



*The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD – RITE II**  
Sunday, 13 September 2020 + 10:30 AM  
*Pensacola, Florida + Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast*

**The Prelude: Adoro Te Devote**  
*Prelude with Four Variations*  
– Gerald Near

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**Welcome**

*(The People stand)*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD** *BCP 355*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

**Song of Praise: The Lord's My Shepherd (Psalm 23)**  
– Brother James' Air (*Sung by the Canterbury Choir*)

**The Collect of the Day**

*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.**

**The First Lesson** (*The People are seated.*)

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Exodus.  
*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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**  
*Silence may be kept.*

**The Psalm – Psalm 114** *BCP 756*

**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.**

## The Second Lesson

*Reader* A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the

Romans.

*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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may be kept.*

### Hymn 376 – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

**The Gospel** (*The People stand.*)

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. *Matthew 18:21-35*

*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."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

*The Rev. Dr. Michael Hoffman*

*Silence may be kept.*

**The Nicene Creed**

*BCP 358*

***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*

*Priest:* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.  
(*The People kneel*)

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 all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.  
*Silence*

We pray this day for all those suffering from the coronavirus, or any other illness; for those who worry about their families and friends, and about their jobs and livelihoods; and for all those at the forefront of our health care and public safety systems.

We pray for the sick and hospitalized in our parish and community.

We pray for all those on our hearts and minds this day, those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

*Silence*  
*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

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

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

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.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.  
*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*BCP 364*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**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 Mission**

*BCP 101*

*Celebrant and People*

**Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you: for the honor of your name. Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*BCP 360*

*All Stand*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## **Announcements**

### **The Blessing**

### **The Dismissal**

*BCP 360*

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

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## **The Postlude: Prelude in C Major**

– J.S. Bach

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*If you are in a position to continue giving to Christ Church, please consider the following options:*

- ❖ *Mail in your offering to Christ Church: 18 W Wright St, Pensacola, FL 32501.*
- ❖ *Give Online, see our website or visit: <https://my.e360giving.com/App/Giving/chri18w216>.*
- ❖ *Text GIVE to (850) 403-6673. There will be a one-time quick registration. Once the registration is complete, future giving only requires you to text "GIVE" with the amount to (850) 403-6673.*

*Thank you for giving to Christ Church.*

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## GOSPEL REFLECTION

*Take a moment to reflect on the Gospel passage. Some guided reflection questions are provided here:*

In our Gospel lesson today, we have two visions of a “kingdom.” In the first, Jesus tells Peter that forgiveness is not limited in the kingdom of heaven. It is a vision of boundless mercy. In the second, Jesus shows what an earthly kingdom might look like; even when the king is just, in the end there is no mercy. The wicked slave seems to get what he deserved.

Now, we must recognize that it is possible to attain the kingdom of heaven here on earth. But only if we live as the “beloved community,” seeking justice for all but never running out of mercy. At the end of the day, would you rather be judged based on what you deserve or based on the boundless mercy of God in Jesus?

## PRAYERS FOR PERSONAL DEVOTION

### *Prayer for Unity in Time of Pandemic:*

Most merciful God, whose Son Jesus Christ traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness”: We pray to you for all who are sick with the coronavirus, for those who have died, and for all who fear what lies ahead. As we stay apart to protect our bodies, let us come together in spirit to heal our souls, that your love for us may be manifest in our love and support for each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *Prayer of Thanksgiving:*

Gracious God, creator of all and giver of all that is good: I give you thanks for this day and every day, for your presence in my life, for my friends and neighbors gathered here this day, for your Church, and for our worship together in thanksgiving and praise to you. I pray that you will continue to lead me closer to you and help me to more perfectly love you and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *Prayer for Justice:*

O God, you have bound us together in a common life; Grant that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move us, in the midst of our struggles for justice, equality and truth, to break down the barriers which divide us, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together for the common good, in a spirit of love, mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



## CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

18 West Wright Street  
Pensacola, Florida 32501  
Phone: (850) 432-5115 Fax: 434-8700  
**e-mail:** chronicle@christ-church.net  
**web:** www.christ-church.net

### CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Michael Hoffman, <i>Rector</i>	Britton Lynn, <i>Director of Youth Ministry</i>
The Rev. Walter Kindergan, <i>Associate</i>	Honey Harris, <i>Ministry Engagement Coordinator</i>
The Rev. Katie Gillett, <i>Associate</i>	Tim Heindl, <i>Parish Administrator</i>
The Rev. Deacon Rachel Iversen, <i>Deacon</i>	Kelly Heindl, <i>Parish Secretary</i>
The Rev. Leonard Roberts Graves,	Traci Hart, <i>Director of Communications</i>
The Rev. John Walter Phillips, II,	Bobbie Smith & Cleveland Swift <i>Sextons</i>
The Rev. Jandy H. Watkins, <i>Assisting Clergy</i>	Jean Karadin, <i>Senior Verger</i> Derek Nelson, <i>Verger</i>
Paul Miller, <i>Interim Director of Music</i>	Kenneth Karadin, <i>Church Musician and Liturgist Emeritus</i>
Treece Efird, <i>Music Associate</i>	

### THE VESTRY

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Mia Jerrems, John Matthews, Carrie Stevenson  
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