



Sunday June 28, 2020
The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Prayer: Rite Two
St. John's Episcopal Church, Bangor, Maine

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Thank you to our worship hosts, the Lectors of St. John's, and to our guest preacher, our own congregant Fr. Howard LaRue.

Opening sentences

Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, "I dwell in the high and holy place and also with the one who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Isaiah 57:15

Confession Of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

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 Priest alone stands and says

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

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Then follows the Venite, said in unison.

The Antiphon may first be sung or said with it.

The mercy of the Lord is everlasting: Come let us adore him.

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
 let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
 and a great King above all gods.
 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
 and the heights of the hills are his also.
 The sea is his, for he made it, *
 and his hands have molded the dry land.
 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
 For he is our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
 Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Psalm 13 *Usquequo, Domine?*

The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse

1 How long, O Lord? will you forget me for ever? *
 how long will you hide your face from me?
 2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,
 and grief in my heart, day after day? *
 how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
 3 Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my God; *
 give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
 4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," *
 and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
 5 But I put my trust in your mercy; *
 my heart is joyful because of your saving help.
 6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt with me richly; *
 I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

At the end of the Psalms is said in unison

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson (Genesis 22:1-14)

A Reading from the Book of Genesis:

God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

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

The First Canticle

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah, *Ecce, Deus*

Said in Unison

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Second Lesson (Romans 6:12-23)

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans:

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members

as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

The Hymn Canticle
Hymn 200, v. 2 & 3, Come, ye faithful



1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ hath burst his pri - son,
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,



God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness:
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;
with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor - tal:



loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
but to - day a - midst thine own thou didst stand, be - stow - ing



led them with un - mois - tened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
wel - comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' re - sur - rec - tion.
that thy peace which ev - er - more pass - eth hu - man know - ing.

The Third Lesson (Matthew 10:40-42)

A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew:

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

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

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.

Then follows this set of Suffrages

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. **We praise your Name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. **For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

The Collects

The Collect for the Day

O Almighty God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple acceptable unto thee; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for an End to Racial Injustice

O God of freedom, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: For peace and unity across barriers of language, color, and creed; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred, to actively resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love. through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Office Hymn

Hymn 368, v. 1 & 4 *Holy Father, great creator*

Descant

4 God the Lord, through ev - ery na - tion let thy won - drous

1 Ho - ly Fa - ther, great Cre - a - tor, source of mer - cy,
 2 Ho - ly Je - sus, Lord of glo - ry, whom an - gel - ic
 3 Ho - ly Spi - rit, Sanc - ti - fi - er, Come with unc - tion
 4 God the Lord, through ev - ery na - tion let thy won - drous

mer - cies shine. In the song of thy sal - va - tion

love, and peace, look up - on the Me - di - a - tor,
 hosts pro - claim, while we hear thy won - drous sto - ry,
 from a - bove, touch our hearts with sa - cred fire,
 mer - cies shine. In the song of thy sal - va - tion

ev - ery tongue and race com - bine. Great Je - ho - vah,

clothe us with his right - eous - ness; heav - en - ly Fa - ther,
 meet and wor - ship in thy Name, dear Re - deem - er,
 fill them with the Sa - vior's love. Source of com - fort,
 ev - ery tongue and race com - bine. Great Je - ho - vah,

great Je - ho - vah, form our hearts and make them thine.

heav - en - ly Fa - ther, through the Sa - vior hear and bless.
 dear Re - deem - er, in our hearts thy peace pro - claim.
 Source of com - fort, cheer us with the Sa - vior's love.
 great Je - ho - vah, form our hearts and make them thine.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Then the General Thanksgiving, said in unison

Officiant and People

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Anthem at the Collection

You may give online at <https://stjohnsbangor.org/online-giving/> or by texting "StJohnsBangor Donation \$50" to 73256 to donate using your text messaging. (Any amount donation can be made, \$50 is just the example.) Standard text message rates do apply. Thank you for your continued support.

Scripture reflection –The Rev. Howard La Rue

Today we welcome the Rev. Howard LaRue as our guest celebrant and preacher. The Rev. Howard La Rue served in the U.S. Navy for sixteen years and lived for some time, with his family in Japan, where his two youngest children were born. After which, he entered Virginia Seminary and then served two churches in Virginia, the last being Emmanuel Church, Greenwood, just outside Charlottesville, where he ministered for 27 years. He and his late wife Kate then moved to Maine, where they had vacationed for many years. He lives in Searsport, where he operates a Book Store and Asian Antiques gallery. He has been at St. John's since 2012, and has enjoyed sitting in the pew and listening to the powerful preaching in this wonderful place.

Final Prayer and Blessing

Let us Pray *in unison*

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, hear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord bless us and keep us. **Amen.**

The Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious to us. **Amen.**

The Lord lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace. **Amen.**

The Blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us for ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon: Let us Bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Parish Prayer list

For the Church - Our Anglican Communion and Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury,

Our Episcopal Church and Michael our Presiding Bishop;

Our Diocese of Maine and Thomas our Bishop

The congregations of All Saints', Skowhegan; St. Mark's, Waterville

For our nation on our upcoming Independence Day

Our Parish of St. John's Bangor and Rita and Ann our clergy and all our people:

For the Sick, Injured, or Distressed – Our choristers, Webb P. and his family and friends, Ann P., Ellen D., Denise A., Veronica, Amy, Jason A., Megan A., The Winne Family, Ralph R., Miranda S.,

Deej P., The Haluska family, Deborah J., The Bemis Family, Continued prayers for – Finn, Julie, Patricia, Steadman Family, Sarah, and Patty D., Dick D., Beth P., Elsa G., Alice F.

For our Homebound Members – Evelyn L., Joline F., Kathleen D., Mary, Charles, Robert B., Christa F., Lois N., Lilly P., Earlene B., Nancy W., Cathy K., Betty C. and Eileen H.

For Everyone affected by the COVID19 virus - all who are sick or dying, all who mourn, all who are isolated, anxious, or scared; for those without shelter or food and for all those sacrificing and volunteering to provide safe beds and nutritious meals; for all who are working in essential services, especially our doctors and nurses and all in our health care facilities, for all working in our grocery stores and supply chains and those who clean and sterilize everywhere; for all who willingly sacrifice their own needs and desires for sake of others' health and well being.

For the World, for Peace and Goodwill among Nations and for peoples in war-torn places, especially those in those in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Iraq. For an end to war and all forms of violence. For all who suffer for conscience's sake. For our enemies and those who wish us harm. For all suffering effects of climate change and of natural disasters, especially those in Africa during locust plague and famine. For those suffering from food scarcity anywhere. For refugees, immigrants, and those who are displaced, especially for children.

For our Nation: for all who suffer from injustice; for eyes to see injustice and for the will to work for fairness for all of God's people; for all who protest and for those who are charged to maintain our safety; and for all who struggle to change our world and its systems of oppression.

For the Leaders of our Country, State and Community: Donald Trump, President; Members of Congress, especially, Susan Collins, Angus King, Chellie Pingree, Jared Golden of Maine; Janet Mills, Governor; and Clare Davitt, Mayor - that they govern with wisdom, civility, and compassion.

For our Military Personnel, especially those of this Parish: Dillan L., Joshua M., Aaron B., Timothy W.

For the Departed - Richard Corney, priest; Rayshard Brooks; All who have died from the Corona Virus around the world; All who have died from racial injustice and violence around the world.

With Thanksgiving for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week - Katharine A., Terri S., and Christine S.

*If you would like to add or reinstate a name or concern for our parish prayer list, please contact one of the clergy.
Please use this list for your own personal prayers too.*