

The Season After Pentecost St. George's Church & Glenn Dale, Maryland The Episcopal Diocese of Washington The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 19, 2020

Prelude: *Creator of the Stars of Night* with *Of the Father's Love Begotten* arr. Michael Larkin Dr. Joshua Fishbein, piano

Welcome and Introduction Opening Hymn: WLP #746

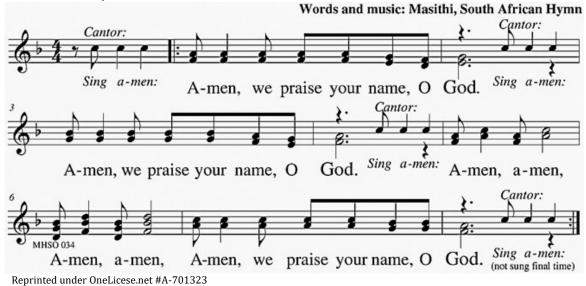
God the sculptor of the mountains	
$\phi = 60$ Words: John Thornbu Music: Sandria, Gerre Hancocl	
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1. God the sculp-tor of the moun-tains, God the mil-ler of the	sand,
2. God the nui-sance to the Pha - raoh, God the cleav-er of the	sea.
3. God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the calm, de-ter-mined	,
4. God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the plant-er of the	
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God the jewel-er of the heav - ens, God the pot - ter of the	land:
God the pil - lar of the dark - ness, God the bea - con of the	
God the ta - ble turn - ing pro - phet, God the res - ur - rect - ed	Truth:
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you are womb of all cre - a - tion, we are form - less; shape us	now.
you are gate of all de - liv'-rance, we are sight - less; lead us	now.
you are pres-ent ev-ery mo-ment, we are search - ing; meet us	now.
you are host at ev-ery ta - ble, we are hun - gry; feed us	now.
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Celebrant: We enter into your presence O Holy One, we who hunger for life:*People:* For it is you O God who nourishes us at the table of grace.

Celebrant:	Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People:	Glory to God for ever and ever.

All pray together: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria: MHSO Amen, We Praise Your Name



Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray: Lord of the growing seed, whose prophets came like weeds to an ordered garden, shaking all that deadens your love: give us faith in your kingdom's growth, unruly and exuberant, and let it be a shelter wide enough for all; through Christ our teacher. **Amen.**

O God who calls us to love kindness and do justice, in the midst of violence and injustice in our country we pray that you grant us grace to fearlessly contend against the evils of racism, and that you give us strength and courage to stand against oppression in our words and in our deeds, through Jesus Christ our strength and our guide. Amen.

Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 86: 11-17

Teach me your way O Lord, that I may walk in your truth: knit my heart to you that I may revere your name. For you are my help and my comfort O God. I will praise you O Lord my God with all my heart: and glorify your name forever. For you are my help and my comfort O God. For great is your steadfast love for me: you have delivered my life from the pit of death. For you are my help and my comfort O God. The arrogant rise up against me, O God: the ruthless seek my life, and pay no heed to you. But you are a God of compassion and mercy: slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. For you are my help and my comfort O God. Turn to me then and have mercy, give your strength to your servant: and save the child of your handmaid. For you are my help and my comfort O God. Give me a sign of your favor, that those who hate me may see it, and be put to shame: because you Lord have been my help and my comfort.

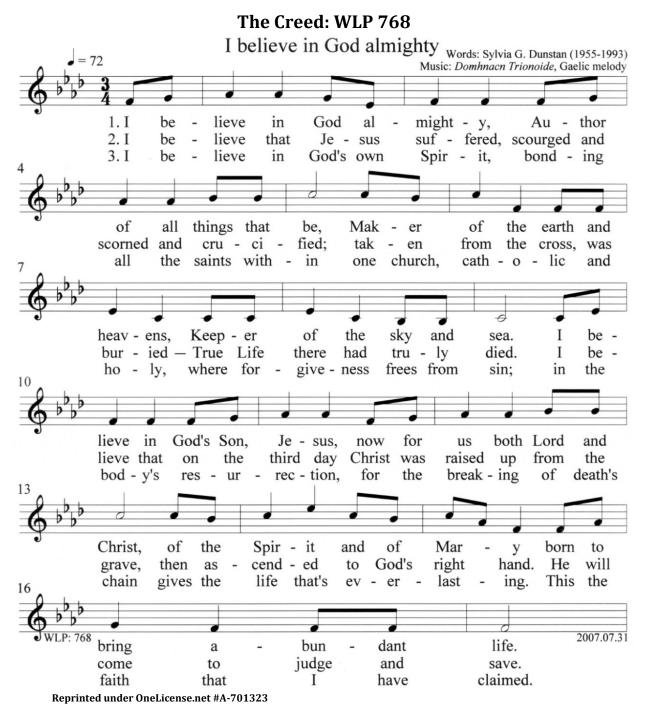
Matthew 13:24-30

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

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

The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt





The Prayers of the People

Holy and gracious God, in such a time as this there is grief in our hearts, anxiety on our minds, and suffering before our eyes, and so we pray for your love and your grace for us and for all people. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**.

Grant us your spirit of love and self-discipline O God, so that we may come together to control and eliminate the coronavirus. Make us vigilant, attentive, and proactive, and heal the self-centeredness and indifference that makes us worry only when the virus threatens us personally. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**.

Assist the church mercifully with your help O God, as we pray for Michael our presiding bishop, Mariann our bishop, Connie our rector, and the community of St. George's. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**.

Guide the leaders of the nations O God, that they may speak the truth, lead with compassion, and act with justice. Grant wisdom and humility to those who lead in our state, our country and in the world. May those who make decisions for others know their responsibility to care for those who are most vulnerable, especially those who are poor and those who are hungry. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**.

Pour out your grace O God on those who protest and those who work towards racial justice in our country, and inspire all Americans to live up to the values we hold dear. May we who believe in freedom never rest until it comes for all people. Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**.

Heal our world, O God; strengthen our hearts and our minds and in the midst of turmoil give us hope and peace. Protect us from despair and loneliness and show us the way of truly connecting and kindling community with others. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list, and those we name before you now. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**.

Hold in your gentle embrace O God all who have died, and comfort those who mourn. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**.

Fill our hearts gratitude for all of our blessings O God, and help us to live each day in a spirit of thanksgiving. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**.

Holy One you promise never to leave us comfortless. Help us trust in your goodness and to know ourselves surrounded by your grace, now and always, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Now let us confess our sins to God. *Silence is kept.*

- 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.
- *Celebrant:* The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins, the will for amendment of life, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you. **People: And also with you.**

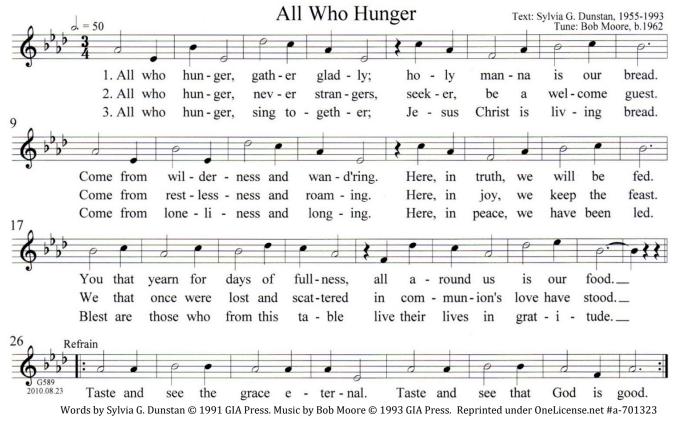
Announcements and Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries



Social Justice Bible Challenge Begins July 27th

Join us for weekly bible study exploring what the scriptures say about social justice over forty days of daily readings. *The Social Justice Bible Challenge* from Forward Movement includes a passage of scripture to read each day along with a short reflection and questions to consider. The study will start on Monday July 27th and we will meet via Zoom for six weeks, every Monday at 7 pm through the end of August. If you would like to participate, email Connie+ at <u>rector@stgeo.comcastbiz.net</u> or Terry Doyle at <u>terrencedoyle@msn.com</u>

Offertory Hymn: Gather #589



Prayers for Communion in Spirit

Celebrant: Jesus invites us into connection with him and with each other and shares himself with us in bread and wine, in fellowship and faith. He assures us that where two or three are gathered in his name, he is in the midst of them. As we move through this time of separation, we are nonetheless reminded that Jesus is truly present with us, not just at this table, but in our daily lives. Though we are in a time of fasting from the sharing of Holy Communion in a literal sense, we also know that we receive Christ through our desire to share his presence through the sacrament. In that spirit let us pray:

Jesus, I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Though we cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and strengthen me with your grace. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. May I never be separated from you. Amen.

All are invited to reflect on the sacrament and our connection to Jesus during the musical meditation.

Meditation: Solo Anthem – *Teach Me Thy Song, O Lord* by Craig Courtney Sung by Laurie Lemieux, soprano, Dr. Joshua Fishbein, piano.

Teach me Thy Song, O Lord That song which graced creation's dawn. And bid the firmament unfurl; That bathed the newborn world in uncreated light That song so bright. Teach me Thy Song, O Lord. Teach me Thy Song, O Lord That song which burst Thy Servant's heart To beat of blows upon the cross; *His pain and bitt'rest loss and death that should be mine* His song was Thine. Teach me Thy Song, O Lord. Teach me Thy song, O Lord, That song which swirls to wreathe Thy throne, And bears the prayers of all Thine own; To Thee and Thee alone By saints and angels raised Thy name to praise, Thy name to praise Teach me Thy song O Lord, Thy song, O Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now in the Spirit of Christ, we 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. 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord, who. We offer to you our humble thanks and praise for the blessings we have received this day through our worship of you; we pray that the week to come may be spent in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May God give you grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but Love. And may the blessing of God who created us, Christ Jesus who brings us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us be with you now and remain with you always. *Amen.*



Dismissal Hymn: LEVAS #208 We've Come This Far by Faith verse 1



Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God and our neighbor.

People: Thanks be to God!