

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ROSEVILLE, MN



Weed and Wheat

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 11, Year A

July 19, 2020

Welcome to Worship with St. Christopher's!

Next Sunday's readings: Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52. (*Pentecost 8, Proper 12, Year A.*)

Audio recordings of sermons and videos of Sunday worship are available online at our website. Please click on ACT, then Worship, and then Sermons.

The Word of God

Prelude

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

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

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray: Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people sit.

The Lessons

A Reading from the book of *Genesis* [28:10-19a]

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How

awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23

**Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

**You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**

**You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.**

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

**Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?**

**If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.**

**If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

**Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.**

**If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"**

**Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.**

**Search me out, O God, and know my heart; *
try me and know my restless thoughts.**

**Look well whether there be any wickedness in me *
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.**

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome [8:12-25]

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a

spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

The Gospel—Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Another parable Jesus put before the crowds: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people sit.

The Sermon

The Rev. Randy W. Johnson

The people stand.

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

Form 6, Book of Common Prayer p. 392

The Deacon bids the prayers:

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and **Craig** our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Presider

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The people stand

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The people sit.

Greetings & Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship, Prayer 1

The people stand.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down on this day from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in

Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Christopher and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

The Invitation

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him
in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Post Communion Prayer

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Dismissal

The Deacon says the dismissal.

The People respond: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Today's Readers:

Readers: Evelynne Thompson
Chris Mayr

Intercessor: Kathy Ackerman

***Please pray for our Members and Friends who are in Acute need:
Barbara Danley, Betty Davies, Millie Woodbury, Marcia Rockwood***

Please pray for our Shut Ins and Members with ongoing needs:

Mary Barkley	Ruth Buechler	Ebie Richards	Evelynne
Jerry Baxter	Pamela Case	Mary Richards	Thompson
Jean Brandt	Bob Curtis	Dave Stewart	Barb Wilkinson
Dan Brown	Don Horton	Barb Swanson	Roberta Williams
Dennis Buechler	Ken Ives	Jean Swesey	Lois Zwieg

Please pray for our family and friends with ongoing needs:

Vicky Williams, Karen Olson, Rev. Barb Fairbanks, Dave Zwickey, Dan B., David Trescott, Tim & Sue Newman, Bonnie, Lois Purrington, Gretchen Glueck, Savannah Rausch, Geri & Bud Julkowski, Jerry, Marie Durbin, Renee Forst, Jack Cork, Bev Singleton, Olivia McLoughlin, Elizabeth Bergum, Steve & Pam, Wanda Alexander, Parker Bergum, Mary Jane LaPlant, Ruth Engdahl, Susan, Kirk Ingram, Amy, Marmie, Ann, Russ Amling, Virginia L. Nymeyer, Diane Ferry, Sue Hitchcock, Willy Klingenberg, ViAnn Arneson, Jim VonDeLinde, Brenda Beard Conley, Conner Eischens, Sally Herrmann, Merle Anderson, Jan Holte, Dave Waring, Sydney Eischens, Judie Cason, Kit Corti, Russell Hitchcock, Tim & Nancy Kersten, Missy Peterson.

Pray for all who have died, especially Bob Iverslie, friend of Don Shiek.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, please pray for the Dioceses of Maridi (South Sudan), Udi (Nigeria), and Highveld (South Africa).

In the Episcopal Church in Minnesota Cycle of prayer, please pray for all who would have or still may go to ECMN camps: Episcopal Creative Arts Daycamp, Episcopal Kids Camp, Episcopal Youth Quest Camp, Episcopal Youth Music Camp, Summer in the City, Episcopal Family Camp; and all who are who would have or still may embark on mission projects during the summer in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota. If Covid-19 does not allow our young people to participate, please hold them close in your prayers as they grieve what they will miss, and dream of what is becoming. Please pray for St. James faith communities in Fergus Falls, Hibbing, Marshall, and Minneapolis.

Please pray for peace; and for children caught in crisis at our borders. Please pray for our neighbors who are refugees and immigrants. Please pray for Syria. Please pray for the President and Congress of the United States. Please pray for the victims of the Coronavirus, and for the caregivers and first responders who care for them. Please pray for all those whose lives have been disrupted by recent marches and riots worldwide.

Please pray also for our enemies and for those who wish us harm.

In Thanksgiving: we give thanks for the ministries of our members as they continue to live as the Church away from our building.

We remember those who celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries this week:

Diana Schleicher, Jean Hammer, Margaret Jones, Joe Brilowski, Austin Trapnell

Mike and Carol Ammermann; Christopher and Erin Bowman