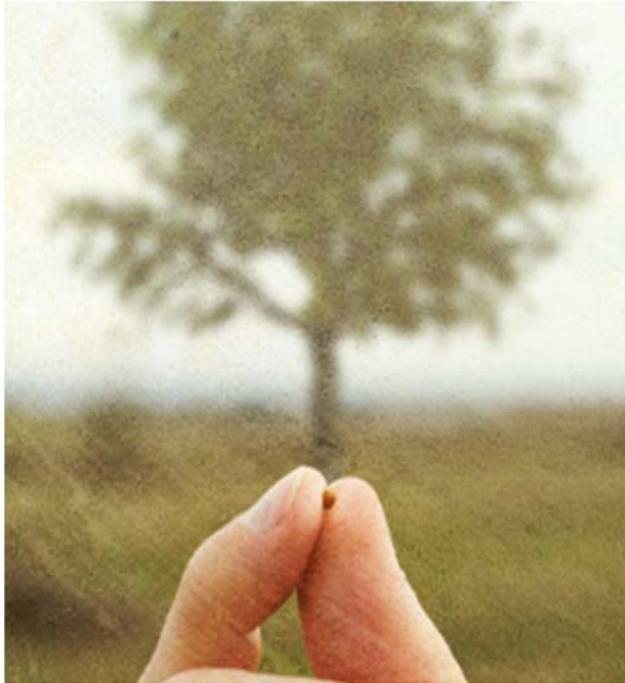


**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
ROSEVILLE, MN



**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Proper 12, Year A  
**July 26, 2020**

# Welcome to Worship with St. Christopher's!

**Wednesday service** at 12:15 p.m. in the Kitchen Garden, weather permitting.

**Next Sunday's readings:** Genesis 22:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 16; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21.  
(*Pentecost 9, Proper 13, 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: 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 people sit.*

## The Lessons

### ***A Reading from 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**

**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.**

**Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
and speak of all his marvelous works.**

**Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

**Search for the Lord and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.**

**Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,**

**O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.**

**He is the Lord our God; \*  
his judgments prevail in all the world.**

**He has always been mindful of his covenant, \*  
the promise he made for a thousand generations:**

**The covenant he made with Abraham, \*  
the oath that he swore to Isaac,**

**Which he established as a statute for Jacob, \*  
an everlasting covenant for Israel,**

**Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan \*  
to be your allotted inheritance."**

**Hallelujah!**

### **A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome [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.**

*The people stand.*

### **The Gospel—Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

*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 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."

*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.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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*

## **Thank You**

A gift has been given to the Altar Guild by Stephanie Mann,  
in memory of her husband, Jack Mann.

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## **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 Zwieng

***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*