

† HOME SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER †
7th Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2020

PRELUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth R. Hudson/R. te Velde

INVOCATION and OPENING VERSICLES

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth shall declare Your praise. (*Psalm 51:15*)

P Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C O come, let us worship Him.

PSALM OF THE DAY (*from Psalm 92*)

P How great are Your works, O Lord, how profound Your thoughts!

C The senseless person does not know, fools do not understand,

P that though the wicked spring up like grass and all evildoers flourish, they will be forever destroyed.

C But You, O Lord, are exalted forever.

P The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;

C planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of God.

P They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming,

C "The Lord is upright; He is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in Him."

OFFICE HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C O God, rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, that we may be stirred up to holiness of living here on earth and dwell with joy in Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

EPISTLE

Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh – ¹³for 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. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For 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!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and 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. ¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that 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. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and 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. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴[Jesus] put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And 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?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let 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....’”

³⁶Then 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.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and

the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

St. George's Windsor

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto His praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord, our God, shall come and shall take His harvest home,
from His field shall in that day all offenses purge away,
give His angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest home;
gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified, in Thy garner to abide;
come with all Thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

MEDITATION

Rev. Scott Geminn

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Confident of God's care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

P God of the harvest, You sow the good seed of the gospel of Jesus Christ into Your field. Help Your church throughout the world to be both diligent and patient, full of resolve and gentleness, that our witness may be faithful to Your intentions. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of space and time, Your whole creation groans as it awaits the gift of new birth. Renew the earth, sky, and sea, so that all of Your creation experiences freedom from the ravages of decay. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of the nations, teach us Your ways, that we may walk in Your truth. Mend the fabric of the human family, now torn apart by our fearful and warring ways. Guide us by Your mercy, grace, and steadfast love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of hope, You accompany those who suffer and are near to the broken-hearted. Open our hearts to Your children who are lonely and abandoned, or who feel trapped by despair. We pray for all who are suffering amid upheaval and uncertainty, especially those on our prayer line and those we remember before You now (*pause*). Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of the seasons, as we continue through this unusual summer give us times of refreshment, renewal, and opportunity. We pray for the safety of those who travel. We pray also for those who cannot take the rest they need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of life, those who have died in faith shine like the sun in Your endless kingdom. We remember with thanksgiving the saints of all times and places, and especially those close to us. Gather us with them on the day of salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from Your love, we offer these prayers to You; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

C 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 forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

For the Fruits of His Creation

For the fruits of His creation, thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

For the harvests of the spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

For the Fruits of His Creation

Benjamin Culli

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Special thanks to our additional participant in today's service:

Lector Daryl Story

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