

# ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## *Season after Pentecost Worship Bulletin September 20, 2020*

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.*

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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

“We Plow the Fields, and Scatter”

Hymn 291

## 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.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## Old Testament

LayReader    A Reading (Lesson) from **Exodus 16:2-15**

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.”

So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

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

LayReader Join me in reading **Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45**  
by half phrase.

1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; \*  
**make known his deeds among the peoples.**

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
**and speak of all his marvelous works.**

3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
**let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.**

4 Search for the LORD and his strength; \*  
**continually seek his face.**

5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
**his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,**

6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
**O children of Jacob his chosen.**

37 He led out his people with silver and gold; \*  
**in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.**

38 Egypt was glad of their going, \*  
**because they were afraid of them.**

39 He spread out a cloud for a covering \*  
**and a fire to give light in the night season.**

40 They asked, and quails appeared, \*  
**and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.**

41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, \*  
**so the river ran in the dry places.**

42. For God remembered his holy word \*  
**and Abraham his servant.**

43 So he led forth his people with gladness, \*  
**his chosen with shouts of joy.**

44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, \*  
**and they took the fruit of others' toil,**

45 That they might keep his statutes \*  
**and observe his laws.**  
**Hallelujah!**

## **The Gospel**

**Matthew 21:1-16**

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

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

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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**

“From all that Dwell Below the Skies”

Hymn 380

## **The Dismissal**

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