St. Francis' Episcopal Church, Sunday, February 16, 2025

Service begins here at both 8am and 10:30am.

Prelude 10:30am

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing Laurie Underwood, Flute Solo

GATHERING SONG

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE

H 423

We begin by praising God through song and prayer. Stand. At 8am, sing verse 1; at 10:30, sing all printed.



GREETING

Standing before the assembly, the Presider welcomes the community to worship.

Presider Blessed are you, Holy and Eternal God.

People Blessed be God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Presider Holy and Immortal One, illuminate the shadows in our hearts, open our eyes to your

saving love, unstop our ears to hear your living word:

People Guide us, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your truth we may find freedom, and

in your will discover peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: SPOKEN 8am. Stand.

Leader Arise, shine out, for your light has come; People the glory of the Lord is rising upon you. Leader The nations will come to your light, People and rulers to your dawning brightness. Leader They shall bring gold and frankincense, People and proclaim the praise of the Lord. Leader Your gates will lie open continually, People shut neither by day nor by night. Leader No more will the sun give you daylight, People nor moonlight shine upon you. Leader But the Lord will be your everlasting light, People your God will be your splendor. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: SUNG 10:30am. Stand.

Presider Let us glorify the Holy One as we sing.





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

The Presider continues with the prayer appointed for the day, called the collect. The collect is written to go along with both the season of the church year and the readings for the day. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scripture for the day.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES Sit.

We hear the stories of the experience of God from our spiritual ancestors. Reading and commenting on scripture goes back to the earliest services of Christianity. Following the pattern of Jewish synagogue worship, readings follow a set pattern for what will be read when.

THE FIRST LESSON: A READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Reader A reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

17:5-10

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,

and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-- who can understand it?

I the Lord test the mind and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

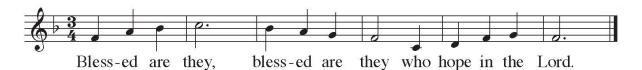
Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

1

At 8am, the congregation reads the antiphon together. At 10:30, the congregation sings the antiphon together.



Blessed indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked,

nor stands in the path with sinners, nor abides in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the LORD, and who ponders his law day and night. R.

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season, and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. R.

Not so are the wicked, not so!

For they, like winnowed chaff, shall be driven away by the wind.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. R.

THE SECOND LESSON: A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT WRITINGS

Reader A reading from the first letter to the Corinthians.

15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

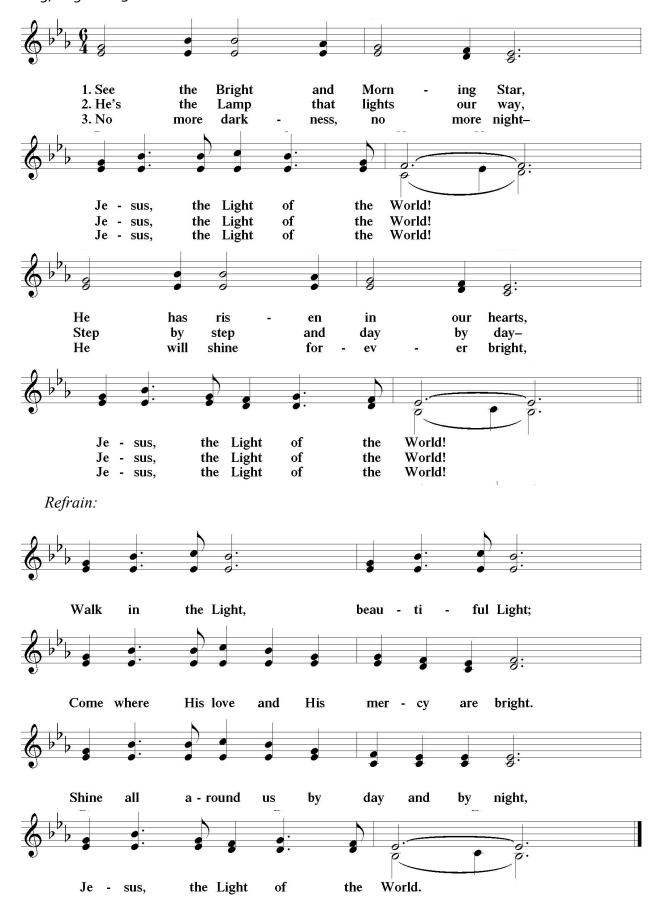
But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN: PREPARING TO HEAR THE GOSPEL Stand.

We stand, as we are able, for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance we place on Jesus' words and actions, and sing the Gospel Hymn. At 8am, sing refrain only. At 10:30am, sing verses 1 and 2. After reading, sing verse 3.



THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

Deacon God is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke. 6:17-26

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Gospel Hymn Music on previous page. At 8am, sing refrain; at 10:30am, since verse 3.

THE SERMON Sit.

THE REV. LAURIE ANZILOTTI

We remain seated for the sermon. Having someone comment on the scriptures read goes back to the earliest days of Christianity and to the Jewish Synagogue worship which preceded it.

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Presider, priest or deacon, leads the assembly in an affirmation of faith. Originally the entire service was viewed as our confession of faith. But, since the Sixth Century, the church has recited either the Nicene Creed or the Apostle's Creed at the Eucharist. The word creed comes from the Latin credo for "I believe" or "I lend my heart to." Creeds tell a deeper "truth" that goes beyond "facts."

THE NICENE CREED Stand.

Deacon We affirm our faith in the One, Holy and Living God.

People 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer changes people. Prayer is not about changing God but about changing us more into the likeness of God. Collectively and individually we offer the hopes and desires of our hearts to God. The Deacon offers the prayers for those who are sick or have asked our prayers.

Deacon Let us now bring our prayers for the Church and for the world before God.

The people respond to each intercession with silence. In the silences throughout our prayers, we are invited to hold up to God the names of those we especially remember today.

Presider To the One who is the road on which we travel, our companion along the way, and our

journey's end, we pray in boldness and confidence through faith in Christ Jesus. Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

As we enter in to worship we ask God's forgiveness for things done and things left undone and things done on our behalf so that we may be reconciled to each other and to God.

Deacon Our Savior Jesus Christ says, 'A new commandment I give you, that you love one another

as I have loved you.' Let us confess to almighty God our failure to accept and to share love

with others.

Silence is kept for a time.

People 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.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,

strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People Amen.

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

As we enter the most sacred portion of our worship we exchange a sign of God's promised peace. There are no set words to use in greeting each other, but "Peace be with you," "God's peace," and "Shalom" are all commonly used.

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

As a community of reconciliation and peace, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Sit.

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

Having been nourished from the richness of God's love in sacred story and reconciled to each other through prayer, confession and peace, we gather at Christ's table to offer ourselves to be transformed for service in the world. We listen to or sing a hymn to continue to prepare our hearts and minds for the Eucharistic Prayers to come.

*THE OFFERTORY 10:30 only

The gifts of bread, wine, money and other gifts are offered by the assembly to be set apart or consecrated as a reminder of Christ's sacrificial love and life. Once the Holy Table or Altar is prepared, the Presider and people give thanks to God for the many gifts we have been given by standing and singing our praise.

MEDITATION HYMN 8:00am AMAZING GRACE

JUDY COLLINS

OFFERTORY HYMN 10:30am AMAZING GRACE

LAURIE UNDERWOOD, FLUTE SOLO

From here, continue to the bulletin labelled "An Order for The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist," page 4, and return to this insert for Communion Hymn and Sending Hymn.

BREAD AND WINE

St. Francis Singers

From here, continue to the bulletin labelled "An Order for The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist," p. 11.

SENDING HYMN

FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

H 493

At 8am, sing verse 1. At 10:30am, sing all printed verses.



- 1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my dear Re-deem-er's praise, 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim
- 3 Je sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor rows cease;
- 4 He speaks; and, lis tening to his voice, new life the dead re ceive,
- 5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice less ones, your loos-ened tongues em ploy;



- 1 the glo ries of my God and King, the 2 and spread through all the earth a broad the
- 2 and spread through all the earth a broad the 3 'tis mu sic in the sin ner's ears, 'tis
- 4 the mourn ful bro-ken hearts re joice, the 5 ye blind, be hold, your Sa vior comes; and
 - ld, your Sa vior comes; and
- tri-umphs of his grace! hon-ors of thy Name.
- life and health and peace. hum - ble poor be - lieve.
- leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love be now and ever given by saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heaven.

Continue to the bulletin labelled "An Order for The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist," p. 12.

You are welcome to take this insert home with you for prayer or pondering.