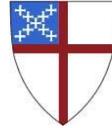


St. Augustine's

In The Woods



An Episcopal Church serving Whidbey Island
Compassion - Commitment - Community - Reverence - Reconciliation

A Greening Congregation



A Celebration of Christ's Healing Ministry

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

A Celebration of Christ's Healing Ministry
Today we remember Constance, Nun, and Her Companions
Commonly called "The Martyrs of Memphis" 1878

Acclamation

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

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.

Trisagion

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

We give you thanks and praise, O God of compassion, for the heroic witness of Constance and her companions, who, in a time of plague and pestilence, were steadfast in their care for the sick and dying, and loved not their own lives, even unto death: Inspire in us a like love and commitment to those in need, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lesson 2 Corinthians 1: 3-5

Reader: A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25: 15-21

15 Turn to me and have pity on me, *
for I am left alone and in misery.

16 The sorrows of my heart have increased; *
bring me out of my troubles.

17 Look upon my adversity and misery *
and forgive me all my sin.

18 Look upon my enemies, for they are many, *
and they bear a violent hatred against me.

19 Protect my life and deliver me; *
let me not be put to shame, for I have trusted in you.

20 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, *
for my hope has been in you.

21 Deliver Israel, O God, *
out of all his troubles.

The Gospel John 12: 24-28

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Rev. Canon Joan Anthony

“Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.” These words, of Jesus to his disciples come as the danger to him was growing. He was seen as a revolutionary, something the Roman’s did not tolerate. Some Greeks came to Philip a disciple of Jesus and asked to see Jesus. Philip told Andrew and together they went and told Jesus of the visitors. It was in response to this request that Jesus agreed to see the Greeks. He began to speak of servanthood and dying, of glory and the bearing of much fruit.

Yellow Fever is a viral infection that was often seen in the sub-tropical southern United States. In 1878 an epidemic broke out in Memphis Tenn., the third such epidemic in ten years. More than half of the citizens of Memphis left to escape infection. That left 20,000 or so people in the city. Death tolls averaged 200 daily and the total number of people who died of the disease is estimated at 5,000 or approximately 10% of the total population and 25% of the people who remained in Memphis, whether by choice or because they had nowhere else to go. An Episcopal order of nuns, The Sisters of St. Mary, a teaching order who had come to found a Girls school in 1873. Only five years later their mission was drastically altered.

Together with laypeople, priests and people of other denominations volunteers cared for those who were sick and dying.

The ministry of these people is described as follows: “The Cathedral buildings were located in the most infected region of Memphis. Here, amid sweltering heat and scenes of indescribable horror, these men and women of God gave relief to the

sick, comfort to the dying and homes to the many orphaned children.” Six nuns and two clergy were among those who died. It was not until 1900 that the cause of Yellow fever was isolated. Mosquitos of a specific breed were the cause of the infections. The work of Walter Reed, a military doctor confirmed earlier work in Cuba by Carlos Findley. At the time the only way to eradicate the disease was to drain swamps to eliminate the mosquito breeding ground. It was not until 1951 that a vaccine was developed to protect against yellow fever.

Jesus said that those who served him must follow him. The reverse is also true, those who follow Jesus must also serve him. Constance and her Companions, people of all ages, gender and calling in life proved that to be true. We who are followers of Jesus are also servants of him. Perhaps not in so dramatic ways as to intentionally put oneself in harm’s way as did those who cared for the sick in Memphis. But in as we look around today, as we live with COVID and await a vaccine, many are putting themselves who are people of faith or humanity are following in the footsteps of Constance and all the others. Even in some ways, each of us.

A Litany of Healing Form 2

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer pain and ill-health, those who suffer in mind and spirit, especially any we name now:

Silence

We pray for their families and friends and those who care for them.

May we all know the deep peace of Christ.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence the suffering people of our world, and the places where people are experiencing division, injustice, and violence, especially any we name now:

Silence

We pray for all who work to relieve suffering, end division, overcome injustice and stop violence, especially any we name now:

Silence

We pray that conflict may be resolved and that justice may be served.

May we all know the deep peace of Christ.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those struggling to overcome addictions or abuse, those supporting and working with them, and all those whose suffering has distanced them from those who love them, especially any we name now:

Silence

We pray for the gifts of loving relationship and peace, and all who long for them.
May we all know the deep peace of Christ.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those whose needs we do not know and those whose names we do not know, confident that they are known to you. We name in our hearts those who are close to us, for whom we pray:

Silence

We pray for the gifts of wisdom and insight, and the strength to support all who we encounter who are or have been lost.
May we all know the deep peace of Christ.

Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

**All: God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves,
and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Presider: 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.**

In the place of laying on of hands and anointing, the following takes place

Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Holy Scripture teaches us that Jesus healed many who were sick as a sign of the reign of God come near, and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing through prayer in his name.

This ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. In the laying on of hands and anointing we proclaim the Good News that God desires us to live wholesome lives and be one in the body of Christ. You are invited to share in this rite, asking for healing for yourself, and also for any concern or request you wish to make in the Name of the Holy and undivided Trinity.

While we are not able to be together in person, the ministry of healing and prayer continue without ceasing. The laying on of hands and the anointing with holy oil are the outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace, given by Christ and available to all who accept them in faith.

Raising my hand as a sign of blessing that is yours, I pray that you will be strengthened and filled with God's grace and that you may know the healing power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May the God who goes before you through desert places by night and by day be your companion and guide; may your journey be with the saints; may the Holy Spirit be your strength, and Christ your clothing of light, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Offertory

Presider: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Great Thanksgiving ~ Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Presider 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Constance, Nun, and her companions, Augustine, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy things for holy people.

Those experiencing this liturgy at home are invited to pray:

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory, and particularly for the blessings given us. We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Silence is kept

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider and People:

Good and gracious God, Holy One in our midst: we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.

Blessing

Presider: God the Creator bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to that heavenly country; where Love lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Presider: Alleluia, Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Prayer List for St. Augustine's:

Eric Reid, Nancy Pendergast, Ianna King, Lorainne Bayes, Blythe Hewitt, Alex Roe, Andrea Roe, Beth & Mark Gearhart, Barbara Self, Barbara Houston, Kathryn Rickert, Debbie Kirchhauser, Lori Morrison, Fr Valery, Greg Murphy, Brian Van Wetter, Julie Bird, Joy & Craig Johnson, Sylvia Brooksbank, David Roe, Paul Loudon, Lydia Coats, Colleen Corbett, Dewey Martin, Deacon Dennis & Linda McManis, Kris Jaeger, Lisa Rohlfing, Debby Denno, Katie Reid, Diana Lindsey, Levi Doss, Amanda King, Jim Christiansen, Carole Halsan, Debbie Wright, Peter Martin, Nathan Arnold, Pete & Nettie Snyder, Katrina, Nadia, & Derek, Marianne Tuttle & family, Chris Lubinski, Ed Klein, Roger Howarth, Tom Bauling, Sydney McCready, Vina Kazsmarcek, Ray Kazsmarcek, LaurieJean, Nancy Cox, Babs & Gary Stone, Margaret Schultz, Peggy Mitchell, Nancy Paris, Tim Smith, and Jim Ramler, Audrey Taie & family, all of the people at Maple Ridge, and Elliot Kearns & family, Austin Skubi, Lynn Willeford, Gavin Campbell, Ana Kinkaid, Suzy Palmer, Mark Halloran, John Meyer, Talia Petosa, Gary Smith, Cary Dial, Janie Warren, Jonathan Morgan & Dana Bublitz, Ruth Epstein, Alice O'Grady, Fr. Alexander Tkachenko, Dannette Masterson, Jill Uhacz, Diana Klein, Wally & Sally Campbell, Vickie Russo, Rick Schutte, and Gretchen Wood.

Prayers for people who work on the front lines:

All those who are in the food supply chain, the farm workers, processors, delivery folks and the people in our local grocery stores

Maureen Masterson - Compass Health

Renee Wilson, Nurse, Columbus Regional Hospital, Columbus, IN

Cheyenne Wilson, Nursing Asst, Columbus Regional Hospital, Columbus, IN

Tommy Hanson - US Naval Hospital

Keith - Paramedic

Dawn Meyer, Psychologist, Seattle

Mark Taylor, Healthcare worker

Alysia Doss - ICU Nurse

Paulette Bishoff, Nurse

Christopher Doss, Home Health worker

Diana DiBiase, VA Hospital, Seattle
Liviya Thoreson Whyte, Hospitalist Providence
Lisa Dillon Lantz, Nurse
Amber Halligan, ICU Nurse
Sean Plattner - firefighter EMT
Matt Idso, Scientist - Institute for Systems Biology
Cricket Farr, Full Life Care, Seattle
Amy Breuninger, Healthgiver
Kenny Downs - Naval Air Station Whidbey Island
Denny Huff, Firefighter
April Wooderson - ER Nurse
Brook Wooderson - Police Dept.
Heather Wooderson - Police Dept.
Candra Ramezani - Firefighter
Lynsey Barker - Intubation nurse at Harborview, Seattle
Austin Skubi - Social Worker - Providence, Everett
The staff of Providence, Everett
Karen Eaton - Social Worker UW Hospital
Melissa Anthony EMT - Vancouver, WA fire department
Peggy Sinclair E.R. nurse Port Townsend WA
Staff at Careage, Coupeville, WA
Marshall Corson, Cardiologist UW Hospital
Kelly Jo Sandri, MD ER physician
Lesa Bjork, RN
Michela Mattens, Nurse
Debra Shreckenghost, ICU Nurse
Larry Laissue - President Kyocera N.W. IT and document support for essential services
Andy Laissue - Assistant Manager Safeway, Chico CA