



THE CHURCH
OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

The Order for Morning Prayer

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2020

Opening Sentences

Officiant The Lord is in his holy temple;
let all the earth keep silence before him. *Habakkuk 2:20*

Confession of Sin

¶ The Officiant says

DEARLY BELOVED, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy 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.

¶ Officiant and People, all kneeling

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

¶ *The Officiant alone stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution ✠ and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

¶ *People Amen.*

¶ *All stand*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

People And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

All 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.

¶ *All say the Invitatory Canticle together, as follows*

Invitatory Canticle

Venite, exultemus

PSALM 95:1-7, 96:9, 13

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, *
and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are all the corners of the earth, *
and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his and he made it, *
and his hands prepared the dry land.
O come, let us worship and fall down *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God, *
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, *
and with righteousness to judge the world
and the peoples with his truth.

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.

¶ All are then seated for the Psalm appointed for the day

Psalm 86:11–17

Deduc me Domine

Teach me thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in thy truth: *
O knit my heart unto thee, that I may fear thy Name.

I will thank thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart; *
and will praise thy Name for evermore.

For great is thy mercy toward me; *
and thou hast delivered my soul from the nethermost hell.

O God, the proud are risen against me; *
and the congregations of violent men have sought after my soul,
and have not set thee before their eyes.

But thou, O Lord God, art full of compassion and mercy, *
long-suffering, plenteous in goodness and truth.

O turn thee then unto me, and have mercy upon me; *
give thy strength unto thy servant, and help the son of thine handmaid.

Show some token upon me for good;
that they who hate me may see it, and be ashamed, *
because thou, Lord, hast holpen me, and comforted me.

¶ At the conclusion of the Psalmody the Gloria Patri is said by all

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

ISAIAH 44:6-8

THUS SAYS THE LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let him proclaim it, let him declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

¶ Following the Lesson, all stand for the Canticle

Canticle

Benedicite, omnia opera Domini

SONG OF THE THREE YOUNG MEN: 35-65

- O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.
- O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.
- O ye heavens, bless ye the Lord; *
O ye waters that be above the firmament, bless ye the Lord;
- O all ye powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.
- O ye sun and moon, bless ye the Lord; *
O ye stars of heaven, bless ye the Lord;
- O ye showers and dew, bless ye the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.
- O ye winds of God, bless ye the Lord; *
O ye fire and heat, bless ye the Lord;
- O ye winter and summer, bless ye the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.
- O ye dews and frosts, bless ye the Lord; *
O ye frost and cold, bless ye the Lord;
- O ye ice and snow, bless ye the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.
- O ye nights and days, bless ye the Lord; *
O ye light and darkness, bless ye the Lord;
- O ye lightnings and clouds, bless ye the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.
- O ye people of God, bless ye the Lord; *
O ye priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
- O ye servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.
- O ye spirits and souls of the righteous, bless ye the Lord; *
O ye holy and humble men of heart, bless ye the Lord.
- Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; *
praise him and magnify him for ever.

¶ All are seated

ANOTHER PARABLE JESUS PUT BEFORE THEM, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the householder came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No; lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “He who sows the good seed is the Son of man; the field is the world, and the good seed means the sons of the kingdom; the weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and throw them into the furnace of fire; there men will weep and gnash their teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

¶ *Following the Lesson, all stand for the Canticle*

Canticle

Magna et mirabilia

REVELATION 15:34

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
 great deeds are they that thou hast done, *
 surpassing human understanding.
 Thy ways are ways of righteousness and truth, *
 O King of all the ages.
 Who can fail to do thee homage, Lord,
 and sing the praises of thy Name? *
 for thou only art the holy One.
 All nations will draw near and fall down before thee, *
 because thy just and holy works have been revealed.

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.

¶ *All remain standing for the Apostles' Creed*

The Apostles' Creed

¶ Said by the Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
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 Officiant and People say the following

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

¶ Then the short form of the Lord's Prayer is said by all, kneeling

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.
Amen.

¶ *Then follow these Suffrages, said by the Officiant and People*

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

People And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

People And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People For only in thee can we live in safety.

Officiant Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

People And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Officiant Let thy way be known upon earth;

People Thy saving health among all nations.

Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.

The Collects

ALMIGHTY GOD, THE FOUNTAIN OF ALL WISDOM, who knowest our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion, we beseech thee, upon our infirmities, and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, mercifully give us for the worthiness of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ¶ *People Amen.*

O GOD, WHO MAKEST US GLAD with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. ¶ *People Amen.*

O GOD, WHO HAST MADE of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after thee and find thee; bring the nations into thy fold; pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of thy kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ¶ *People Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

¶ Said by the Officiant and People together

ALmighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants do give
thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

¶ Said by the Officiant

ALmighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make
our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved
Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the
midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be
best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life
everlasting. *¶ People Amen.*

¶ All stand

Benedicamus Domino

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Grace

¶ *Officiant*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. ¶ *People Amen.*

Hymn

¶ *The Hymn is found on page 11 of this leaflet*

Sermon

The Rev. Peter James Speropulos

Anthem

Jesu, thy perfect love close in my breast
That I thee love and never rest;
And make me love thee of all things best,
And wound my heart in thy love free
That I may reign in joy evermore with thee.

Words: Anonymous, 15th century

Music: David Lord (b. 1944)

Closing Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

¶ *All kneel*

¶ *Then Prayers and Intercessions are offered*

OMERCIFUL CREATOR, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us, we beseech thee, ever thankful for thy loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. ¶ *People Amen.*

O LORD GOD, our heavenly Father, regard, we beseech thee, with thy divine pity the pains of all thy children; and grant that the passion of our Lord and his infinite love may make fruitful for good the tribulations of the innocent, the sufferings of the sick, and the sufferings of the bereaved; through him who suffered in our flesh and died for our sake, the same thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. *☩ People Amen.*

O ALMIGHTY GOD, kindle, we beseech thee, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with thy wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquillity thy dominion may increase till the earth is filled with the knowledge of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *☩ People Amen.*

LOOK WITH PITY, O heavenly Father, upon all thy children who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us and forgive us our sins of deed or neglect against these our neighbors. Give strength to those who work for justice and opportunity for all, and grant that all may enjoy the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *☩ People Amen.*

ASSIST US MERCIFULLY, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by thy gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *☩ People Amen.*

The Blessing

GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD IN PEACE; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone; and the blessing of God Almighty, ☩ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *☩ People Amen.*

Hymn

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680) alt.

Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, Erneuterten Gesangbuch, 1665

Liturgical Music

The music opening today's Morning Prayer liturgy is the *Aria* from the Partita in G by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759). It was common practice in Handel's time to borrow music from one instrument's repertoire and arrange it for others. This piece, originally composed for keyboard, is played this morning by a violin and cello in dialogue with an oboe d'amore and bassoon.

This morning's hymn *Praise to the Lord, the almighty* draws on Psalm 103:1-6 and Psalm 150:6 for its inspiration and is one of the most exuberant hymns of praise in the Christian canon. Its galloping dactylic syllabic rhythm (strong, weak, weak) allows for fourteen syllables in each of its first two lines. It is highly likely that the author, who lived just thirty years, knew this tune as associated with an earlier chorale and penned these words to provide a new text for the tune.

David Lord has set the medieval text *Close in my breast* for treble voices alone over a murmuring accompaniment suggesting both the innocence of a child and the constant supplication of the Divine. The marriage of the early text with the contemporary harmonic vocabulary serves to join this ancient prayer to us over the span of ages.

Closing today's liturgy is the *Two-Part Sinfonia number 9* by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Handel and Bach were exact contemporaries and Bach, like Handel, regularly borrowed from himself to create music in new ways. Also originally composed for keyboard, this morning we hear it played by oboe d'amore and cello.



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