

MORNING PRAYER

PENTECOST 3

JUNE 13, 2021

PRELUDE: PRELUDE IN D MAJOR (J. S. BACH)

OPENING SENTENCE

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

V: Lord, open our lips.

R: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

***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

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

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 molded 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!

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

***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.***

THE LESSONS

A READING FROM EZEKIEL 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 92:1-4, 11-14

- ¹ It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, *
and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;
- ² ***To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning *
and of your faithfulness in the night season;***
- ³ On the psaltery, and on the lyre, *
and to the melody of the harp.
- ⁴ ***For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; *
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.***
- ¹¹ The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, *
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
- ¹² ***Those who are planted in the house of the LORD *
shall flourish in the courts of our God;***
- ¹³ They shall still bear fruit in old age; *
they shall be green and succulent;
- ¹⁴ ***That they may show how upright the LORD is, *
my Rock, in whom there is no fault.***

A READING FROM 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-17

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord-- for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for

themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN #524: I LOVE THY KINGDOM, LORD (VV 1, 4, 5)

A READING FROM MARK 4:26-34

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Lisa Frost-Phillips+

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.*

THE PRAYERS

V: The Lord be with you.

R: ***And also with you.***

Let us pray.

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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen***

SUFFRAGES B

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. ***Govern them and uphold them, now and always.***

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. ***We praise your name for ever.***

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. ***Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.***

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. ***For we put our trust in you.***

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. ***And we shall never hope in vain.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sam and Anne our Bishops with all bishops, priests, and deacons. We pray for parishes in our Diocese, especially St. James' and St. Patrick's, Mooresville. We also pray for Pastor Holman and Dickerson Chapel AME and for the Hillsborough Clergy Coalition.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for our President, our Congress, and our State Government.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. We pray for the work of Anathoth Community Garden and Fairview Gardens in our community.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable in Orange County and the world, especially those without access to the COVID vaccine. We pray for Re-Entry House and their work in our community. Free us, we pray, from fears of difference that divide and wound us. Move us to dismantle our attitudes and systems of prejudice. In our life together, grant us minds and hearts eager to learn, reluctant to judge, and responsive to the leading of your loving Spirit.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for those in our parish family, especially: Mildred, Lois, Tom, Molly, Jim, Rowen & Jan, Ann, Anne, Daisy, Tom, Champe, Keyon, Andy & Barrie, Laura, Sandra, Tricia & Don, Nell, Ludie, Robert, Marion, Nancy, Jim, Joseph, Mimi, Betty, David, Robin, Carol, Becki, and Janice. We also pray for Jayne Jackson. We pray for those at Brookshire, both residents and staff.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN #546: AWAKE, MY SOUL, STRETCH EVERY NERVE (VV. 1-3)

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. ***Amen.***

This Week's Schedule

Sunday (6/13): Pentecost 3

Worship and Formation

- **In-Person Holy Eucharist, Rite II** (church); 8:00am **registration form required**
- **Gathering** (Worship Zoom); 9:15am
- **Morning Prayer** (Worship Zoom); 9:30am
- **Parish Picnic & Holy Eucharist** (on the grounds); 11:00am **registration form required**

Monday (6/14)

- **Archives & History**: 10:00am; **registration form required**
- **Education for Ministry** (Formation Zoom); 6:30pm
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Tuesday (6/15):

- **Morning Silence** (Worship Zoom); 7:30am Gathering for Silent Meditation
- **Newsletter deadline**; 5:00pm
- **Vestry** (Meeting Zoom); 7:00pm
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Wednesday (6/16):

- **Morning Prayer** (Worship Zoom); 8:00am
- **In-Person Eucharist (Church)**; Noon; **registration form required**
- **Choir** (Meeting Zoom); 7:00pm
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Thursday (6/17)

- **Parish Pastoral Team** (Meeting Zoom); 5:00pm
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Friday (6/18)

- **Morning Prayer** (Worship Zoom); 8:00am
- **Compline** (Worship Zoom); 8:30pm

Sunday (6/13): Pentecost 4**Worship and Formation**

- **In-Person Holy Eucharist, Rite II** (church); 8:00am **registration form required**
- **Gathering** (Worship Zoom); 9:45am
- **Morning Prayer** (Worship Zoom); 10:00am

**Please mask up if you come into any of the buildings
on the church property!!**

No public gathering is completely safe.

The removal of masks for those who are unvaccinated can increase the potential risk of infection.

Unvaccinated people remain susceptible to contracting COVID-19.

Singing can increase transmission from infected individuals.

Sunday, June 13, is our Parish Picnic

The Parish Life Committee is happy to host a parish picnic on Sunday, June 13. We ask everyone to bring their own picnic lunch and a blanket or chairs and we will supply bottled drinks, water and dessert. We will begin with a short service of Holy Eucharist on the patio at 11:00am, then relax and eat before indulging in activities and games for all ages and energy levels. (Relaxing and getting reacquainted with fellow parishioners is also encouraged.) Let's welcome the summer of 2021 with the joy of being together again!

In-Person Eucharist services are now being offered (registration form required)

We are thrilled to be able to return to the church for some small services.

- Eucharist on Wednesdays at Noon
- We are offering Sunday morning 8:00am services in the church: Eucharist, Rite II, with music, followed by a simple "coffee hour."
- We will be following masking and social distancing protocols.

Please fill out the Parish Poll for Re-gathering:

Parish Poll: How shall we regather? Please click on the link below for a short five minute poll to help the Vestry and Staff best plan for our regathering this summer!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_vSE4pccWJAuZbRTcdipVTx2zr0-nkqjpm4wwXNvfXHAnQ/viewform

Small Informal Gatherings hosted by Vestry Members coming this Summer

To celebrate being able to regather in person, the vestry is delighted to host a series of small gatherings for parishioners over the coming months. The plan is to offer three small gatherings of about 20 people each month, hosted by a different vestry member. The specifics of each gathering will be announced one month at a time, and parishioners will be invited to use SignUp Genius to sign up on a first come, first served basis. In order that as many people as possible can participate, we ask that you sign up for just one event.

Here are the two remaining events planned for June:

- Saturday, June 19th at 7 pm – a Patio Cocktail/Mocktail and S'mores party hosted by Sonja Tilley
- Friday, June 25th –Happy Hour from 4-6 pm hosted by Vera & Jim Shanley;
We welcome all those who are fully vaccinated. Wine and soft drinks provided. Would welcome appetizer offerings from guests. Outside if weather permits. We will be excited to see you!"

Here is the SignUp Genius with more details and the sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e44aca82da7f58-small>.

Habitat for Humanity

St. Matthew's will be helping to build another house in Hillsborough this summer. We currently are signed up for one more date in June (the 26th). If you would like more information or would like to volunteer, please contact Ellen McRae at mcraeke@aol.com or 919-630-0587.

Re-Entry House Welcome Meal Train

As the ReEntry House opens here in Hillsborough, Pastor Merrill from Hillsborough Methodist Church is organizing a Meal Train for our new neighbors as they move in, as a way to welcome them. We are hoping to provide dinners (a main and side dish) for three people for the whole month of June. The plan is to bring these meals by on the Saturday before, premade and ready to be cooked/heated/assembled as we help our new neighbors get settled.

The plan is:

- Folks signup for however many meals they can provide per week.
- Meals would be dropped off between 11:00am and 2:00pm on the Saturday before, prepped and ready to be cooked/reheated throughout the week. Before delivering, folks would need to give Tommy Green or William Elmore a call, just to make sure someone is at the house to receive them.
- The house is off Carolina Loop, just out 70 toward Durham, so it is fairly convenient for folks to get there.

All the details, contact information, and location are in the signup. Thank you for any help you can give. The mission of Reentry House Plus (a nonprofit organization) is to assist formerly incarcerated people to reintegrate back into the community as healthy, productive citizens. The organization believes in second chances and is committed to doing their part to ensure that people receive the support, skills, and encouragement they need to rebuild their lives.

Here is the signup:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D48ACAC22A5FC1-reentry>

New Books in the Library

A section of the library in the Graebner Room will be dedicated to materials relevant to racial justice. We now have: *Kindred* by Octavia Butler, *The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin, *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander, *Just Mercy* by Bryan Steveson, and *Proud Shoes* by Pauli Murray and more books are soon to

come. You are welcome to sign these books out, read them at your leisure, and then return them.

Safe Haven Support for Caregivers

Caring for others is becoming necessary for families and friends. Whether loved ones are physically, mentally, or emotionally in need of care, at home or in a facility, because they cannot live on their own, the health of those responsible for them is at risk. We noticed that the Pandemic increased the isolation and concerns for caregivers. We believe this ministry will bring nonjudgmental encouragement, reduce the isolation, and provide emotionally healthy relationships within a safe and confidential space to encourage trust. As a community of Christians, we offer this ministry to our parish that will be defined to meet the needs of caregivers in an appropriate way through:

- Offering information and hypothetical situations to inspire authentic, open conversation
- Provide resources as requested from the larger community
- Regular gatherings on Zoom and /or in person when the time is right

Re. Para Drake (MDiv, ThM, BCCC, CPC) and David McDuffie (DMin) and members of the Pastoral Care Team are organizing this group and will be facilitating the meetings. First and foremost, they are committed to providing a safe, confidential space to hear your stories, to listen and respond to your needs and those expressed by the group

You are invited to sign up to “come and see” as together we organized this ministry. Your responses and participation are confidential. We are looking for six people to sign up so we can set up the initial meeting. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact one of us:

- Para: chaplaindrake@gmail.com; 919-698-8575
- David: dcmcduffie@gmail.com; 705-540-4385

Orange Congregations In Mission

Providing Beef Stew to Orange Congregations in Mission Food’s Pantry is a commitment St. Matthew’s has made and kept for years now. Bring your donated cans to the church anytime. Drop them in the basket under the alcove of the Hayden Building or leave them by one of the doors. So far we have received 63 cans; 112 to go to meet our monthly goal of 175.

Pride Month

You might have noticed that the town of Hillsborough is flying Pride Flags throughout the town for Pride Month. The belief that everyone is a child of God runs deep in our faith and we express it when we affirm the tenets in the Baptismal Covenant to “seek and serve Christ in all persons . . . to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.”—Robert Fruehwirth+

PRAYER LIST

We pray for all who are sick, or in any need or trouble, remembering especially the following members of our parish family: Mildred Pruessing, Lois Horn, Tom Vail, Molly Zaragoza, Jim Fesperman, Rowen & Jan Grant, Ann Burdette, Anne Weaver, Daisy Huffman, Tom Sinn, Champe Davis, Keyon Hutson, Andy & Barrie Wallace, Laura Middlebrooks, Sandra Poffenbarger, Tricia & Don Hill, Nell Schrader, Ludie White, Robert Locke, Nancy Harris, Jim von St. Paul, Jean Bartholomew, Joseph Riddick, Mimi Games, Betty Wolfe, David Arcus, Robin Arcus, Carol Parrent, Becky Horne, and Janice Stratton.

And these others for whom our prayers are desired: Betsy Zaragoza, Harry Dula, Arnold Thomas, Gail Clifford, Erin Vaughan, Bob Caldwell, Baylor Pisano, John Charton, Lucy Gradowski, Ken Foland, Savannah Fonvielle, Colleen Paisley, Ben Mueller, Richard Haase, Chip Joyner, John Logan, the Spurlocks, the Tuckers, Anna Lawrence & Dan Bass, Fred Edoughs, Timothy, Bob, Laura Merrill, Jeannine Beardslee, Brooke Harnisch & Dan Roberts, Amy, Evelyne Accad, Amalia, Maddie Powers, Allie, John & Rachel Hougom, Richard Stevens, Mary Beth, Karl & Janice Eicher, Knox Efland, Coleman Sale, Boardman Lloyd, the family of Chris Knotts, Bill, Chris Graebner, Michael Thompson, Andy, Drew, Sean Turnell, Sally Weaver, Joe Barnes, Millie Hinkle, Cyndi Martin, Joanna Huacani, the Wiley family: Amanda, Hayes, Julianna, and Jasper, Naomi Swainey, Maggie Malone, Benny Whitted, John Hougom, and Jayne Jackson.

We pray for all doctors and nurses, service workers, inmates, and the unemployed. We pray for educators, students, and parents of school-aged children.