

Order of Service: The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

Prelude *Blessed are the poor in spirit*

Roberta Rowland-Raybold
Dr. Gukhui Han, Organ

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God forever and ever.**

Collect for Purity *(people muted)*

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.**

Hymn *Seek ye first the kingdom of God*

Seek Ye First

(Mute your device and sing loudly and joyfully)



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,



and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be



add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain:

Al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Collect of the Day (*people muted*)

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading *Genesis 29:15-28* (*people muted*)

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid. When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 128

The soloist will sing first, then the congregation will repeat.

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Becky Hasquet, Cantor

REFRAIN:



Hap-py are they all who fear the LORD, and who fol-low in



God's ways! Hap - py are they all who



fear the LORD, and who fol-low in God's ways!

You shall eat the fruit of your labor; happiness and prosperity shall be yours. Oh...

REFRAIN

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house,
your children like olive shoots round about your table. Oh...

REFRAIN

The one who fears the Lord shall thus indeed be bless'd. Oh...

REFRAIN

The Lord bless you from Zion,
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
May you live to see your children's children.
May peace be upon Israel. Oh...

REFRAIN

A Reading *Romans 8:26-39 (people muted)*

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *There is a Higher Throne*

Keith & Kristyn Getty

There is a higher throne than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand, made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace- salvation comes.

Hear heaven's voices sing; their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies, their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength, thanks and honor are
To God our King, who reigns on high forever more.

And there we'll find our home, our life before the throne;
We'll honor Him in perfect song where we belong.
He'll wipe each tearstained eye as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King; we'll reign with Him.

Hear heaven's voices sing; their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies, their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength, thanks and honor are
To God our King, who reigns on high forever more.

Hallelujah!

The Gospel *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (people muted)*

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

Another parable Jesus put before the crowds: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.” “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon *(people muted)*

Silence follows the sermon.

The Rev. Jane Gould

Anthem *Prayer*

Ernest Bloch
Dr. Gukhui Han (Piano) & George Bullock (Cello)

Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed

(people muted)

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

Composed and performed by Kevin Wood, St. Luke's Taizé Music Director

Live With Grace

Kevin Wood 07/20/20

I can't see your face today
I can't tell if that's a smile or frown
I think we're all kinda feeling the same
Somewhere in the middle of in-between

I think it's easy to forget that
That you're not the only one going through it
I won't pretend to know your story
But I've gotta believe in this life

If there is darkness I will be light
If there is fear I will be hope
If there is loneliness, anxiety, sickness and disease
I will be brave
I believe that laughter drowns out the noise
I believe that honesty can conquer all lies
If we can find forgiveness in humanity
We can all learn to live with grace
That's what I pray for today

We're all feeling a bit helpless
It's hard to drown the noise of isolation
Doing what we can behind our mask
To get through these trying times
Get through these trying times

REFRAIN

It's the little things taken for granted
They're all we've got right now
Simple phone call from your mother
The sun comes shining out
We've got to realize
We're all we've got now
To get to the other side

REFRAIN

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

God of love, we pray for your church: For Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop; John Taylor and Diane Jardine Bruce, our bishops; for all lay and ordained ministers; and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world.

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts

God of love, **Hear our prayers for the church.**

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.

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts

God of freedom, **Hear our prayers for the world.**

God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation entrusted to our care: For the animals and birds, the mountains and oceans, and all parts of your creation that have no voice of their own. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources, that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us.

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts

God of justice, **Hear our prayers for the earth.**

God of peace, we pray for this community: For our local leaders; for our schools and markets; for our neighborhoods and workplaces. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. Give us courage to strive for justice and peace among all people, beginning here at home.

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts

God of peace, **Hear our prayers for this community.**

God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons.

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts

God of mercy, **Hear our prayers for all who are in need.**

God of grace, we pray for those who have died: For the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Make us faithful to your call to proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light.

Silence — Add your prayers, silently or in your hearts

God of grace, **Hear our prayers for those who have died.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

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.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

Anthem *A Song of Trust*

Franz Schubert arr. K. Lee Scott
Becky Hasquet, Soloist

Oh, where shall I find comfort in sorrow unrelenting?
And who will share my gladness when days are crowned with blessing?
To you, to you, O Father, I come whate'er betide;
You send your peace and healing to ease my inmost pain.

Your voice is ever calling, "Come unto me, ye weary;
For I am meek and lowly; Your soul shall dwell in safety."
With childlike expectation I haste to your strong arms;
In meekness I implore you; Have mercy, dearest Lord.

Before I knew your presence, what joy had earth or heaven?
Now all the world is shining for you my heart have taken.
What peace and deep contentment now fill my quickened spirit;
Oh, ever, ever lead me to dwell with you on high.

As we pray the words of The Great Thanksgiving, know that we all are woven together in the Body of Christ as the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood unites us in heart and spirit.

The Great Thanksgiving (*Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 3*)

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and forever. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer *(people unmuted)*

**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.**

As this broken bread was scattered over the mountains,
And was gathered together to become one,
So let Your Body of Faithful be gathered together
From the ends of the earth into Your kingdom. *(Didache, 1st Century)*

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, Blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed body and blood are offered, I long to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray You to come into my heart, my soul, and my mind. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing separate me from You; let me serve You in this life until, by Your grace, I join You in Your reign of unending peace. Amen.
(St. Augustine of Hippo)

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Blessing

Life is short, my friends, so be quick to love, and make haste to be kind; and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you this day and always.
Amen.

Announcements

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Postlude *Be Thou My Vision*

Arr. David S. Gaines
Dr. Gukhui Han, Piano