

# The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020

The Opening Voluntary *Toccata on "Praise to the Lord, The Almighty"* Hans Friedrich Micheeleesen

Introit: *Joy shall be in heaven*

Luke 15, Psalm 32

Processional Hymn *Lobe den Herren*

Hymn 390

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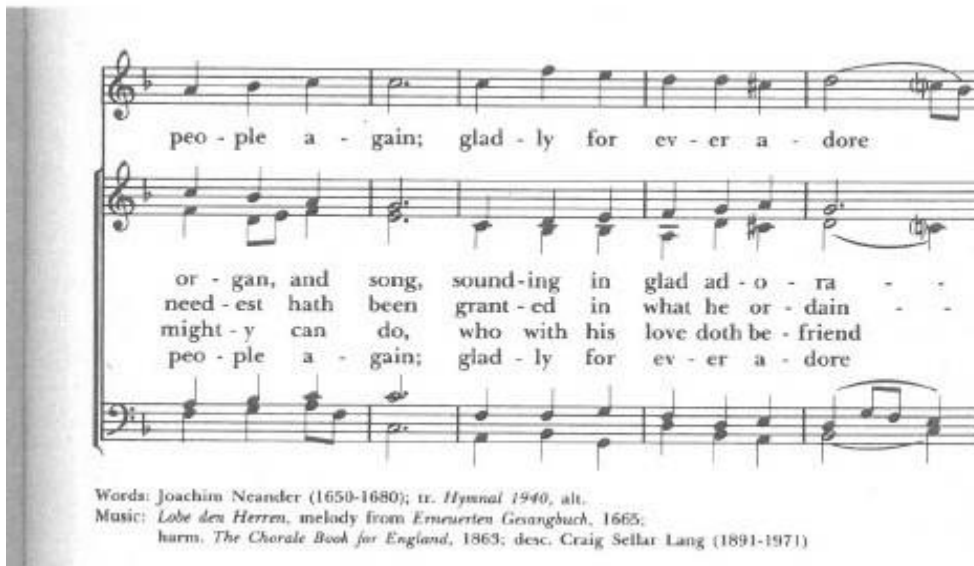
Praise to God

*Descant*

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -  
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly  
3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -  
4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with  
a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy  
reign - eth; borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his  
fend - thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall  
dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound - from his  
health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,  
saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou  
ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -  
prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his



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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*People together:*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all  
goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in  
eternal life. *Amen.*

## S 280

## Canticle 20

Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.  
People **And also with you.**  
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord

**People:**     *Thanks be to God*

## Psalm 114   *In exitu Israel*

- 1   Hallelujah!  
    When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
    the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2   Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
    and Israel his dominion.
- 3   The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
    Jordan turned and went back.
- 4   The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
    and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5   What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
    O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6   You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
    you little hills like young sheep?
- 7   Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
    at the presence of the God of Jacob,

- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

### **Romans 14:1-12**

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Celebrant: The Word of the Lord

**People:**     *Thanks be to God*

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## Christian Responsibility

## Introduction



1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing till earth and hea - ven ring, ring with the  
2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the  
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, thou who hast



har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise  
days when hope un - born had died; yet, with a stead - y beat,  
brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might



high as the lis - tening skies; let it re - sound loud as the  
have not our wea - ry feet come to the place for which our  
led us in - to the light; keep us for ev - er in the



roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has  
par - ents sighed? We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been  
path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we

taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has  
wa - tered; we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the  
met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for -

brought us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new  
slaugh - tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we  
get thee; sha - dowed be - neath thy hand may we for

day be - gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.  
stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
ev - er stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Words: James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938)

Music: *Lift Every Voice*, J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954)

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## Matthew 18:21-35

**Celebrant:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be

made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ*

## The Sermon

Rev. Nicholas Hull

### 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.**

### The Prayers of the People

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*



Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others especially Lou, Julia, Scott, Marie, Pam, John, Hilda, Mike, Sarah, Jane, Larry, David, Pete, Rusty, Darlene, Sharon, Ulla, Kathy, Ron, Kathy, Kerielea, Pat, Katherine, Linda, Crystal, Tammy, Mallory, James, Rocky, Katherine, Mary Ruth, Melissa, Colette, Linda, Jimmie, Lewis, Linda Bender, Kristin, Jimmy, Pat, Renee and David Bullins.

*Silence*

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son:  
Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve  
in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory Anthem

*Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*

The Southern Harmony

The Lord's Prayer (People and Celebrant)

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.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion (*People and Celebrant*)

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. *Amen.* (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

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## The Holy Spirit

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn  
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,  
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing,  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing,  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt.  
 Music: Down Ampney, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

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## Dismissal

My friends, life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be swift to love and make haste to be kind and go forth in the name of Christ.

The Closing Voluntary "Praise to the Lord, The Almighty" Johann Gottfried Walther

Please inform the Church office at [office@christchurchmvl.org](mailto:office@christchurchmvl.org) if anyone needs to be added or removed from the prayer list.

We remember in our prayers our companion church of All Saints Keighley and its Priest, Jonathan Pritchard and our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Mark Bourlakas. The Diocese of Haiti and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Jean Zache Duracin. The Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines.

## Annual Meeting

Dear Christ Church,

This is just a friendly reminder that this year's annual meeting is coming up this Sunday, September 13th, at 5:30 pm!

I hate that we will have to meet on Zoom, and that there is no practical way we can facilitate discussion as part of our annual meeting, which is something that I have cherished these past few years. If you have anything that needs to be addressed privately, or publicly, I encourage you to reach out to me or any of your elected vestry members. Below you can find pertinent information about the meeting and instructions on how to join.

**The Annual Meeting will begin with Evening Prayer right at 5:30. Because of the meeting, we will not have our typical service in the Gathering Space at 5:00.**

We will be electing future vestry members at the meeting. We have four people running and four slots available, so we will elect them by acclamation. I regret that Ben Beeler will no longer be able to run this year, but I am very thankful that Hank Long has agreed to run in his stead. With this change, our vestry slate this year will be: Hank Long, Ruby Stultz, Pat Walmsley, and Rebin Titus. If you would like to run for vestry, please let us know as soon as possible, so we can plan accordingly.

The remainder of the meeting will be the Senior and Junior Warden's Reports, the Treasurer's Report, and the Rector's Address.

Though meeting on Zoom is not ideal, it is much better than not being able to meet at all, and even if you have reservations about using Zoom, I hope that you try to join us. Below you can find the link to join the annual meeting. The link will be "live" a few minutes before 5:30 pm on Sunday. If you are on a computer, all you should have to do is click the link, and you will start to join the meeting. If you are using a smartphone or tablet, you should download the free Zoom app beforehand to make joining easier. You should not be asked for a password, but just in case that you do, it is "peanut". (Note: the password is different if you "dial" in.)

There will also be an option to join by dialing in over a regular phone connection. What you should do is call the number below at 5:30 on Sunday, and when prompted, enter the meeting ID number and password. This will allow you to listen to the meeting, even over a landline, but unfortunately, you will not be able to see what is going on.

**Here is the Zoom link for the Annual Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82741261463?pwd=WjRVR0NoS1F3cHNwNmtLU1crSWxHUT09>

Password: peanut

Here is the number to dial if you want to listen over a normal phone connection:

1-929-205-6099

When prompted put in the meeting ID

**Meeting ID: 827 4126 1463**

If prompted, put in the meeting password (note, this is only if you are calling in)

**Password: 434580**

As always, if you have any questions, or even if you would like to practice joining a Zoom meeting, please reach out to me.

Blessings,

Nick

**Grace Network - Our Grace Network Assignments for September 2020: Spaghetti Sauce (24 oz. jar or can) For the month of September: Dish Detergent, Deodorant, Laundry Detergent. They are also in need of grocery bags for their food pantry. Use the Food Lion card for your shopping or give the card to Sue Rosser to shop for Grace Network. "Grace is counting on us to help keep their food pantry balanced. Thank you for supporting this outreach ministry."**

The annual Grace Network Pumpkin Patch! The pumpkins are coming and we are so excited to bring this wonderful beautiful community effort to life this year more than ever! I think this year, folks will love seeing the patch come alive and will put a smile on the faces of our community. In order for us to have a successful patch, we need volunteers to man the patch for us, so if your church is interested in helping, please contact **Sandi Teague**, our new coordinator at **340-6288 cell/ 632-7655 home**. She will be able to share where and when we need volunteers. We will practice safe distancing, sanitary washing station and masks when appropriate for our volunteers and our customers. The pumpkins will be arriving on **September 25 at 4pm at the First Baptist Church, Martinsville** at Starling and Mulberry and could use help unloading for anyone interested in helping with that.