

MORNING PRAYER, RITE II

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost – July 18, 2021

OPENING HYMN Praise to the Living God vs 1,4 (*words on last page*) Hymnal 372

OPENING SENTENCES

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." *Psalm 122:1*

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All: **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**

INVITATORY AND PSALTER (*All stand*)

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

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

All: **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.**

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we

have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 9

The First Song of Isaiah

Surely, it is God who saves me; **I will trust in him and not be afraid.**

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, **and God will be my Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing **from the springs of salvation.**

And on that day you shall say, **Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;**

Make God's deeds known among the peoples;

see that they remember that God's Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for God has done great things,

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

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

READING FROM GOSPEL

Mark 5:1-20

They came to the other side of the lake, to the country of the Gerasenes. And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; and he shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.'

For he had said to him, ‘Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!’ Then Jesus asked him, ‘What is your name?’ He replied, ‘My name is Legion; for we are many.’ He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding; and the unclean spirits begged him, ‘Send us into the swine; let us enter them.’ So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the lake, and were drowned in the lake. The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it. Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused, and said to him, ‘Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you.’ And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON REFLECTION

The story of the man delivered from a legion of demons has many resonances for us today.

- ◆ Who does this afflicted man remind you of?
- ◆ What is the difference in the approach the townspeople take, and what Jesus does?
- ◆ The townsfolk were terrified by Jesus’ display of power (not the loss of the pigs!).
Why do you think we don’t exercise spiritual power the way we read about in the gospels?

STATEMENT OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES’ CREED

Together, all standing

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 universal Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER SONG

I will change your name

DJ Butler, 1987



THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SUFFRAGES

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
 R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
 V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
 R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
 V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
 R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

OTHER COLLECTS

BCP p. 99, 100

A PRAYER FOR MISSION

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.*

INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS

All are invited to lift their concerns and thanksgivings to God, aloud or silently.

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.*

CONCLUDING SENTENCES

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Romans 15:13

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN How Great Though Art 1,2,4 (*words on last page*)

L-60

THE PRAYERS

We Pray For: Those in need of healing – Jake and Sandy Mitchell, Duana Page, Alicia Cordelle, Steve Blamer, Gary Murray, Susan White, Benji, Jane Hobbs, Garner Burroughs, Jane, Michelle, CeCe Cordelle-Carter, Becky Bolton Bridgett, Rudy, Lou Demas

Birthdays:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUGUST BOOK STUDY: MY GRANDMOTHER’S HANDS - This August, we will offer a study of Resmaa Manakem's highly regarded *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies*. We will meet on Monday afternoons August 2, 9, 16 and 23 from 4 - 5:30. Register here if you would like to join, and contact Rev. Kate if you have questions. This book includes body work, simple exercises, so it cannot be read quickly. if you plan to join the study group, you may want to start reading now and go at a pace that leaves rooms for processing and feelings. In our group times we will take the book section by section.

TENDING OUR SOIL - We are excited to share that the Christ Churches have been selected to be among the first twelve congregations in the Diocese of Washington to participate in Tending Our Soil, a thriving congregations initiative to help transform our congregations for greater vitality. The Tending Our Soil initiative seeks to cultivate the soil of our congregations so that God’s love might grow more fully right here, right now within our congregations and in our neighborhoods. The approach is based on the belief that thriving congregations recognize their changing social and cultural contexts, exhibit clarity of values and mission, and cultivate Christian practices.

Over a three-year period our entire congregation, led by a team of 4-6 lay members and the rector, will (1) listen to God, one another, and our neighbors; (2) reconnect to God’s dream for our congregation; (3) discern new or refreshed ministries; (4) cultivate leadership and resources needed for those ministries; and finally (5) celebrate learnings and successes. Our hope is that this initiative will strengthen our capacity to bear God’s love in the world. More to come!

ONLINE GIVING – La Plata: You can text a donation - text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts. You can give to Open Plate or toward your pledge. A 2.6% fee is charged for credit or debit cards - you'll have the option to include that in your gift or not. Standard text message rates do apply. You can also give online - go to www.christchurchlaplata.org and scroll down to the "Donate" link.

Waysiders now have their own giving link: [here!](#)

GIVING FUND – Please consider making a dedicated donation to the Giving Fund, from which Rev. Kate can offer help. Our policy is to help once, as we are able, and deal with repeat requests on a case-by-case basis. You can write a check or give online at the donate page on our website, www.christchurchlaplata.org, or text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts, designating Giving Fund. You now have the option to make pledge offerings or donations online, or by text.

HYMNS

OPENING HYMN

Praise to the Living God vs 1,4

Hymnal 372

1 Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name
Who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.
The one eternal God ere aught that now appears:
The first, the last, beyond all thought his timeless years!

2 Formless, all lovely forms declare his loveliness;
Holy, no holiness of earth can his express.
Lo, he is Lord of all. Creation speaks his praise,
And everywhere above, below, his will obeys.

4 Eternal life hath he implanted in the soul;
His love shall be our strength and stay while ages roll.
Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name
Who was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same.

CLOSING HYMN

How Great Though Art 1,2,4

L-60

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior, God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. [*Refrain*]

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God how great thou art. [*Refrain*]