

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Season after Pentecost Worship Bulletin

Virtual Service 9:30 a.m. on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgestc/>

Welcome to St. George's! We are blessed by your attendance at our worship today.

The Rev. Robin Reeves-Kautz, Rector
510 13th Avenue North
Texas City, Texas 77590
(409) 945-2583
www.stgeorgestc.org

You can find our Current and Past Bulletins for Virtual Services on our website at:

<https://www.stgeorgestc.org/sunday-worship-services-online/>

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

Processional Hymn

“Compassion Prayer”

Compassion Camp Song

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

BCP 355

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.*

Kyrie Eleison

BCP 356

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament (*Compassion Camp VBS Reading*)

LayReader A Reading (Lesson) from **Leviticus 25**

The Lord spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying: Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you, the land shall observe a sabbath for the Lord. Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather in their yield; but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of complete rest for the land, a sabbath for the Lord: you shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard. You shall not reap the aftergrowth of your harvest or gather the grapes of your unpruned vine: it shall be a year of complete rest for the land. You may eat what the land yields during its sabbath—you, your male and female slaves, your hired and your bound laborers who live with you; for your livestock also, and for the wild animals in your land all its yield shall be for food.

You shall count off seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the period of seven weeks of years gives forty-nine years. Then you shall have the trumpet sounded loud; on the tenth day of the seventh month—on the day of atonement—you shall have the trumpet sounded throughout all your land. And you shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you: you shall return, every one of you, to your property and every one of you to your family. That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you: you shall not sow, or reap the aftergrowth, or harvest the unpruned vines. For it is a jubilee; it shall be holy to you: you shall eat only what the field itself produces.

In this year of jubilee you shall return, every one of you, to your property. When you make a sale to your neighbor or buy from your neighbor, you shall not cheat one another. When you buy from your neighbor, you shall pay only for the number of years since the jubilee; the seller shall charge you only for the remaining crop years. If the years are more, you shall increase the price, and if the years are fewer, you shall diminish the price; for it is a certain number of harvests that are being sold to you. You shall not cheat one another, but you shall fear your God; for I am the Lord your God.

You shall observe my statutes and faithfully keep my ordinances, so that you may live on the land securely. The land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill and live on it securely. Should you ask, “What shall we eat in the seventh year, if we may not sow or gather in our crop?”

I will order my blessing for you in the sixth year, so that it will yield a crop for three years. When you sow in the eighth year, you will be eating from the old crop; until the ninth year, when its produce comes in, you shall eat the old. The land shall not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is mine; with me you are but aliens and tenants. Throughout the land that you hold, you shall provide for the redemption of the land.

If anyone of your kin falls into difficulty and sells a piece of property, then the next of kin shall come and redeem what the relative has sold. If the person has no one to redeem it, but then prospers and finds sufficient means to do so, the years since its sale shall be computed and the difference shall be refunded to the person to whom it was sold, and the property shall be returned. But if there are not sufficient means to recover it, what was sold shall remain with the purchaser until the year of jubilee; in the jubilee it shall be released, and the property shall be returned.

If anyone sells a dwelling house in a walled city, it may be redeemed until a year has elapsed since its sale; the right of redemption shall be one year. If it is not redeemed before a full year has elapsed, a house that is in a walled city shall pass in perpetuity to the purchaser, throughout the generations; it shall not be released in the jubilee. But houses in villages that have no walls around them shall be classed as open country; they may be redeemed, and they shall be released in the jubilee. As for the cities of the Levites, the Levites shall forever have the right of redemption of the houses in the cities belonging to them.

Such property as may be redeemed from the Levites—houses sold in a city belonging to them—shall be released in the jubilee; because the houses in the cities of the Levites are their possession among the people of Israel. But the open land around their cities may not be sold; for that is their possession for all time.

If any of your kin fall into difficulty and become dependent on you, you shall support them; they shall live with you as though resident aliens. Do not take interest in advance or otherwise make a profit from them, but fear your God; let them live with you. You shall not lend them your money at interest taken in advance, or provide them food at a profit. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan, to be your God.

If any who are dependent on you become so impoverished that they sell themselves to you, you shall not make them serve as slaves. They shall remain with you as hired or bound laborers. They shall serve with you until the year of the jubilee. Then they and their children with them shall be free from your authority; they shall go back to their own family and return to their ancestral property. For they are my servants, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt; they shall not be sold as slaves are sold. You shall not rule over them with harshness, but shall fear your God. As for the male and female slaves whom you may have, it is from the nations around you that you may acquire male and female slaves. You may also acquire them from among the aliens residing with you, and from their families that are with you, who have been born in your land; and they may be your property.

You may keep them as a possession for your children after you, for them to inherit as property. These you may treat as slaves, but as for your fellow Israelites, no one shall rule over the other with harshness.

If resident aliens among you prosper, and if any of your kin fall into difficulty with one of them and sell themselves to an alien, or to a branch of the alien's family, after they have sold themselves they shall have the right of redemption; one of their brothers may redeem them, or their uncle or their uncle's son may redeem them, or anyone of their family who is of their own flesh may redeem them; or if they prosper they may redeem themselves. They shall compute with the purchaser the total from the year when they sold themselves to the alien until the jubilee year; the price of the sale shall be applied to the number of years: the time they were with the owner shall be rated as the time of a hired laborer. If many years remain, they shall pay for their redemption in proportion to the purchase price; and if few years remain until the jubilee year, they shall compute thus: according to the years involved they shall make payment for their redemption. As a laborer hired by the year they shall be under the alien's authority, who shall not, however, rule with harshness over them in your sight. And if they have not been redeemed in any of these ways, they and their children with them shall go free in the jubilee year. For to me the people of Israel are servants; they are my servants whom I brought out from the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

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

LayReader Join me in reading **Psalm 17:1-7,16**
by half phrase.

- 1 Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord;
give heed to my cry; *
listen to my prayer,
which does not come from lying lips.
- 2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence; *
let your eyes be fixed on justice.
- 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, *
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 I give no offense with my mouth as others do; *
I have heeded the words of your lips.
- 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; *
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; *
incline your ear to me and hear my words.
- 7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, *
**O Savior of those who take refuge at your right
hand from those who rise up against them.**
- 16 But at my vindication I shall see your face; *
when I awake, I shall be satisfied,
beholding your likeness.

The Gospel

Matthew 14:13-21

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Homily

Prayer in the Face of a Pandemic: A Litany

Healing, sustaining, restoring and compassionate God,
whose grace is greater than frightening viruses and
frustrating vulnerability and even the virus of racism
and division,

**Breathe new life into our hurting world and our
daunting journey.**

Remind us of the trustworthiness of your promise,
that you will never leave us nor forsake us.

**Reawaken our souls to this Resurrection truth—
that our fear is not our governor; that our frailty
does not have the final word to speak; and that our
suffering is never the end of our story.**

We hurt with the crisis of this coronavirus, those hurting
from racial injustice and division across our land.

**We break with those who are broken in this global
pandemic.**

We remember those who are afflicted with the virus.

**Bring to these hurting souls a healing that restores,
a strength that sustains, and a joy so durable that
nothing can diminish it.**

We remember medical professionals on whom our lives
depend, who are placing themselves in harm's way daily
to provide aid to afflicted patients.

**Equip them with strength beyond their strength,
courage beyond their courage, and a fresh awareness
of how deeply their work matters.**

We remember the most vulnerable in our midst:
The homebound, nursing home-bound, and hospitalized;
those whose vitality belies their years; those whose
financial vulnerability inspires anguish; those whose
addiction cries out for a journey of recovery; those whose
depression generates a crippling sense of isolation.

**Come, Lord Jesus. Come as a companion, encourager,
and deliverer in every circumstance where people feel
alone, isolated, marginalized, and desperate.**

We remember those whose employment is severely
impacted by bans, mandates, and restrictions.

**Come, Holy Spirit. Bring unexpected provision,
unanticipated contingency, and unforeseen blessing.**

We remember families that must both accommodate
new realities and adjust to unplanned rhythms.

**Come, Parenting God, and initiate within our families a
compassion for all, an energized patience, an expanded
playfulness, and an elevated penchant for loving.**

We remember your church, taken out of its normal
patterns and practices.

**Holy God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—awaken in
your church a vision for what it means to connect in
the midst of disconnection, to engage in the midst of
disengagement, to bless in a season of reoriented blessing.**

We remember those who are cynical about this crisis—
and those who feel secure and unthreatened.

**Crucified, Resurrected Christ, humble us in our
arrogance; disrupt us in our artificial sense of safety; and
transform our cynicism into an eagerness to stand
alongside those who are hurting.**

Let your love be our breathing. Let your compassion
be our heartbeat. Let your mind become our mind.

**Let your Way be our way; your Truth our truth; your
Life our life.**

Most of all—Heartbroken, Weeping, and Resurrecting
God—remind us that you are not watching our struggle
from a distance.

**Speak to us afresh the truth that you are with us,
allowing your tears to commingle with ours, allowing
your heart to break with ours, allowing your intimate
grace to redeem our suffering, our sickness, and our
sorrow.**

In this [time of suffering], where the cross looms large,
**usher us into the cadences of Resurrection, so that we
might engage in the stewardship of life amid the
trappings of death.**

Come, Lord Jesus!

Come, Lifegiving Spirit!

Come, Universe-Creating, Circumstance-Transforming God!
**Come and bring wholeness in our brokenness, hope in
our despair, healing in our hurting, life in our death.**

Reform our hearts, O God.
**Redirect our way. On the canvas of our journey,
display the colors of your grace.**

Rework our desires, O God. Recreate our will.
**Like a Poet come and rewrite our song,
that we might sing for you.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

Celebrant 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 Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

The Absolution

BCP 360

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

BCP 360

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

The Blessing

The Priest, gives the blessing.

Recessional Hymn

“Compassion Prayer”

Compassion Camp Song

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**