



## *St. Thomas' Episcopal Church*

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# The Last Sunday After Pentecost

## Christ The King

November 22, 2020

### Morning Prayer: Rite Two

**Prelude**

*Crown Him With Many Crowns*

Wilson

**Opening sentence**

p. 78

Give thanks to the Lord, and call upon his Name; make known his deeds among the peoples. *Psalm 105:1*

**Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and 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.**

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

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 Invitatory and Psalter

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

p. 80

*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.**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: **Come let us adore him.**

**The Venite** (all recite in unison)

p. 82

**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 100** (*read responsively by whole verse*)

<sup>1</sup> Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; \*  
serve the LORD with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.

<sup>2</sup> **Know this: The LORD himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

<sup>3</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

<sup>4</sup> **For the LORD is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

**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. A-men.**

## The First Lesson

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

A reading from the book of Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

## Canticle 21

*You Are God: Te Deum*

Haugen

## The Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and

what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

**Canticle 13 A Song of Praise** *(all recite in unison)*

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \***

**you are worthy of praise; glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \***

**on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths; \***

**in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \***

**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**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. A-men.**

**The Gospel**

**Matthew 25:31-46**

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you

visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Lector The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

## Sermon

### The Apostles’ Creed

p. 96

*Officiant and People together*

**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

p. 97

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

**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 one of these sets of Suffrages*

**A**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. **Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit**

*The Collect of the Day*

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

p. 98

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

p. 99

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Mission

p. 101

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.**

**Anthem**

*At The Name Of Jesus*

Vaughan Williams

For the Human Family

p. 815

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the Sick

p. 459

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants *Ashley Burnett, Jeanine Wilson, Al Coward, Randy Tyler, Ben Procter, Joan Leggett, Kay Barnacascel, Becky Godwin, John Tolbert, Coley McCally, Karen Gudiksen, Bobbie and Rendol Cobb, Libby Smith, Marian Watts, Lena Evans, Charles Taylor Spruill, Larry Watson, Julia Credle, Joey Ezelle, Racheal Coward, Peggy Parker, Sylvia Dawson, David Dunn, Elsie Benson, Riley Raines, Andy Walker, The Rev. Jim Horton, Will Copeland, Jim Davis, Mary Gillam, Rita Hoggard, those with COVID-19, and others known to us,* and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



*A Prayer from Episcopal Relief and Development (revised)*

Compassionate God, source of all comfort, we pray for the people whose lives have been devastated by recent disasters of hurricane, tornado, fire and flood. Bring them comfort, we pray. Protect the vulnerable. Strengthen the weak. Have mercy on all those working to provide relief and to feed the hungry. And may our response to their suffering be generous and bring you praise. For we ask it in Jesus' Name. **Amen.**

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

***A Litany of Thanksgiving***

p. 837

*Officiant and People*

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us. For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

***We thank you, Lord.***

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

***We thank you, Lord.***

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

***We thank you, Lord.***

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

***We thank you, Lord.***

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

***We thank you, Lord.***

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

***We thank you, Lord.***

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

***We thank you, Lord.***

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

***We thank you, Lord.***

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

***To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.***

***A Prayer of St. Chrysostom***

p. 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

*The Officiant may then conclude with the following*

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.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

**Postlude**

*Alleluia! Sing To Jesus!*

Prichard

**MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY**

**Officiant:** The Rev. Bonnie Smith

**Organist and Soloist:** Tom Parker

**Altar:** Lisa Rascoe, Kristy Copeland, Nancy Davis

**Lector:** Tra Perry

**Ushers:** Bob Capehart, Bill Pittman

**Hostesses:** Ann Cowper, Marti Tyler, Lisa Rascoe

**Money Counters:** Tra Perry, John Tyler

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Thank you for observing proper precautions for any gatherings during COVID-19: wear a mask, wash your hands, and wait 6 feet apart between households.

Under COVID-19 guidelines, the following changes must be made to our worship:

- Offering plates will not be passed. Please deposit your offering in the designated basket as you arrive or exit. Or you may mail your offering to St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, PO Box 400, Windsor, NC 27983.
- Congregational and choral singing are not permitted. A soloist is allowed, while physical distancing and wearing a face covering.

- Nursery care and children’s Sunday School cannot be offered. A ziploc activity bag is available for each child. Please keep it in your car and bring with you each Sunday. A new activity sheet will be available each Sunday.
- No receptions or meals may be offered before or after worship.
- Please limit use of church restrooms.

Please take your printed bulletin home or drop it in the designated recycling container.

Small water bottles are available for your use.

Weather permitting, we will continue with outdoor worship next Sunday at 11:00 a.m., with video on Facebook.

Thank you to everyone who has returned your pledge card. Please consider prayerfully what God is calling you to give to St. Thomas’ Church in 2021 and return your pledge card by November 30.

You are invited to join the diocesan-wide “Journey through East Carolina” November 29 through February 7, 2021. Details are available at <https://www.ecdio.org/journey.html>

Bishop Skirving’s Visitation to St. Thomas’ Church is scheduled for Sunday, January 24, 2021. If you are interested in being confirmed as a member of St. Thomas’ Church, please let The Rev. Bonnie Smith know as soon as possible so that instruction can be planned.

New *Forward Day by Day* devotional booklets are available.

Reminder: The Opportunity Shoppe is open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first three Saturdays of the month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Masks are required. Donations are accepted on Mondays between 10 and 2 or by appointment. Leave a message at 252-794-5595.

# GRATITUDE SLIPS

Pass a slip along to someone else to share your gratitude!



Thank you for helping me.

I'm grateful for who you are.

I appreciate what you did for me today.

Thanks for being extra kind to me.

I'm thankful for your sense of humor.

Thank you for all you have done for me.

Thanks for making me smile today.

I just wanted to say thanks for everything.

Thank you for listening to me.

Thanks for being there for me.