St. Michael's Episcopal Church The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost — October 16, 2022

READINGS: GENESIS 32:22-31; PSALM 121; 2 TIMOTHY 3:14-4:5; LUKE 18:1-8

Organ: Trust in the Lord - Jeremy Cross

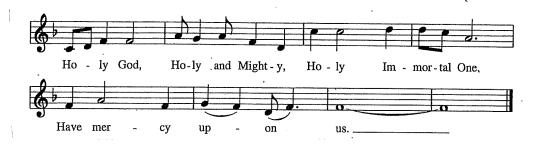
Hymn 366, v. 1-4: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

THE WORD OF GOD

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.

The Trisagion. The cantor sings once through, then all sing twice.



The Lord be with you. And also, with you. Let us pray.

O Holy Spirit, look graciously upon us, and mold our minds so that our thoughts become prayers; our prayers grow into love, and love leads us to a life of faith in you; we ask this through you and our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

This story from Hebrew scripture tells how Jacob, trying to sleep, wrestles all night with an angelic figure. Jacob's struggle with this messenger from God shows his guilty conscience for having stolen his brother's birthright.

When night fell, Jacob took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121 is a song of trust in the Lord, the unsleeping guardian of Israel. The cantor sings the refrain, and then all sing as indicated.



I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come. R. He will not let your foot be moved and he who watches over you will not fall asleep. Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep; R. The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand, so that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. R. The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore. R.

A Reading from the Second Letter to Timothy

In this lesson, Paul exhorts Timothy to continue calmly and diligently with his ministry, teaching from the scriptures and preaching the word of God.

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Through north and south and east and west, may God's immortal name be blessed: Alleluia, alleluia! Till ev'rywhere beneath the sun, God's reign begins; God's will is done: Alleluia! (5x)

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

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon -- The Rev. Michael L. Bradley, rector

The Iona Affirmation of Faith What do we believe?

We believe in God: Whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was made human in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by evil that can entrap us.

Therefore, though we sometimes are fearful and doubting, we trust in God, and in the Name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves:

To serve others, to seek justice, and to live in peace;

To care for the earth, and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness;

To live in the freedom of forgiveness, in the power of Love's spirit, and in the company of the faithful, to be the Church, for the glory of God. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Merciful God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; Let us all be one.

Grant that all members of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; Let your Name be glorified by all people. We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; Let them be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments. We pray for all who govern and lead the nations of the world; Let there be justice and peace on the earth. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; Let our works find favor in your sight. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; Let them be delivered from their distress. Give to the departed eternal rest; Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; **Let us also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The people add their own petitions and thanksgivings.

We pray also for the forgiveness of our sins. Silence is kept, then all pray together:

Have mercy upon us; Most merciful God; 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.

Holy One, we lift our eyes to you in hope and awe. Forgive us all our sins. Hear all our prayers. Grant that, with the persistence of the faithful widow, we may lift our voice again and again and again to seek your justice for all people. We pray to you this day. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Solo: Trust in the Lord - John Purifoy

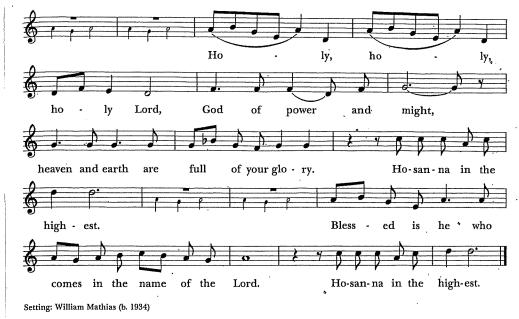
Trust in the Lord with all of your heart. Lean not upon your own understanding. Acknowledge God in all of your ways, and He will make straight your path. Trust in the Lord with all of your heart. Trust in the Lord. Whatever is true, whatever is just, whatever is lovely, of honor and worth; Whatever is gracious, whatever is pure, and if there be anything worthy of praise: Think then upon them, yes, all of these things, and God grant you peace now for all of your days. Trust in the Lord, rejoice in the Lord. Always, again, I say to rejoice! Walk not in fear for God is at hand, in thanks let your prayers be known. Peace keep your heart, Christ keep your mind. Trust in the Lord. Trust in the Lord.

Hymn 324, Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is our privilege and our joy to give you thanks and praise . . . And so we join with all the company of heaven in singing your hymn of unending praise:



The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia. The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn 490, I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

After all have received Communion, please stand and pray together:

God of peace; You have nourished us in this holy sacrament with the body and blood of Christ. May we who have taken holy things keep faith in our hearts and lives, in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

May God bless us and keep us; May God smile on us with favor and grace; May God look upon us, face to face, and give us fullness of life. Amen.

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Hymn 411, O Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Organ: A New Beginning - James Reed

Our Mission: We share the light of Christ by loving and serving our neighbors in the world.

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