**15th Sunday after Pentecost**

# September 13, 2020

**LITURGY OF THE WORD with the RITE OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*The Book of Common Prayer makes provisions for a rite for Spiritual Communion when through no fault of our own we cannot be present at a public celebration of the Eucharist, either because we are homebound or have medical need such as during an epidemic. We are assured that although we desire to receive the Sacrament but are unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth.*

(Book of Common Prayer, page 457)

**Prelude:** *Rhosymedre* R. Vaughn Williams

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQIu6xDyiwM>)

**Hymn 376**     *Joyful Joyful we Adore Thee*  ODE TO JOY



# Invocation

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| *Presider* | Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. |
| *People* | **And blessed by his kingdom, now and for ever. *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.

**Glory to God in the highest,  
    and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly 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*.**

**The Collect of the Day**

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

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.*

**The Lessons**

**A Reading from Paul’s Letter to the 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.

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|  | Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. |
| *People* | **Thanks be to God.** |

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**The Gospel Matthew 18:21-35**

*Presider* 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.”

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

# Sermon Father Frank Impicciche

**Prayers of the People**

Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of people in need, and the life of all creation.

*Brief Silence*

O God, move among your people and send forth your Spirit to make your Church a holy place where people find welcome, Christ’s compassion, and new life. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Jennifer, our Diocesan Bishop, for Mauricio Bishop of Brasilia, and for Frank our priest. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for St. John’s, Speedway, Ms. Becky Douglas, Senior Warden. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Send forth your Spirit to renew the earth in the wake of storms, earthquakes, or human misuse. Breathe life into every mountain and valley, stream and ocean. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Send forth your Spirit to unite all nations in caring for those who are vulnerable or in need. Help us to put aside our differences and to seek your will. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Send forth your Spirit to aid people in distress. We especially pray for **Ashley, Brian, Dan, Dave, Carol, Eric, Jerry, John, Phyllis, Libby, Stephanie, Susan, Steve, Terri, and Duke**. Sweep them up in the movement of your Spirit, and fulfill your everlasting promises for all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Send forth your Spirit to all laborers: for those who work, for those in need of work, for those who are struggling to make ends meet, that they might be filled by your riches. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Send forth your Spirit to unite us with the saints of every time and place. We pray for all who have died. *(Please add your own prayers in silence or by naming aloud those for whom you wish to pray)* By the gifts of your Spirit, rouse us to deeds of mercy and words of kindness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

We deliver all this into your care, O God, trusting in the work of your Holy Spirit to bring all things into the risen life of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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.***

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**

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

**The Prayers**

**A Prayer for the Mission of the Church**

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ; Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**For Agriculture**

Almighty God, we thank you for making the earth fruitful, so that it might produce what is needed for life: Bless those who work in the fields; give us seasonable weather; and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

# Act of Reception

**In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

# Act of Praise and Thanksgiving

**Blessed, praised, hallowed, and adored be Jesus Christ on his throne of glory in Heaven, and in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. *Amen*.**

**Anima Christi**

Soul of Christ, sanctify me; Body of Christ, save me; Blood of Christ, inebriate me; Water from the side of Christ, wash me; Passion of Christ, strengthen me; O good Jesus, hear me; within your wounds, hide me; let me never be separated from you; from the evil one, protect me; at the hour of my death, call me; and bid me to come to you; that with your saints, I may praise you forever and ever. *Amen.*

**For the Human Family**

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to thee, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use us, we pray you, as you will, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

# Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen*.

**Dismissal**

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|  | Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. |
| *People* | **Thanks be to God.** |

***~Please see the closing hymn, below~***

**Hymn 347** *Go Forth for God; go to the world in peace* LITTON



*Hymns are in the public domain*

**St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church | Indianapolis**

is a parish of

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