



3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2020

Confession

P : In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

C: Amen

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us gather with true hearts that confess our sins to God, that earnestly ask for forgiveness and that trust in our renewal through the work of our Savior Jesus the Christ.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8]

P: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin. [Psalm 32:5]

P: Almighty God, merciful Father:

C: I confess to you all my sins with which I have offended you and my neighbors. I am sorry for them. I devote myself to repentance and pray for your mercy. In your boundless grace and compassion send me your Holy Spirit that I may be strengthened in my faith and made ready for a life obedient to your will and your way.

P: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and full of steadfast love. [Exodus 34:6] Therefore, in obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare the entire forgiveness of all your sin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prelude

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Opening Sentences

P: Salvation belongs to our God,

C: **And to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.**

P: Great and wonderful are your deeds, O Lord of the universe.

C: **Just and true are your ways, O Ruler of the nations.**

P: Who can fail to honor you, Lord,

C: **and sing of the glory of your name?**

P: For you alone are the Holy One.

C: **All nations will draw near and worship before you,
for your just and holy works have been revealed!**

Entrance hymn

848

Give to our God immortal praise;

Mercy and truth are all His ways;

Wonders of grace to God belong;

Repeat His mercies in your song.

He built the earth, He spread the sky,

And fixed the starry lights on high;

Wonders of grace to God belong;

Repeat His mercies in your song.

He fills the sun with morning light,

He bids the moon direct the night;

His mercies ever shall endure

When suns and moons shall shine no more.

He sent His Son with pow'r to save

From guilt and darkness and the grave;

Wonders of grace to God belong;

Repeat His mercies in your song.

Through this vain world He guides our feet

And leads us to His heav'nly seat;

His mercies ever shall endure

When this our world shall be no more.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: A people holy to the Lord our God.

P: We have seen what our God has done

**C: How God has carried His people and kept His promises
through all time.**

P: We hear and keep His Word,

C: And all that God has spoken we will do.

P: Let us pray:

**C: Creating God, because you encompass all time and
understanding you are beyond our complete
comprehension. We marvel at the mystery of Your
power, and wonder at the wisdom of Your plan; knowing
that we are often inexplicably and unintentionally caught
up in Your intentions. Yielding our desire for control,
we still appeal to You through Your Son Jesus for Your
mercy and kindness, seeking a spirit of confidence that
You are protecting us from the forces of sin and evil and
using us for the redemption of all creation.**

First Lesson

Jeremiah 20:7-13

The Call of the Prophet Jeremiah

O Lord, you have seduced me, and I was seduced;
you have taken advantage of me - and you are able to.

Now I am ridiculed all day long;
everyone makes fun of me.

Whenever I speak, I cannot help but cry out.

I must scream, "The pain and anguish of it all!"

Because the word of the Lord has become

a disgrace for me and I am harassed about it all day long.
If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up within my bones;
I am so tired of trying to hold it in - I am really not able to!
I hear the whispering around me: "He is inciting terror! Let's
denounce him! Yes, we must denounce him!"
All of my closest friends are even watching for me to make a
mistake: "Perhaps he can be seduced and we overpower him
and take our revenge on him."

However, the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior!
Therefore, it is my persecutors who have made the mistake! It is
they who will not be able to carry out their plan.
Instead, they will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for I have committed myself to you.

Sing to the Lord! Praise the Lord!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

Psalm

Psalm 69

*I have become a stranger to my kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.*

**It is zeal for your house that has consumed me;
the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.**

*When I humbled my soul with fasting,
they insulted me for doing so.*

**When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a byword to them.**

*I am the subject of gossip for those who sit in the gate,
and the drunkards make songs about me.*

**But as for me, my prayer is to you, O Lord.
At an acceptable time, O God,
in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.**

*With your faithful help rescue me from sinking in the mire;
let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.*

**Do not let the flood sweep over me,
or the deep swallow me up,
or the Pit close its mouth over me.**

*Answer me, O Lord, for your steadfast love is good;
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.*

**Do not hide your face from your servant,
for I am in distress--make haste to answer me.**

*Draw near to me, redeem me,
set me free because of my enemies.*

**You know the insults I receive, and my shame and dishonor;
my foes are all known to you.**

*Insults have broken my heart,
so that I am in despair.*

**I looked for pity, but there was none;
and for comforters, but I found none.**

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 10th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel

Matthew 10:26-39

Jesus lays out the realities of discipleship

As Jesus was teaching the disciples that faithful discipleship can mean being maligned and mistreated by those who think we are like sheep in the midst of wolves, he continued by saying: "Therefore, do not be afraid of those who will mock you. For nothing is covered up which will not be uncovered, and, hidden, will not be made known. What I am saying to you in the dark, go and tell in the light! And what you are hearing in your ears, go and proclaim it from the housetops! And do not be afraid of those who may be killing the body but have not been given the power to kill our essential identity. Instead, fear God – the One who gives power and is able to purge both our essential identity and our body in hell! Think about it – Aren't two sparrows sold these days for only a

penny? And still, not one of them will fall to the earth without your Father knowing about it. So, also, God knows you and can even count all the hairs on your head. So, do not be afraid! You are much different than sparrows in God's eyes. Everyone who speaking about their faith in me before others, I will speak about their faithfulness before my Father in the heavens. However, whoever may have denied me before the others, I also will deny before my Father in the heavens.

Do not presume that I have come to force peace on the earth. I have not come to force a peace but conflict. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's enemies will be members of one's own household. Whoever is loving their father or mother more than they love me is not being worthy of me; and whoever is loving their son or daughter more than me is not being worthy of me; and whoever is not seeing the cross as their guide and following behind me is not being worthy of me.

Those who try to self-discover their essential identity will only actually end up destroying it. But those who lose their essential identity on my account will actually end up self-discovering it.

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

*Why should I feel discouraged,
Why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely,
And long for Heav'n and home,
When Jesus is my portion?
My constant friend is He:
*His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me;*
**His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.***

*I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,*

And I know He watches me.

*Let not your heart be troubled,
His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness,
I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path He leadeth,
But one step I may see;
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.*

*I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.*

*Whenever I am tempted,
Whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing,
When hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him,
From care He sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.*

*I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.*

Apostles' Creed

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**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 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.**

Offering is Presented

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us Pray

C: In thanks for all the blessing of life, for work and rest, for food and shelter, for love and laughter, for beauty and harmony, we return these offerings to You, O God. We pray that our thanks is pleasing in Your sight, that what we offer is used again for sustenance and growth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

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Benediction

Dismissal

This week Grace's Congregation Council affirmed that Grace will be following the new NYForward Phase requirements, maintaining the closure of the building other than for Sunday Worship and cancelling and postponing all Grace Events at least until the Mid-Hudson Region reaches Phase 4. Grace will continue to abide by the requirements for Mask-wearing and Social Distancing imposed by NY State.