

Holy Cross Episcopal Church

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Hymn

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

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's 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

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

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

Sequence Hymn

Matthew 22: 1-14

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

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:

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

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

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.***

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

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.***

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

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.***

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

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.***

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.***

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

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.

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***

The Lord's Prayer

The Blessing and Dismissal

Closing Hymn

