

Holy Trinity Church
446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550
A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost
September 13, 2020
9:30 a.m. Choral Service

The Rev. Richard Signore, Celebrant & Preacher
Anne Bouvier-Monroe, Organist

VIGIL LIGHT

The vigil light on the altar today is given to the Glory of God and for healing and comfort for Neil, Lacey, Betty, Ray, and Sue, given by Judy Reich.

Prelude: “*Arioso*” J.S. Bach

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional hymn #692 *Words: Horatius Bonar; Music Thomas Tallis ed. John Wilson*

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest;
and in your weariness lay down your head upon my breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give the living water;
thirsty one, stoop down and drink, and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.**

Acclamation

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

People **And Blessed be God’s Kingdom now and forever. AMEN**

Collect for Purity

Gloria: WLP 900 Glory to God *Setting: John Rutter*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heav’nly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect *(said by all)*

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading

Reader A reading from the book of Exodus

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Exodus 14:19-31

Reader The Word of the Lord **People Thanks be to God**

Silence

Psalm 114 *Said by all in unison* BCP p. 756

Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *

O Jordan, that you turned back?

You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Verse

Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia (1st time CANTOR)

Al - le - lu - ia

Holy Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not

pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord **People Praise to you Lord Christ**

Sermon *Fr. Richard Signore*

Prayers of the People IV, BCP, p. 388 RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.

Prayer for the Parish - O everlasting source of love, in whom our faith resides, guide us surely ever forward on our lifelong journey. Not so fast that we miss the beauty that surrounds us on the way, nor miss your grace so freely given that teaches us how to grow. But with a steady presence felt and a sense of gratitude may we find our place amidst the jungle of life within the kingdom of heaven on earth. Amen

Confession & Absolution

BCP, p. 360

**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.**

The Peace

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Hymn #WLP 791 vs. 1-4 Peace Before Us *David Haas*

**Peace before us, peace behind us, peace under our feet.
Peace within us, peace over us, let all around us be peace.
Love before us, love behind us, love under our feet.
Love within us, love over us, let all around us be love.
Light before us, light behind us, light under our feet.
Light within us, light over us, let all around us be light.
Christ before us, Christ behind us, Christ under our feet.
Christ within us, Christ over us, let all around us be Christ.**

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A Prayer Book, p. 361

Sanctus WLP #857 Holy, holy, holy Lord

Music: Betty Carr Pulkingham

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

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Book, p. 364

Fraction Anthem: S-164

Setting: Franz Peter Schubert; Arr: Richard Proulx)

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Communion

Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

The Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

Recessional Hymn #594 *Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick; Music: John Hughes*

**God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient Church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days.**

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

Postlude: *"Lasst Uns Efreuen"*