

Morning Prayer

Sunday, September 27, 2020 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Officiant: The Rev'd Fr. Jeffrey Kennedy
Preacher: The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Gillard**

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: Exodus 17:1-7

Joanne Hincks

Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78:1-4,12-16

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

¹ Hear my teaching, O my people;

incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² **I will open my mouth in a parable;**

I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

³ That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us,
we will not hide from their children.

⁴ **We will recount to generations to come the praise-worthy deeds**

and the power of the Lord, and the wonderful works he has done.

¹² He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers,
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

¹³ **He split open the sea and let them pass through;**

he made the waters stand up like walls.

¹⁴ He led them with a cloud by day,
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

¹⁵ **He split the hard rocks in the wilderness**

and gave them drink as from the great deep.

¹⁶ He brought streams out of the cliff,
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

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: Philippians 2:1-13

Emily Hamilton

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle **Glory to God**

Officiant Glory to God in the highest,

All **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: Matthew 21:23-32

The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Gillard

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

Emily Hamilton

Leader Let us pray to God the Holy Spirit, saying, "Come, Holy Spirit, come." Come, Holy Spirit, creator, and renew the face of the earth.

All **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Leader Come, Holy Spirit, counsellor, and touch our lips that we may proclaim your word.

All **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Leader Come, Holy Spirit, power from on high: make us agents of peace and ministers of wholeness.

All **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Leader Come, Holy Spirit, breath of God, give life to the dry bones of this exiled age, and make us a living people, holy and free.

All **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Leader Come, Holy Spirit, and comfort and strengthen all those who are in need, who we remember now by name either silently or aloud.

All **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Leader Come, Holy Spirit, wisdom, and truth: strengthen us in the risk of faith.

All **Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

The Collect

Officiant Let us pray. Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; 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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