****

**A warm welcome to**

**St. Paul’s Episcopal Church**

**Bailey’s Crossroads**

A picture containing outdoor, grass, mammal, cow

Description automatically generated

**The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 26, 2020**

**Liturgy of the Word 10:30 a.m.**

**The Rev. Elizabeth W. Tomlinson, Priest in Charge**

**Anna EunJoung Ko, Music Director**

**3439 Payne Street, Falls Church, Virginia 22041**

**703.820.2625❖ www.stpaulsbxr.org**

|  |
| --- |
| **July 26, 2020 The 8th Sunday after Pentecost**  **10:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Word** |
| **Prelude** |
| **Call to worship**  *No good will the Lord withhold from those who walk with integrity O Lord of hosts happy are*  *they who put their trust in you. Psalm 84:11-12* |
| **Opening Hymn “ ‘Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus” LEVAS 108 v.1**  **‘Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,**  **Just to take Him at His word.**  **Just to rest upon His promise,**  **Just to know, “Thus saith the Lord.”** |
| **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD** |
| **Opening Sentence & Collect for Purity BCP 355**  *Officiant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  ***People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**  *The Collect for Purity*  Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from  you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the  inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and  worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.*** |
| *The Officiant says to the people*  The Lord be with you.  ***People*** And also with you.  *Officiant* Let us pray. |
| **Collect of the Day**  O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom  nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon  us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may  so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns  with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.*** |
| **The Lessons**  **The First Reading Genesis 29:15-28**  Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.  Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.  Reader The Word of the Lord.  ***People Thanks be to God.***  **Psalm 105:1-11, 45b**  *Confitemini Domino*  1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; \* make known his deeds among the peoples.  2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \* and speak of all his marvelous works.  3 Glory in his holy Name; \* let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.  4 Search for the Lord and his strength; \* continually seek his face.  5 Remember the marvels he has done, \* his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,  6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \* O children of Jacob his chosen.  7 He is the Lord our God; \* his judgments prevail in all the world.  8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, \* the promise he made for a thousand generations:  9 The covenant he made with Abraham, \* the oath that he swore to Isaac,  10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, \* an everlasting covenant for Israel,  11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan \* to be your allotted inheritance."  45b Hallelujah! **The Second Reading Romans 8:26-39** The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.  We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.  What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,  “For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”  No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.  Reader The Word of the Lord  ***People Thanks be to God*** |
|  |
| **Sequence Hymn**  **“ “Thy kingdom come!” on bended knee” Hymn 615 v. 1&5**  **“Thy kingdom come!” on bended knee**  **The passing ages pray;**  **And faithful souls have yearned to see**  **On earth that kingdom’s day**  **When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,**  **Shall walk the earth abroad;**  **The day of perfect righteousness,**  **The promised day of God.**    Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  according to Matthew  ***People Glory to you, Lord Christ*** |
| **Matthew 13:31-33,44-52**  Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”  He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”  “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.  “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.  “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.  “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”  Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.  ***People Praise to you, Lord Christ*.** |
|  |
| **Sermon The Rev. Elizabeth Tomlinson** |
| **Nicene Creed**  *Please join us as we reaffirm our faith by saying together the words of the Nicene Creed*  **We believe in one God,**  **the Father, the Almighty,**  **maker of heaven and earth,**  **of all that is, seen and unseen.**  **We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**  **the only Son of God,**  **eternally begotten of the Father,**  **God from God, Light from Light,**  **true God from true God,**  **begotten, not made,**  **of one Being with the Father.**  **Through him all things were made.**  **For us and for our salvation**  **he came down from heaven:**  **by the power of the Holy Spirit**  **he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,**  **and was made man.**  **For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**  **he suffered death and was buried.**  **On the third day he rose again**  **in accordance with the Scriptures;**  **he ascended into heaven**  **and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  **He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**  **and his kingdom will have no end.**  **We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**  **who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**  **With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**  **He has spoken through the Prophets.**  **We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**  **We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**  **We look for the resurrection of the dead,   and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*** |
| **Prayers of the People Form VI BCP 392**  *Reader*  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.  *Silence*  *Reader*  Lord, in your mercy  ***People Hear our prayer.***  *Reader*  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.  *Silence*  *Reader*  Lord, in your mercy  ***People Hear our prayer.***  *Reader*  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.  *Silence*  *Reader*  Lord, in your mercy  ***People Hear our prayer.***  *Reader*  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.  *Silence*  *Reader* Lord, in your mercy  ***People Hear our prayer.***  *Reader*  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.  *Silence*  *Reader* Lord, in your mercy  ***People Hear our prayer.***  *Reader*  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*  *Reader* Lord, in your mercy  ***People Hear our prayer***.  *The Officiant*  Gracious God, we ask your blessings for all those on our prayer  list that in your compassion and wisdom you will attend to all  their needs and will make your presence known to them. ***Amen***  *The Officiant adds a concluding Collect*  Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick  servants and give your power of healing to those who minister to their  needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered and all those who  are ill but are unknown to us may be strengthened in their weakness  and have confidence in your loving care; 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**  *Please join with us as we say together the Lord’s Prayer*  **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.**   |  | | --- | | **The Peace**  *Officiant* Christ gave to us His peace, a peace that cannot be given  by the world. With grateful hearts let us accept that gift so   lovingly given. May the peace of the Lord be always with you.  ***People* And also with you**  **Closing Prayers**  ***Officiant*** The Lord be with you  ***People And also with you***  ***Officiant*** Let us Pray  **Prayer for our Country**  Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage:  We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a  people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land  with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save  us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance,  and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one  united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds  and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy  Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be  justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law,  we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the  time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day  of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through  Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  **In Times of Conflict**  O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us in the  midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another  without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual  forebearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  **A Prayer attributed to St. Francis**  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 doubt, faith; where there is despair,  hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.  Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is  in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **Amen.**  **A Prayer for Heroic Service**  O Judge of the nations we remember before you with grateful hearts  the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Most especially we remember  this day thy servant John Robert Lewis, a founding father of the Civil  Rights Movement and a Congressman from the state of Georgia. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold and a  lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him  into the arms of your mercy into the blessed rest of everlasting peace  and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Let light perpetual shine on him. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This  we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  **Blessing** In the sure and present knowledge of our Creator’s  presence among us,May the blessing of God Almighty,  Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and   for ever more.  **Amen.**  **Closing Hymn “Lead me, guide me, along the way” LEVAS**  **Refrain**  **Lead me, guide me, along the way,**  **For I you lead me, I cannot stray.**  **Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.**  **Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.**  **Verse 1**  **I am weak and I need thy strength and power**  **To help me over my weakest hour;**  **Help e through the darkness**  **Thy face to see, Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.**  **Refrain**  **Lead me, guide me, along the way,**  **For I you lead me, I cannot stray.**  **Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.**  **Lead me, Oh Lord, lead me.**  **Dismissal**  *Officiant*  And now with the power that raised Jesus from the dead  at work within you, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.   Alleluia, alleluia!  ***People* In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia!** | |