

St. John's Episcopal Church
Proper 17B Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Morning Prayer Rite II † September 1, 2024

“Uncommon Prayer”

Worship Leader: Neil Hargrave
Music Director: Kitty Underwood

Opening Hymn: Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart H-557

BCP #75

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

BCP #79

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

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.

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.**

BCP #80

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

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

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.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness! Come let us adore Him!

BCP #80

Venite (sung) *Psalm 95:1-7*

H S-35

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!

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10

Insert

At the end of the psalm is said:

BCP #80

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.

BCP #84

The Lessons

A Reading from: Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Insert

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

BCP #86

The First Song of Isaiah *Isaiah 12:2-6*

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 he 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 his deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he 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 for
ever.

Amen.

A Reading from: James 1:17-27

Insert

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Book of Common Prayer

Pages 85-95

Third Lesson

A Reading from: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Insert

Reader: Here ends the reading.

Shared reflections & discussion:

Neil Hargrave

BCP #96

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People 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 catholic

Church, the

communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

BCP #97

The Prayers

The People stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

**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.**

Suffrages A

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.

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 of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and

the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

BCP #98

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.*

A Collect for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Please see bulletin cover for prayer lists.

We pray for those listed on our Anglican and diocesan cycles of Prayer...

We pray for all who are sick and especially those on our prayer lists...

We pray for those who are unable to be in church... We pray for those serving in the military...

We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *The people may add their own petitions.*

We thank you Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *The people may add their own thanksgivings.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *The people may add their own petitions.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

A Reading From "A Cloud of Witnesses"

BCP#360

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements, Birthdays, and Anniversaries

Prayers are found in the back of the Book of Common Prayer

BCP #376

The Offertory

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;
bring offering and come into his courts.

Psalm 96:8

Offertory: Take My Life and Let It Be H-707

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings
flow; Praise him, all creatures here
below; Praise him above, ye heavenly
host;**

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

V. All things come of thee, O Lord.

R. And of thine own have we given thee. (1 Chr. 29:14)

BCP #101

The General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble
thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you**

for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

BCP #102

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.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn: Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing H-344

Officiant

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace

in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Final Blessing: Congregation

Sung

God be with you till we meet again,
By His Counsels guide, uphold you
With His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you, till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again,
'Neath His Wings protecting hide you.
Daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Amen

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Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes,

leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.

Look, there he stands
behind our wall,

gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.

My beloved speaks and says to me:

"Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;

for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away."

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10

- 1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king;
*
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
- 2 You are the fairest of men; *
grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.
- 7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your
kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.
- 8 Therefore God, your God, has anointed you *
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- 9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes,
and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces
makes you glad.
- 10 Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the
court; *
on your right hand is the queen,
adorned with the gold of Ophir.

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also

many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”