

Liturgy
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 21, Year B

GATHERING

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Come, Christians, join to sing:
Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King:
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
Before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!

Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD and bless His name;
Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

*Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all His benefits:*

**Who forgives all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases,
Who redeems your life from the pit,
Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion;
Who satisfies your years with good things,
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

The LORD has established His throne in the heavens,
and His sovereignty rules over all!

Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

— from Psalms 96:and 103

Come, People of the Risen King

Come, people of the Risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise;
Come all, and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach,
To gather children in.

Rejoice, rejoice!
Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice;
O, Church of Christ, rejoice!

*LECTIONARY for the Nineteenth
Sunday after Pentecost, Year B:*

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Psalm 124

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

On this nineteenth Sunday after the Day of Pentecost, we—the Church—continue this season of study and contemplation of the many and amazing ways our gracious God leads and directs His people, under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit. Today concludes the five-week period during which the lectionary has focused our attention on what we've referred to as matters of practical, faithful living. These readings highlight the theme of perseverance in faith in times of great difficulty and challenge. James, writing near the end of his epistle, sets the tone: "Are any among you suffering? They should pray." Mark's gospel relates Jesus' instructions to those who face temptations, snares and stumbling blocks, and His strong cautions to those who would put causes of stumbling "before any of these little ones who believe in Me." In Numbers, we find the children of Israel complaining because of hunger, but more accurately because they were discouraged at their journey and longed for the foods and settings of "the good old days" in Egypt. And we see Moses' response of frustration, but also of turning to God for answers and further provision and strength. In the narrative of Esther's story, we read that she and her people, the Jews—exiles in a foreign land—were threatened with death; yet through her faith, her prayers, and the prayers of her companions, they were delivered. And James continually encourages us to pray for one another, minister to one another, teach, and even warn one another when necessary. Just as we've seen over these past weeks in attending to wise, godly living, we see again in Psalm 19: The words of the LORD are perfect, sure,

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days,
With the certain hope of peace.

Rejoice, rejoice!
Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice;
O, Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, young and old from every land,
Men and women of the faith;
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call,
The truth that cries through every age,
“Our God is all in all.”

Rejoice, rejoice!
Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice;
O, Church of Christ, rejoice!

CCLI Song #5232617 ©2007 Thankyou Music. Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.

INVOCATION

Prayers of adoration, praise, and thanksgiving for God’s presence

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Come, lift your hearts on high,
Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky;
Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend,
To us He’ll condescend;
His love shall never end.
Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice,
Before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!
Alleluia! Amen!

Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2013.
Words, Christian H. Bateman
(*Sacred Melodies for Children*, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1843).
Hymn tune: MADRID (EVANS), traditional Spanish melody.

right, clear, and pure. They are true and righteous altogether. They revive the soul, make us wise, rejoice our hearts, enlighten our eyes. They endure forever. And in keeping them, there is great reward.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!
For from Him and through Him and to Him
are all things; to Him be glory forever.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,
restoring the soul;

*The testimony of the Lord is sure,
making wise the simple.*

The precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;

*The commandment of the Lord is pure,
enlightening the eyes.*

The fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever;

*The judgments of the LORD are true;
they are righteous altogether.*

They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

*Moreover, by them Your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.*

**Your testimonies are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.
I have inclined my heart to keep Your statutes forever,
even to the end.**

– Rom. 11: 33, 36; Psalm 19:7-11,
119:111-112

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

But who can discern their own errors?

Cleanse me from hidden faults.

*Keep back Your servant from willful sins;
do not let them rule over me.*

Then I will be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

– Psalm 19:12-13

[Silence]

Most holy and merciful Father:

**We confess to You, our God, and before one another,
that we have sinned, in thought, word, and deed.**

[Silence]

**We have offended Your holiness.
We have followed the devices of our own hearts,
and have spurned the promptings of Your Spirit.**

[Silence]

**We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.**

Father Hear Our Prayer

Father, hear our prayer that our lives may be
Consecrated only unto You.
Cleanse us with Your fire, fill us with Your pow'r,
That the world may glorify Your name.

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

Accept our repentance, and accomplish in us the work of Your salvation, that we may show forth Your glory in the world; through Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The word of the Lord to us, His people:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.

The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments.

– Galatians 1:3-4; Psalm 103:8, 13-14, 17-18

TIME OF OFFERING

Stories and prayers of thanksgiving and praise

What A Beautiful Name

You were the Word at the beginning,
One with God, the Lord Most High.
Your hidden glory in creation,
Now revealed in You, our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a beautiful Name it is; nothing compares to this.
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

You didn't want heaven without us,
So, Jesus, You brought heaven down.
My sin was great; Your love was greater.
What could separate us now?

What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a wonderful Name it is; nothing compares to this:
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

Death could not hold You; the veil tore before You.
You silence the boast of sin and grave.
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory,
For You are raised to life again.

You have no rival, You have no equal;
Now and forever, God, You reign.
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory;
Yours is the Name above all names.

What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a powerful Name it is; nothing can stand against;
What a powerful Name it is: the Name of Jesus.

THE WORD

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Psalm 124

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Psalm 62 (My Soul Finds Rest)

My soul finds rest in God alone, my rock and my salvation;
A fortress strong against my foes, and I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless, and hearts may curse,
And lies, like arrows, pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness; I'll look to Him who hears me.

Chorus

O praise Him, hallelujah: my Delight and my Reward.
Everlasting, never failing: my Redeemer, my God.

Find rest, my soul, in God alone amid the world's temptations.
When evil seeks to take a hold, I'll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come, and riches go, don't set your heart upon them.
The fields of hope in which I sow are harvested in heaven.

Chorus

I'll set my gaze on God alone, and trust in Him completely;
With ev'ry day pour out my soul, and He will prove His mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath, a sigh too brief to measure,
My King has crushed the curse of death, and I am His forever.

Chorus

O praise Him, O praise Him. Hallelujah, hallelujah! (3 times)

Chorus

SENDING FORTH
The Life of the Body

Benediction

May the Lord bless us and keep us.
May the Lord smile on us, shine His light upon us.
May the Lord lift us, turn His face towards us,
Give us His peace, give us His peace.

Blessed we came to this place today, and blessed now, we will go.
In the name of the Father, the Spirit, and the Son.

Go now in peace; go now in peace. (repeat)

CCLI Song #7000703 ©2013 Atlas Mountain Songs | Said and Done Music | sixsteps Music |
Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs. Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin

Benediction:

The keeping of God and the Lord on you;
the keeping of Christ always on you;
the keeping of the life-giving Spirit, everlasting, be yours.

Amen!

And may Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit –
bless you now and forever, as you go forth into the world
to love and serve the Lord,
faithfully manifesting His goodness, power, glory,
and Kingdom blessing in the world around you.

Amen. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Everyone looks at what we do and not what we say. Scripture says, ‘Thou shalt be a witness unto all men,’ not just to friendly people, but also to unbelievers. For witnesses aren't meant to persuade those who already know, but those who don't know. Let us be trustworthy witnesses. . . . He has sent us to testify of Him. Let us testify and persuade those who need to decide who He is. If we don't testify, then we also have to answer for their mistake. If people wouldn't accept an exceedingly wicked witness in an earthly court, much less would they accept one here when considering such great issues. We say that we have heard Christ and that we believe the things He has promised. Then, they say, show it by your works. For your life testifies of the opposite—that you don't believe. . . . We and not just the martyrs will be witnesses for Christ. They are called martyrs because they endured everything to speak the truth when told to reject the faith. So, we must not be overcome when our passions tell us we are to reject Him.”

– Chrysostom

Lectionary for next week: Job 1:1, 2:1-10; Psalm 26;
Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8;
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16.

Copyright ©2021, 2024 Ellen Koehler. All Rights Reserved.

URL: <https://www.clerestorynotes.com>

This is a slightly shortened version of one of our favorite benediction settings. In this season, we've been including sung words of benediction followed by a spoken blessing of dismissal.