

Holy Cross Episcopal Church

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Hymn

Here I am Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my peo-ple cry.
All who dwell in dark-ness now
My hand will save.

I who make the stars of night,
I will make their dark-ness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. It is I Lord.
I have heard you call-ing in the night.
I will go, Lord, where you lead me.
I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn a-way.

I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love a-lone.
I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. It is I Lord.
I have heard you call-ing in the night.
I will go, Lord, where you lead me.
I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.

Fin-est bread I will pro-vide,
Till their hearts be sat-is-fied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. It is I Lord.
I have heard you call-ing in the night.
I will go, Lord, where you lead me.
I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

The Word of God

The Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever.
Amen.*

*O give thanks to the Lord, and call upon his Name; make
known his deeds among the peoples.*

The Gloria (sung)

(NJ) Hear the teaching of Christ; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. And a second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Hear the teaching of Christ; a new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Let us confess our sins.

Silence held

*Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance; we have sinned in weakness; we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you. Forgive us, for our savior Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of your name.
Amen*

(NJ) Through the cross of Christ, God have mercy on you, pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. *Amen*

The peace of Christ rule in our hearts. *The word of Christ dwell in us richly.*

The Lessons

Romans 12:9-21

Sequence Hymn

The Summons

Verse 1

Will you come and follow Me
If I but call your name
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same
Will you let My love be shown
Will you let My name be known
Will you let My life be grown
In you and you in Me

Verse 2

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare
Will you let Me answer prayer
In you and you in Me

Verse 3

Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same
Will you kiss the leper clean
And do such as this unseen
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in Me

Verse 4

Will you love the you you hide
If I but call your name
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around
Through My sight and touch and sound
In you and you in Me

Verse 5

Lord Your summons echoes true
When You but call my name
Let me turn and follow You
And never be the same
In Your company I'll go
Where Your love and footsteps show
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In You and You in me

Matthew 16:21-28

The Sermon

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,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 of the People

(NJ) Gracious God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son.
Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the Church:

(A) Enliven the Church for its mission; ***that we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.***

(NJ) Breathe fresh life into your people; ***give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.***

(A) We pray for the world. Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace; ***that we may respect one another in freedom and truth.***

(NJ) Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it; ***teach us to care creatively for its resources.***

(A) We pray for the community. God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others; ***that all may act with integrity and courage.***

(NJ) Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours; ***may we serve Christ in one another, and love as Christ loves us.***

(A) We pray for those in need. God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit; *may they know the power of your healing love.*

(NJ) Make us willing agents of your compassion; *strengthen us as we share in making people whole.*

(A) We remember those who have died and those who mourn and those whose faith is known to you alone; *bring them peace in their time of loss.*

(NJ) Lord, you have called us to serve you; *grant that we may walk in your presence; your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

(A) Those things, good Lord, that your servants have prayed for, give us grace to work for; and in the purpose of your love answer our prayers and fulfill our hopes for Jesus' sake. *Amen*

Hymn

(NJ) Merciful Jesus, you are our beginning and you will be our end; we are made in your image and likeness. We praise and thank you for this day. This is the day on which you created light and saw that it was good. This is the day in whose early morning light we discover the tomb was empty, and encountered Christ, the world's true light. This is the day you have made; we shall rejoice and be glad in it.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace; where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

(A) Eternal God, grant to us this day and every day such readiness and delight in following Christ, that whether our lives are short or long we shall have lived abundantly. *Amen*

(A) Let us pray together the traditional Lord's Prayer a gift from our foremothers and fathers,

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 that 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.

The Blessing and Dismissal

Closing Hymn

Love The Lord

Verse 1

Love the Lord your God with all your heart
With all your soul with all your mind
And with all your strength
Love the Lord your God with all your heart
With all your soul with all your mind
And with all your strength

Chorus 1

With all your heart with all your soul
With all your mind with all your strength
Love the Lord your God with all your heart
With all your soul with all your mind
And with all your strength

Verse 2

I will serve the Lord
With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind and with all my strength
I will serve the Lord
With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind and with all my strength

Chorus 2

With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind with all my strength
I will serve the Lord with all my heart
With all my soul with all my mind
And with all my strength

Bridge

I will love You (I will love You)
I will praise You (I will praise You)
I will serve You (I will serve You)
I will trust You Lord (I will trust You)

Chorus 3

With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind with all my strength
With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind with all my strength

I will love You Lord with all my heart
With all my soul with all my mind
And with all my strength

I will love You Lord with all my heart
With all my soul with all my mind
And with all my strength

I will love You Lord with all my heart

With all my soul with all my mind
And with all my strength