

July 5, 2020

Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 9
Holy Eucharist Rite II

10 a.m.

Prelude: Benedictus

A. Rowley

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Collect for Independence Day

BCP, p.242

Lord God, Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn; Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Hymn #717 My Country 'tis of thee

America

**My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride,
from every mountainside let freedom ring.**

**My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills;
my heart with rapture thrills like that above.**

**Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song;
let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake,
let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.**

**Our fathers' God to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing;
long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
protect us by the might, great God, our King.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Collect of the Day *Prayed together:*

**O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments
by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your
Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole
heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn #657: Love divine, all loves excelling

Hyfrydol

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.**

The Word of God

First Reading:

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

THE MAN SAID to Rebekah and her household, 'I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, "You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son."

'I came today to the spring, and said, "O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, 'Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,' and who will say to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also' —let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son."

'Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water-jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, "Please let me drink." She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, "Drink, and I will also water your camels." So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, "Whose daughter are you?" She said, "The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him." So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshipped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.' And they called Rebekah, and said to her, 'Will you go with this man?' She said, 'I will.' So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

'May you, our sister, become
thousands of myriads;
may your offspring gain possession
of the gates of their foes.'

Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, 'Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?' The servant said, 'It is my master.' So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

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

Canticle: The Song of My Beloved (Song of Solomon 2:8-13)

Hear the voice of my beloved!*

Over the mountains he comes leaping,
bounding over the hills*
like a young stag or a gazelle.
See where he stands behind our walls,*
gazing in at the windows,
peeking through the lattice.
My beloved calls to me:*

Rise up, my love, my beauty, come away;
for now the winter is past,*
the rains are over and gone.
Flowers appear on the earth*
and the time of singing has come;
the voice of the turtle-dove*
is heard throughout our land.
The fig trees bend with scented fruit;*
and all the squash-vines blossom,
sending forth their sweet perfume.*
Rise up, my love, my beauty, come away.

Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

Sequence Hymn #693: Just as I am, without one plea vss. 1, 2, 4-6

Woodworth

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lord of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt;
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am: thou wilt receive;
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, of thy great love
The breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
Here for a season, then above:
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

The Gospel:

The Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew

11:16-19, 25-30

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another, "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn." For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.'

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

The Gospeller concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. *People respond:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Harrison West†

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world.

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Remembering your call to be good stewards of all that you place in our care;

we pray For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For the vulnerable and defenseless; for the homeless and the lonely. For those who are unemployed and underemployed, and those living with addiction, domestic violence, and
For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble:

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

In our cycles of prayer, we pray for the clergy and people of Christ Church in Oxford, St. John's in Pine Meadow, St. Paul's in Plainfield and the United Church of Pakistan as we pray for the peace and unity of the Church of God.

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishops Ian and Laura, our Rector Harrison and all bishops and other ministers.

For all who serve God in His Church.

For all victims of violence, including victims of this week's mass shootings in Illinois, Minnesota, Florida, California, North Carolina and New York.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including all those commended to the prayers of the parish; Shelley T, Kate M, Carol L-U, Michael N, Richard L, John, Brian A, Margaret S, Tim H, Emily L, Richard D, and for those on your hearts.

Silence.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord for all the blessings of this life.

Silence.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially Boynton Schmitt and Benjamin Rossiato whom we hold in blessed memory, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence.

Leader and People

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Celebrant will offer a concluding absolution.

Silence.

Celebrant adds this concluding collect.

*A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God**

God of all power and love,
we give thanks for your unfailing presence
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn,
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.
Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Peace

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

Announcements and Greetings

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Offertory solo: To Make Us Proud

L. Bernstein

Mark Rehnstrom, Baritone

The Doxology: Hymn 380 (vs. 3)

Presentation of Gifts

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 1

from *Enriching Our Worship I*, pp 57-59, adapted and used with permission

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God,
source of life and fountain of mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing

And fed us with your constant love;

You have redeemed us in Jesus Christ

And knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit you replenish us

And call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices
with all creation as we sing (say):

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.
You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.
But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.
Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his friends, and said:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons,
that with [_____ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN*

The Celebrant then invites the People to join in the Lord's Prayer.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

BCP, p. 364

Invitation to Spiritual Communion**

God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord, Amen

Communion solo: The Lord's Prayer

H. Malotte

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP, p. 365

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
You have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage**

to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing

Recessional Hymn # 213: Come away to the skies vss. 1-4

Middlebury

**Come away to the skies, my beloved, arise
and rejoice in the day thou wast born;
on this festival day come exulting away,
and with singing to Zion return.**

**Now with singing and praise, let us spend all the days,
by our heavenly Father bestowed,
while his grace we receive from his bounty,
and live to the honor and glory of God.**

**For the glory we were first created to share,
both the nature and kingdom divine!
Now created again that our lives may remain,
through-out time and eternity thine.**

**We with thanks do approve the design of that love
which hath joined us to Jesus' Name;
so united in heart, let us nevermore part,
till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.**

Dismissal: Let us bless the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Voluntary V

W. Boyce

The flowers today are in loving memory of
Kenny Link by his wife and family.

*From Pentecost Sunday through the first Sunday in September, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his Lutheran counterpart Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton welcome congregations and individuals to regularly pray "A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God." This prayer – crafted by a team of Lutheran and Episcopal prayer leaders in light of the COVID pandemic – is meant to unite us in common prayer and revive us for common mission, wherever and however we may be gathered.

**Credit: The Rev. Bennet Broeckman, used with permission

Music note: "I bring refreshment...I bring ease and calm" is the epitaph given by the early 20th century English composer Alec Rowley for **this morning's prelude**. The lines are taken from Cristina Rossetti's poem "All Thy Works Praise Thee, O Lord: A Processional Of Creation," in which each part of creation sings a short hymn of praise, beginning with the seraphs, cherubs, angels, heavens, sun and moon, and working downward. The above words, as it turns out, are sung by the 'Medicinal Herbs'! Well, why not? It is a truly lovely piece, and the work that Rowley is most remembered for. It was written in 1931 for inclusion in a volume of new organ pieces by the British music publisher Novello, and features not one but two typically English 'build-ups,' wherein the organ sound swells to a grand climax, and then subsides. Played on a beautiful cathedral organ in an acoustically expansive space, the crescendos would be much more dramatic; I hope my much more modest registrations are effective in our beautiful but relatively small space.

"To make us proud" is from Leonard Bernstein's 1976 musical "1600 Pennsylvania Avenue," one of Bernstein's memorable flops. While in previews, some of Bernstein's music was condensed or eliminated without his consent, and the original theatrical concept (of a 'play-within-a-play' with performers breaking the 'fourth wall' to step out of character and comment on events) was largely abandoned, and when it arrived Broadway it closed after only seven performances. Reviewers praised the music, but the book and several of the performances were harshly criticized. **Our Offertory solo this morning** was originally the closing number when the show opened for previews in Philadelphia, but had been eliminated entirely by the time the show opened in New York. The text feels very relevant to our current moment: it opens "To burn with pride, and not with shame, each time I hear my country's name."

Although Albert Hay Malotte wrote a number of songs (mostly secular), he spent most of his career as a composer in Hollywood, where he won recognition for the music for the successful Disney animated short films 'Ferdinand the Bull' and 'The Ugly Duckling.' **This morning's Communion solo**, Malotte's perennially popular setting of 'The Lord's Prayer,' was written in 1935 and recorded by the popular opera and radio star John Charles Thomas; it became a hit and later worked its way into churches around the country — and it shows no signs of leaving! In style it is rather more dramatic and 'operatic' than liturgical (although in fairness the same can be said for Verdi's Requiem!); the beginning resembles a recitative, which gives way to a lovely bel canto melody ("Give us this day..."). The final pages would not be entirely out of place in certain French operas I can think of!

We seem to be on a bit of a roll with trumpet tunes, and so as **our postlude this morning** I thought I would play another voluntary by William Boyce, featuring yet another bright, cheerful trumpet tune. Boyce, as you may remember, was one of a triumvirate of composers that dominated the musical landscape of the London of their time, the other two being the blind organist and composer John Stanley and one Georg(e) Frederick Handel. The three were good friends, and often visited each other at their respective church jobs to hear each other's latest music—but the eminent English music critic Charles Burney, a contemporary, credited Boyce with escaping Handel's influence: "Dr. Boyce, with all due reverence for the abilities of Handel, was one of the few church composers who neither pillaged nor servilely imitated him..."

Hmm....not so sure!