

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Season after Pentecost Worship Bulletin September 6, 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
“Restore Us, O Lord”

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, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament

LayReader A Reading (Lesson) from **Exodus 12:1-14**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments:

I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

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

LayReader Join me in reading **Psalm 149**
by half phrase.

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *

let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *

let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his people *

and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *

let them be joyful on their beds.

6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *

and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *

and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their kings in chains *

and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *

this is glory for all his faithful people.

Hallelujah!

The Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

“Song of Benediction”

The Dismissal

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