

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

*We are called to gather around the sacred story and table of Christ  
where all are invited to be fed and everyone's story matters.*

*"All Guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ."  
The Rule of St. Benedict*



**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST - PROPER 19  
LITURGY OF THE WORD  
September 13, 2020 - 8:00 AM**

St. Paul's Sunday Morning Zoom Services  
*The Reverend Barbara A.T. Wilson, Presiding*

Liturgy of the Word and Prayer Service, Readers: 8:00 AM

Sunday, September 13th, 2020

First Lesson	<u>1. Rebecca Smith</u>	
Psalm	<u>1. Pat McMahon</u>	<u>2. Vince McMahon</u>
Second Lesson	<u>1. Jan Bach</u>	
Nicene Creed	<u>1. Steve DeGolier</u>	
Prayers of the People	<u>1. Vince McMahon</u>	<u>2. Pat McMahon</u>

Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Readers: 10:30 AM

Sunday, September 13th, 2020

First Lesson	<u>1. Peg Newby</u>	
Psalm	<u>1. Dick Downen</u>	<u>2. Peg Anderson</u>
Second Lesson	<u>1. Freyja Rasmussen-Johns</u>	
Nicene Creed	<u>1. Rick Johns</u>	
Prayers of the People	<u>1. Peg Anderson</u>	<u>Dick Downen</u>



## The First Lesson

### A Reading (Lesson) From the Book of Genesis (50:15-21)

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Lector      Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People      **Thanks be to God**

*(Psalm to be read responsively breaking at the asterisk. Please mute your microphone.)*

## **Psalm 103: 1-13**

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
**and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.**

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
**and forget not all his benefits.**

3 He forgives all your sins \*  
**and heals all your infirmities;**

4 He redeems your life from the grave \*  
**and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**

5 He satisfies you with good things, \*  
**and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.**

6 The Lord executes righteousness \*  
**and judgment for all who are oppressed.**

7 He made his ways known to Moses \*  
**and his works to the children of Israel.**

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
**slow to anger and of great kindness.**

9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
**nor will he keep his anger for ever.**

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
**nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
**so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.**

12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
**so far has he removed our sins from us.**

13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
**so does the Lord care for those who fear him.**

## The Second Lesson

### A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (Romans 14:1-12)

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Lector      Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People      **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Priest            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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.”

Priest            The Gospel of the Lord.

People            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Reverend Barbara A.T. Wilson

*The people say together—(Please mute your microphone)*

## The Nicene Creed

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.

## The Prayers of the People

Reader 1 Brothers and sisters, Jesus was crucified in faithfulness to the cause of love and justice that all might be reconciled in peace. Let us pray that through the Cross of Christ his example may be realized in our world and our lives.

*Silence*

Reader 2 As Jesus was lifted high upon the cross of self-sacrifice that he might draw the whole world to himself, may we take up our cross and follow him in pursuit of the work of reconciliation in the world.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for the poor, hungry, and neglected, that their cries for daily bread and our care and concern may inspire works of mercy among us to whom much has been given. We pray also for The following bodies of the Episcopal Church: The General Convention; The House of Bishops; The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies; The Executive Council.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Jesus calls us to offer food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted. May God's Spirit so move our hearts; that, following in the steps of Jesus, we may give of ourselves in the service of others until poverty and hunger cease in all the world.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to the divisions and inequalities that scar creation, particularly the barriers to freedom faced by God's children throughout the world because of gender, sexual orientation, race, class, or creed; that all may have equality in pursuit of the blessings of creation.

*Silence*

Reader 2 O God, in whom there is neither male nor female, Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free: unite the wills of all peoples that the walls which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; so that all may live together in justice and peace.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to pandemic disease, particularly the scourge of COVID-19; that the plague of death may no longer fuel poverty, destabilize nations, and inhibit reconciliation and restoration throughout the world.

*Silence*

Reader 2 O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of the suffering: Grant your saving health to all who are afflicted by disease or other harm. Bless the labors of all who minister to the sick and unite the wills of all peoples to seek an end to the dis-eases of our age; that our brokenness may be turned to health and sorrow to joy. We pray especially for Gail, Puzz, Toni, Dorothy, Margaret, David, Ed, Colleen, Lisa, Neil, Edward Stephen, Jubilee, Tasha, Malachi, Damien, Rosemarie, Bryce, Jim, Connie, Donald, and Sarah.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for an end to the desecration of God's creation that we might find balance and the ability to share this good earth and its waters with all of God's creatures.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Almighty God, you created the world and gave it into our care: Inspire us with wisdom to share the riches of creation that all may be empowered to seek freedom from poverty, famine, and oppression.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 Let us pray for the departed, especially our sisters and brothers who have died as a result of poverty, hunger, disease, violence, or hardness of the human heart.

*Silence*

Reader 2 Almighty God, through the resurrection of Jesus, you revealed that death is never the last word. We commend to your mercy all who have died as a result of the brokenness of our world; and we pray that all may share in the joy of your heavenly reign.

*God, in your mercy,*

**People Hear our prayer.**

Reader 1 All are invited to offer petitions, intercessions, and thanksgivings, ending with, "God, in your mercy," to which the community will respond, "Hear our prayer."

### **The Concluding Collect**

Reader 2 Eternal God, in your kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered together and reconciled under the banner of your love and justice.

**People Amen.**

## Confession

Priest        Let us confess our sins to God.

### In unison

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. **Amen.**

Priest

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Peace

Priest

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Priest        The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People        **And also with you.**

*(Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.)*

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. **Amen.**

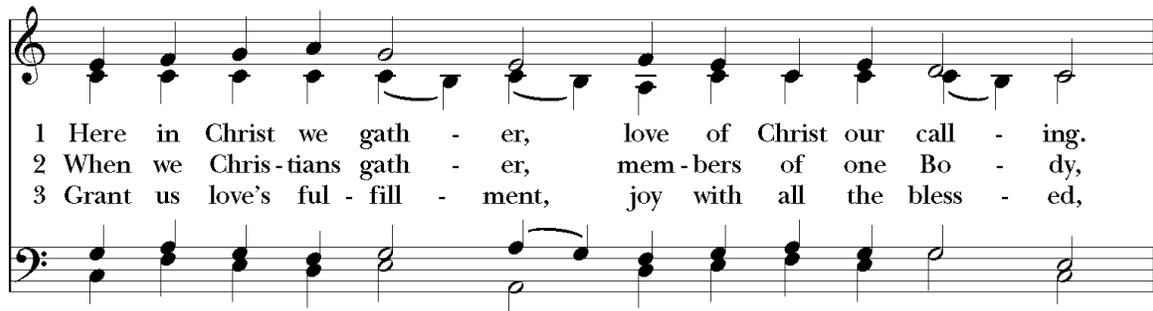
With your microphones muted, please sing along with the hymn.

## Hymn # 577

*Refrain*



God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.



1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.  
2 When we Chris - tians gath - er, mem - bers of one Bo - dy,  
3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,

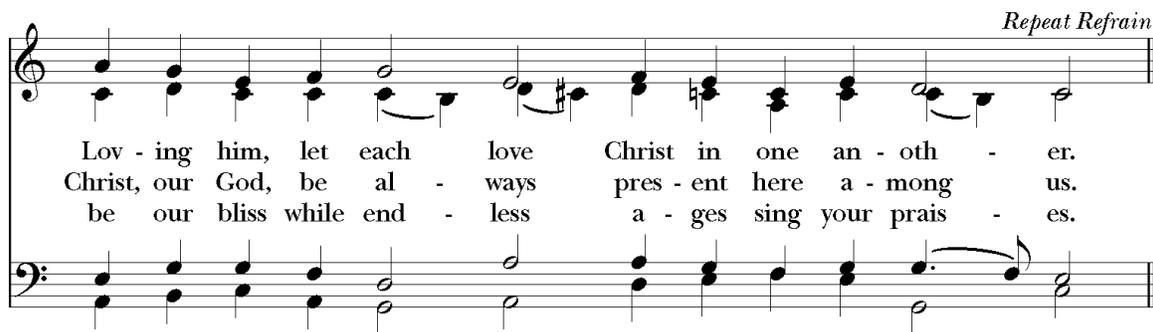


Christ, our love, is with us, glad - ness be his greet - ing.  
let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.  
when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.



Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.  
Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.  
Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,

*Repeat Refrain*



Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.  
Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.  
be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

*(Please unmute your microphone for the Lord's Prayer said together.)*

Priest

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Blessing

May God bless you with discontent with easy answers, half-truths, superficial relationships, so that you will live from deep within your heart.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, abuse, and exploitation of people, so that you will work for justice, equality, and peace.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and to change their pain to joy.

**Amen.**

May God bless you with the foolishness to think you can make a difference in this world, so that you will do the things which others tell you cannot be done.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, and Companion on the Way be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Announcements for the Good of the Order

### Birthday

God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Wedding Anniversary

Gracious Creator: You blessed the marriage of two people with your love years ago. Amid the joys and struggles of their life you have preserved and strengthened the covenant between them; bless and renew that covenant now, increase your love in them, and strengthen their bond of peace, so that surrounded by their children, family and friends, they may always rejoice in the gift of their love for one another and for your enduring love that blesses their days together. This we ask through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Travel

O God, whose beauty and intention fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Dismissal

Priest Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude: *Hymn to Joy.* Ludwig van Beethoven

*Kathleen Johnson, Organist*

*Join us for Coffee Chat on Zoom after the service*

***Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church***  
DeKalb, Illinois, Diocese of Chicago  
Member of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion

***St. Paul's Episcopal Church***  
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***The Reverend Barbara A. T. Wilson, Rector;***

Email: [revbarbara@stpaulsdekalb.org](mailto:revbarbara@stpaulsdekalb.org)  
Lynne Jacobson, MDiv, Pastoral Assistant  
Susan King – Administrative Assistant  
Lorraine Langer, Director of Music,  
Hannah Buckle, Assistant Director of Music  
Kathleen Johnson, Organist  
Rick Johns, Treasurer  
Jocelyn Prall - Sacristan

***Our Wardens and Vestry***

Maureen Gerrity, Senior Warden, Gretchen Schlabach, Junior Warden  
Rebecca Smith, Clerk, Terry Dickow, Donna de Oliveira,  
Bill Cummings, Jacob Maas

## CITATIONS

**Service** - Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer for on-line use by the Congregation of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, DeKalb, Illinois

<https://www.bcponline.org/>

<http://www.lectionarypage.net/>

<https://episcopalchicago.org/>

<http://www.stpaulsdekalb.org/>

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**Prayers of the People.** ~ Adapted from A Bidding Prayer for An End to Global Poverty and Instability, based on the UN Millennium Development Goals; provided by The Episcopal Church + Office of Government Relations.

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**Household Prayers** - Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Edited by Kimberly Bracken Long © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville, Kentucky

**Cover** - *Hands Across the Divide*, Maurice Harron; sculpture, Derry, Northern Ireland

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu>

## Household Prayer: Morning

*Lord Jesus Christ,  
like the sun that fills the morning sky,  
you are the light that banishes the darkness of the world.  
Sun of Righteousness, arise in my heart,  
fill me with the radiance of your love,  
and display the light of your saving grace  
until I shine with the joy of life everlasting. Amen.\**

## Household Prayer: Evening

*God,  
forgive the sins I have this day committed  
and banish from my heart any self-righteousness  
that would withhold forgiveness of others.  
For you alone are the judge of human hearts,  
and your mercy is boundless. Amen.*

### *A word about the Household Prayers:*

These prayers are printed on a page of their own so that you can tear them out and use them in your devotions at home. These prayers come from an anthology titled *Feasting on the Word*, that includes several liturgies for services. The prayers reflect the readings of the week, including special feast days.