Give us today our daily bread.</i>
<i>And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.</i>	<i>Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.</i>
<i>And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.</i>	<i>Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.</i>
<i>For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.</i>	<i>For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.</i>

## Suffrages B

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
R. *Govern and uphold them, now and always.*  
V. Day by day we bless you;  
R. *We praise your name for ever.*  
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
R. *Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.*  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
R. *For we put our trust in you.*  
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;  
R. *And we shall never hope in vain.*

### *The Collect of the Day*

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### *A Collect for the Renewal of Life*

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

### *For a Church Convention or Meeting*

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in The Diocese of Pittsburgh Annual Convention for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *For the Election of a Bishop*

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *For Social Justice*

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart [and especially the hearts of the people of this land], that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *For an Election*

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Please add your own petitions and thanksgivings at this time, either silently or aloud.

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.*

*A General Thanksgiving (2007 Version)*

*Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.*

*We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.*

*We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.*

*We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.*

*Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.*

*Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.*

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions

as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

**Hymn 556 (v. 1-5)**

**Rejoice, ye pure in heart**

1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart,  
rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
your glorious banner wave on high,  
the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain:

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

2. With all the angel choirs,  
With all the saints on earth,  
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,  
True rapture, noblest mirth! Refrain

3. Your clear hosannas raise,  
and alleluias loud;  
while answering echoes upward float,  
like wreaths of incense cloud. Refrain

4. Yes, on through life's long path,  
still chanting as ye go;  
from youth to age, by night and day,  
in gladness and in woe. Refrain

5. Still lift your standard high,  
still chanting as you go,  
from youth to age, by night and day,  
in gladness and in woe. Refrain

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
*Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,*