

We've Come This Far by Faith

The Season after Pentecost: Stewardship 2022

November 7. 2021 A Celebration of All Saints with Ingathering of Pledges

St. George's Church Glenn Dale Parish The Episcopal Diocese of Washington

"We always give thanks to God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers, continually remembering before God your work of faith and labor of love and steadiness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3a)

Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. Zoom participants are encouraged to leave your video camera on or turn it off; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom.

Prelude: Prelude: The Fence (before) from Considering Matthew Shepard, Music by Craig Hella Johnson (b. 1962) Words by Lesléa Newman (b. 1955)

Out and alone on the endless empty prairie

the moon bathes me the stars bless me

the sun warms me the wind soothes me

still still still I wonder

will I always be out here exposed and alone?

will I ever know why I was put (here) on this earth?

will somebody someday stumble upon me?

will anyone remember me after I'm gone?

Still, still, still... I wonder.

Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 # 618 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

Words: John Athlestan Laurie Riley. Music: *Lasstuns erfreuen* from *Auserlesens Catholisch Geistliche Kirchengeseng*. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God. **People** Glory to God forever and ever. *Amen*.

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People**: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the Day: **Almighty God, you have knit together** your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*.

A Collect for Stewardship

Good and gracious God, at baptism we accepted the call to follow Jesus. As we continue to live out that call to love, serve, pray and grow in Christ, we ask you to transform us through the power of your Spirit and nurture in us a stewardship way of life. May we be inspired to continue our work of faith, our labor of love, and our steadiness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, and may our lives be marked by prayer, service to our neighbor and generous sharing of what we have. Amen.

Revelation 21:1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 24

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it: the world and its inhabitants.

For the Lord has founded it upon the seas: and planted it firm upon the waters beneath.

Who may ascend the hill of the Lord: or who may stand in God's holy place?

Those who have clean hands and a pure heart:

who have not set their minds on falsehood, or sworn a deceitful oath.

They shall receive blessing from the Lord: and recompense from God their savior.

So it is with those who seek the Lord: with those who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads you gates, lift yourselves up, you everlasting doors:

that the king of glory may come in.

Who is the king of glory?: "It is the Lord strong and mighty, the Lord who is mighty in battle." Lift up your heads you gates, lift yourselves up, you everlasting doors:

that the king of glory may come in.

Who is the king of glory?: "It is the Lord, the Lord of hosts who is the king of glory."

Gospel Hymn: Hymnal 1982 # 715 When Jesus Wept (sung as a round)

Words: The New England Psalm Singer. Music: When Jesus Wept, William Billings. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



When Je-sus wept, the fall - ing tear in mer-cy flowed be-yond all bound; when Je-sus



groaned, a trem-bling fear siezed all the guilt-y world a-round.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 11:32-44

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and those who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So they said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Sermon The Rev. Connie Reinhardt



The Renewal of our Baptismal Covenant

The Celebrant addresses the people and says:

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, on this day we celebrate the Communion of Saints to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in God's holy universal Church.

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus

Christ?

People: I do.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? *People:* **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.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: 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.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? *People:* **I will, with God's help**.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? *People:* I will, with God's help.

Almighty God, you have given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins. Keep us in eternal life by your grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen*.

The Prayers of the People

O God, you have brought us this far by faith. We know that trusting in you and your holy word has never failed us. You have shown us many times over that you are a God of graciousness and generosity; and you call us to give with gratitude from what we have, knowing that everything comes from you. For all the abundance of our lives, with faith in you we pray: **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world, for the church, and for our community, offering our thanks and praise to you, and asking for your guidance and wisdom. With faith in you we pray: **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

You give us responsibility to govern and lead. We pray that all in authority may use their power justly for the good of all people and of the earth. With faith in you, we pray: **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the whole church and its leaders who model faith in you. We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Mariann our Bishop, Connie our rector, Anne-Marie, Sarah and Thelma as they offer pastoral support, and for the lay leadership and congregation of St. George's. With faith in you, we pray: **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are hungry, for those caught in violence and war, for those experiencing homelessness, and for those who suffer storms and natural disasters. We pray especially for the families of Gaywood Elementary School and the guests of the Warm Nights program. Inspire us to put our faith into action by serving those in need. With faith in you, we pray: **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, and those who are in any need or trouble. We pray for those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name now in our hearts. With faith in you, we pray: **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died and for those whom we love but see no longer, and ask for your presence with those who mourn. With faith in you, we pray: **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

We pray in thanksgiving as we celebrate the joys of our lives. Accept our gratitude for the abundance of your grace, as we pray especially for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and for other blessings of this life. With faith in you, we pray: **Holy One, hear our prayer.**

We acknowledge you, O God, as the source of all that we have and all that we are, with the sure knowledge that it is you who has brought us this far and with you we will be able to face any discouragement. Continue to nurture our faith and grant us the wisdom and courage to live lives of generosity, today and always. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements and Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offertory

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

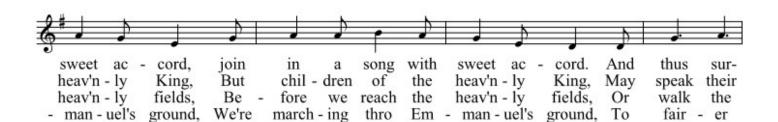
Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. You can use your phone to text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give. If your bank offers Zelle, you can use your banking app to send a donation via Zelle to donations@stgeo.comcastbiz.net. There are also baskets at the entrance and exit doors of the Sanctuary for donations of checks or cash.

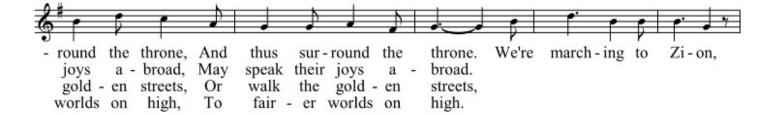
Offertory Hymn: LEVAS # 12 We're Marching to Zion

Words: Isaac Watts. Music Robert S. Lowry. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; Join in a song with Let those re - fuse to sing Who nev - er knew our God; But chil-dren of the The hill of Zi - on yields A thou-sand sa - cred sweets, Be - fore we reach the Then let our songs a-bound, And ev - 'ery tear be dry; We're march-ing through Em







Beau-ti-ful, beau-ti-ful Zi-on; We're march-ing up-ward to Zi-on, The beau-ti-ful cit-y of God.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant:The Lord be with you.People:And also with you.Celebrant:Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

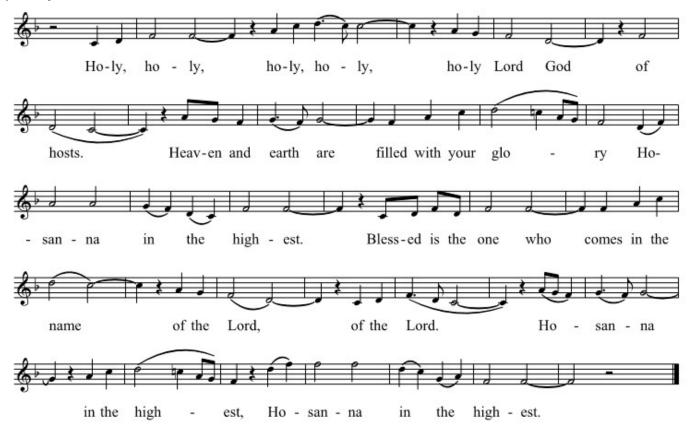
The Celebrant continues:

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, holy God, creator of heaven and earth, and author of all good gifts. You are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

In this new life, Jesus calls us to the work of faith, to labor in love of him, and to the steadiness of hope we find in his life, death, and resurrection. Therefore we praise you, lifting our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy Levas # 255

Music: Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948), A Mass for Soulful People © 1979 North American Liturgy Resources. Hymns reprinted under OneLicence.net #A-



The Celebrant continues:

We thank you, loving God, because when we turned away from you, you did not reject us but sent us Jesus, your Son. In his life, he revealed to us the way of compassion; before he was handed over to suffering and death he embodied for us self-giving love as he washed the feet of his disciples; in his laying down his life for his friends, he opened for us the way of new life. He gave himself for us on the cross, and continues to show us the way to live in love.

And so we remember that on the night that Jesus was betrayed, he gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, shared it with them and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way after supper he took the cup, blessed and shared it saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

It is the mystery of our faith, O God, that with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.

And now we ask you, O God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us Christ's body and blood. As you feed us with these gifts, we pray that you send your Holy Spirit upon us also, that we may more closely live and walk in the way of Jesus, our Savior.

Help us to love one another, to give generously to those in need, to welcome the stranger, and to give rest to the weary, as we look forward to that day when all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

With all your saints we give you glory O God, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now let us pray with confidence the words our Savior has taught us:

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.

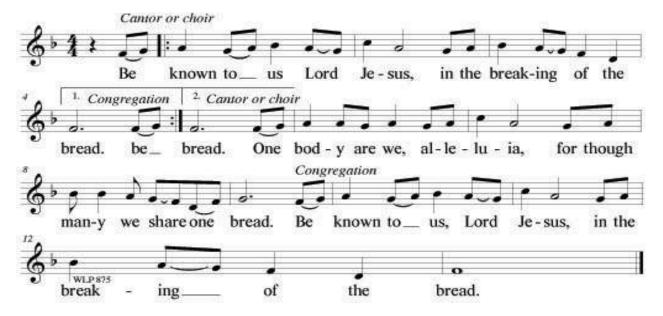
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence is kept, all sing the fraction anthem.

Fraction Anthem: Be Known to Us Wonder Love and Praise #875

Setting: Gary James. © 1992 Morningstar Music Publishers. Hymns reprinted under OneLicence.net #A-701323



Celebrant: Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

If you would like to receive the Eucharist, you may choose to receive both the bread and wine or only one of them. If you receive the wine, please drop your empty cup into the recycling bin at the door. Note that hand sanitizer is available as you exit. Please follow the arrows to go through the narthex (hallway) and back into the Sanctuary and on to your seat.

Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.

Voluntary: *The Innocence* from *Considering Matthew Shepard*Music by Craig Hella Johnson Words by Michael Dennis Browne (b. 1940) and Craig Hella Johnson

When I think of all the times the world was ours for dreaming, When I think of all the times the earth seemed like our home-Every heart alive with its own longing, Every future we could ever hope to hold.

All the times our laughter rang in summer, All the times the rivers sang our tune-Was there already sadness in the sunlight? Some stormy story waiting to be told?

Where O where has the innocence gone?
Where O where has it gone?
Rains rolling down wash away my memory;
Where O where has it gone?

When I think of all the joys, the wonders we remember All the treasures we believed we'd never ever lose. Too many days gone by without their meaning, Too many darkened hours without their peace.

Where O where has the innocence gone?
Where O where has it gone?
Vows we once swore, now it's just this letting go,
Where O where has it gone?

Communion Anthem: We Tell Each Other Stories / I Am Open from Considering Matthew Shepard by Craig Hella Johnson (b. 1962)

We Tell Each Other Stories We tell each other stories so that we will remember Try and find the meaning in the living of our days Always telling stories, wanting to remember Where and whom we came from Who we are Sometimes there's a story that's painful to remember One that breaks the heart of us all *Still we tell the story* We're listening and confessing What we have forgotten In the story of us all We tell each other stories so that we will remember *Trying to find the meaning* . . . I am open to hear this story about a boy, an ordinary boy Who never had expected his life would be this story, (could be any boy) I am open to hear a story Open,

Communion Hymn: Gather # 585 Let Us Be Bread

Words and Music: Thomas J. Porter. © 1990 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



listen.

Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, bro-ken and shared, life for the world.



Let us be wine, love free-ly poured. Let us be one in the Lord.



1. I am the bread of life, bro-ken for all Eat now and hun-ger no more.



2. You are my friends if you keep my com-mands, no long-er ser-vants but friends.



3 See how my peo-ple have no-thing to eat. Give them the bread that is you.



4 As God has loved me so I have loved you. Go and live on in my love.

Post-Communion Prayer

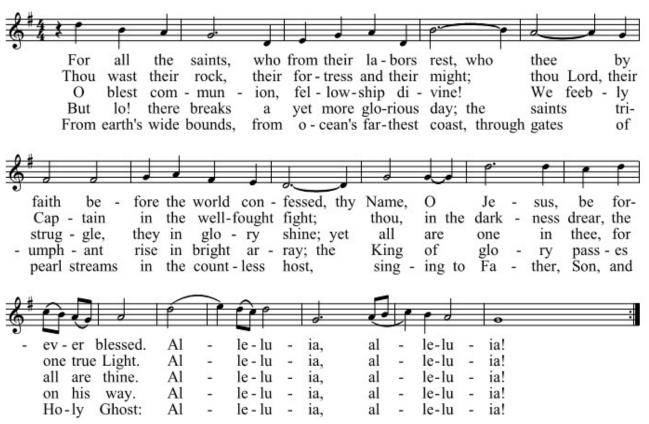
Celebrant Let us pray: Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for feeding us with this bread and wine. May this holy Communion give us strength and courage, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may be renewed for your service to others, embody your desire for justice, and live lives of generosity in the steadiness of hope through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant: Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us; so be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And may the God of all Grace, the God who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, bless you and keep you in peace, this day and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 # 287 For All the Saints verses 1,2,4,7,8

Words: William Walsham How. Music Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: For All the Saints by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), arr. Pepper Choplin (b. 1957)

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