

# Morning Prayer

*Sunday, September 13, 2020 – Holy Cross Sunday*

**Officiant: The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Gillard**

**Preacher: The Rev'd Fr. Jeffrey Kennedy**

## **Instructions for Dial-In Worship:**

- We invite people to dial-in early between 8:55 and 9:00.
- To join the conference call:
  - Dial 416-933-3854
  - When prompted to enter the Conference ID, dial: 9903106# (be sure to include #)
  - You will then be part of the conference line and can hear and be heard by others on the conference line
- Please be courteous to others and limit ambient background sound
- To mute the receiver on your phone, press STAR 6. This will allow you to hear others on the line, but not be heard by others. To unmute, press STAR 7.
- During worship, we ask that everyone mute their receiver, including for the responses and the hymn. There will be one person leading the responses.
- If you are reading, please remember to unmute before you begin.

## **The Gathering of the Community**

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*People* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*All* **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. Alleluia!**

**Venite** *Psalm 95.1-7*  
*Officiant* The Lord is our refuge and strength:  
*People* **O come, let us worship.**

*Officiant* Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
*All* **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 moulded 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!**

*Officiant* The Lord is our refuge and strength:  
*People* **O come, let us worship.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Numbers.

The people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 98:1-6

*Please join on the alternating (bolded) verses of the psalm.*

- <sup>1</sup> Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvellous things.
- <sup>2</sup> **With his right hand and his holy arm  
has he won for himself the victory.**
- <sup>3</sup> The Lord has made known his victory;  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- <sup>4</sup> **He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,  
and all that ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**
- <sup>5</sup> Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- <sup>6</sup> **Sing to the Lord with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.**

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.**

### Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

*Reader* A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle**  
*Officiant*  
*All*

**Glory to God**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly king,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Gospel Reading: John 3:13-17**

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*Reader* The Lord be with you.

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

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

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

Jesus said, "No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

*Reader* The Gospel of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Homily**

The Rev'd Fr. Jeffrey Kennedy

**The Apostles Creed**

*Officiant* Let us confess our faith as we say,

*All*

**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.**

### **Invitation to Christian Stewardship**

*We at St John the Baptist Norway give regularly to God's work through offerings and other gifts.  
Our offerings support the life of the parish, as well as the work we do in the world, both locally and globally.  
We invite you to contribute financially as you are able to the life and ministry of the parish.  
Instructions for submitting contributions can be found in the announcements.*

*Officiant* **Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

### **Intercessions and Prayers**

#### **Intercessions**

*Leader* In peace, we pray to you Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;  
*All* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for all those who are alone.**

*Leader* For this community, our country, and the world;  
*All* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Leader* For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*All* **For victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Leader* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*All* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Leader* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*All* **For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

*Leader* For Andrew and Kevin our bishops; for Jeffrey, Harold, and Benjamin our priests;  
and for all bishops, priests, and deacons.  
*All* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Leader* We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of  
God, remembering them now by name either silently or aloud.  
*All* **Hear us, Lord; for your mercy is great.**

*Leader* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We will exalt you, O God our  
king;  
*All* **And praise your name for ever and ever.**

### **The Collect**

*Officiant* Let us pray. Almighty God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself, may we who rejoice in the mystery of our redemption, have grace to take up our cross and follow him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Officiant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*All* **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,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

*Officiant* The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour and grant you peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## To Reach Us

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