

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

WELCOME! THE SERVICE ORDER OUTLINES OUR WORSHIP. HYMNS CAN BE FOUND IN THE BLUE HYMNAL.

READINGS: PROVERBS 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; PSALM 125; JAMES 2:1-10, 14-17; MARK 7:24-37

Our Readers: Jan Rhein and AJ Hawks

Organ: Adoro Te Devote – Lance A. Massey

Hymn 567, Thine Arm, O Lord, In Days of Old, Was Strong To Heal and Save

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.**

All sing (insert): Glory To You, Lord God Of Our Fathers, Glory To You

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

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

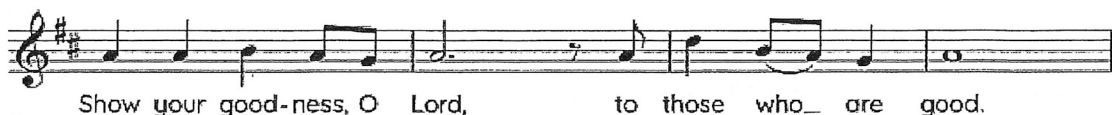
A Reading from the Book of Proverbs

Our opening lesson offers instruction in the characteristics of a well-ordered and godly life drawn from wisdom literature. Both the rich and the poor have been created by God, and this awareness should lead those with power and privilege to act with justice.

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all. Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

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

Psalms 125 is an expression of confidence in the Lord, the defender of the righteous, and a plea for Israel. The cantor sings the antiphon; all repeat; and sing as indicated by **R**.



Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

The hills stand about Jerusalem; so does the LORD stand round about his people, from this time forth for evermore. **R**

The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just, so that the just shall not put their hands to evil. Show your goodness, O LORD, to those who are good and to those who are true of heart. **R**

As for those who turn aside to crooked ways, the LORD will lead them away with the evildoers; but peace be upon Israel. **R**

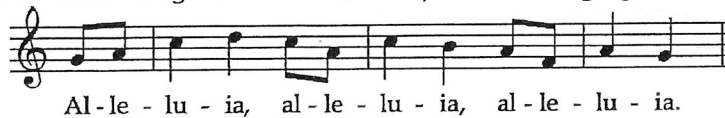
A Reading from the Letter of James

In this New Testament lesson, practical matters of ethical behavior among Christians are inextricable from the expression of genuine faith. God has chosen to honor the poor. Christians are reminded to live under the perfect law of liberty and to act with mercy.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

All stand. The cantor sings the alleluia; all repeat, and sing again after the verse.



V. Open my eyes, O Lord, that I may see the wonder of your law. R. Alleluia

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Mark. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. -Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.

They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

Sermon -- The Rev. Michael Bradley, Rector

Our Affirmation of Faith - What do we believe?

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.

As we stand in God's presence, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the whole People of God, that each one may be a true and faithful servant of Christ, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For our country, that the Lord will help us to contribute to its true growth and well-being, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For the whole human family, that we may live together in justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For our families and friends, that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do,
let us pray to the Lord. R.

For those drawing near to the light of faith, that the Lord will bring them to true knowledge of himself,
let us pray to the Lord. R.

For those who are lonely, sick, hungry, persecuted, or ignored, that the Lord will comfort and sustain them,
let us pray to the Lord. R.

Prayers are offered on behalf of the world and our nation; the Church and its members; our family, friends and loved ones; for those in need, trouble, want or sickness; and for the departed.

In our Diocese: Trinity Church, Monroe; St. Philip's, Rochester In the Anglican Communion: The Church in Myanmar
For those on our prayer list: Ed Haug, Jim Veit, Lynn Kerber, Steuart Graham, Anne Grayr, Karen Schulze, Donald Burton, Bill Steiner, Christopher.

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

Have mercy upon us; 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.

Creator God, you call us to love and serve you by caring for our sisters and brothers. Open our hearts in compassion, that you would receive our petitions of intercession and our prayers of penitence. Hear us as we call to you this day. All this we pray in Christ's name. Amen.

May God's peace be with you always. And also with you. *The people may greet each other briefly.*

HOLY COMMUNION

During the anthem, your offering of money is received for the work of St. Michael's Church. At the time of Communion, all are invited to come forward to receive. The bread is placed in the palm of your right hand. You may dip the bread in the wine or sip the wine from the chalice. Instead of Communion and to receive a blessing, kindly keep your hands folded.

Anthem: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling – Text: Rowland H. Prichard; Music: Lance A. Massey

All stand at the presentation of the eucharistic gifts and the collection.

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.**

Maker and Redeemer of all we lift our hearts to thank you . . and all the company of heaven in the hymn of your eternal glory:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

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



C: Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Passover is sac - ri - ficed for us:
P: There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Everliving God; We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are the living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. Now send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, descend upon you and remain with you, now and always. Amen.
Let us go forth in the Name of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 493, O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing Thy Dear Redeemer's Praise

Organ: O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing! – Anna Laura Page

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

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