

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – JUNE 16, 2024

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

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY NANCY BIERLEY & FAMILY IN LOVING MEMORY OF BOB BIERLEY.

READINGS: EZEKIEL 17:22-24; PSALM 92:1-4, 11-14; 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10, 14-17; MARK 4:26-34

Our Readers: Sally Graham, Ray Rhein

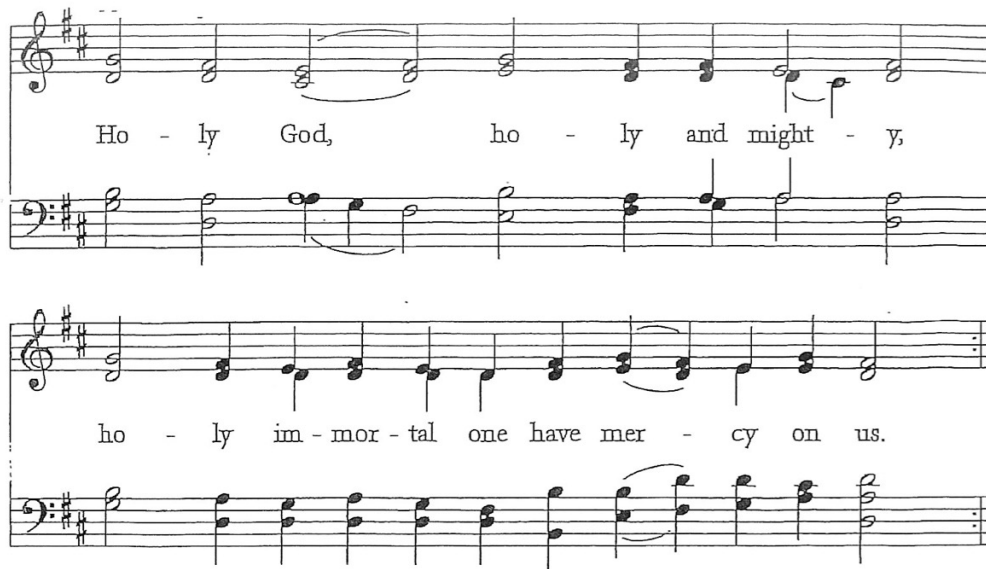
Hymn 538, God Of Mercy, God Of Grace, Show The Brightness Of Thy Face.

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 is sung once by the cantor, then twice by all.



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

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

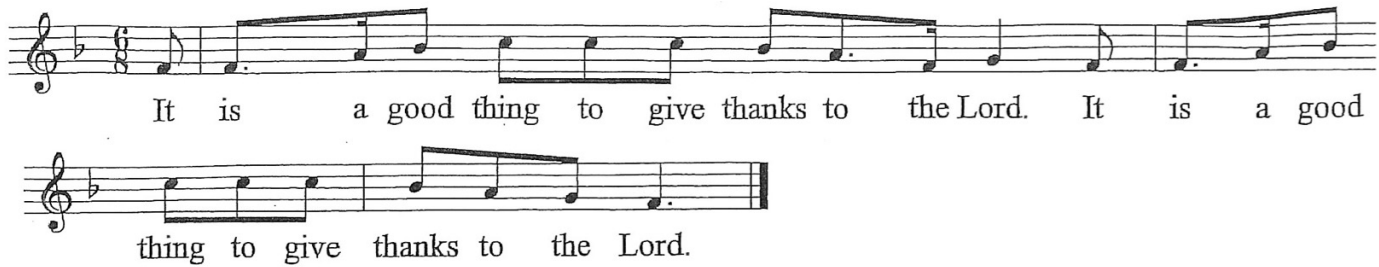
A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

In our Hebrew Bible lesson, we hear how from a mere sprig God will bring forth a noble cedar on the mountain height of Israel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

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

Psalm 92 is a psalm of thanksgiving and praise. Those who choose righteousness are like a great tree planted in the house of the Lord. The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated by R.



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It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High; to tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning and of your faithfulness in the night season; on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp. For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands. R. Lord, how great are your works! Your thoughts are very deep. R. The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God; They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent; that they may show how upright the Lord is, my Rock, in whom there is no fault. R.

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians

In this lesson, Paul speaks of his confident hope and his longing to experience the transformed body of heavenly existence.

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord-- for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new.

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

all stand

Cantor:: Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia! **All: Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, 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 said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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.

In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the whole world, for the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For our bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For our city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them in faith, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For good weather, and for abundant harvests for all to share, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For those who travel by land, water, or air, for the sick and the suffering, for prisoners and captives, and for their safety, health, and salvation, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For all who have died, especially Bob Bierley, in whose memory the flowers are given. 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: All Saints, Detroit -- In the Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church of the Congo

For places and countries in conflict or war; and for those people who suffer and die. Gaza, the West Bank, Israel, Russia, Ukraine, Myanmar, Sudan, Syria, Haiti.

At this season of graduations, we give thanks for the gift of education and for those graduating;

Mia Yang Torrence and Nathaniel David Torrence.

For those on our prayer list: Christopher, Karen Schulze, Donald Burton, Bill Steiner, Ed Haug, Nina, Vicki, Jim Veit, Lynn Kerber.

We pray 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.

God of judgment and mercy, when we hide ourselves in shame, you seek us out in love. Grant us the fullness of your forgiveness, that as one people, united by your grace, we may stand with Christ against the powers of evil. Hear all our prayers which we offer to you this day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May God's peace be with you always. And also with you.

The people may greet each other briefly.

HOLY COMMUNION

All are invited to receive Communion. 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.

Hymn 302, Father, We Thank Thee Who Hast Planted Thy Holy Name Within Our Hearts

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. . . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

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.
Feed on him in your hearts by faith, and be filled with thanks.

Gracious God; Holy and blessed, as you give us the body and blood of your Son, guide us with your Holy Spirit, that we may honor you not only with our lips but also in our lives. Strength our hearts for your work, that we may share the light of Christ with all those we encounter. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you, this day and always.

Amen.

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hymn 599, Sung in Observance of Juneteenth: Lift Every Voice And Sing!

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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