



**The 6th Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2020**

Welcome

Opening Songs

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down

Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Thy Word

When I feel afraid
And I think I've lost my way
Still You're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near
Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

I will not forget
Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide
And hold me to Your side
I will love You to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

Opening Acclamation

Clergy O God, who created the heavens and stretched them out,
All **we praise you!**

Clergy You made the earth and all that lives here:
All **we praise you!**

Clergy You give breath to all creatures and your Spirit to all people:
All **we praise and thank you, O God!**

Clergy That the eyes of the blinded be opened, the poor hear the good news, the captives be brought
out of darkness, the wealth of the world serve the good of all,
All **your kingdom come, O God; your will be done!**

Clergy Then let us sing a new song to God.
All **With joy let us honor our maker.**

Collect of the Day

Clergy The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Clergy Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading

Isaiah 55:10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:105-112

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon my path.

¹⁰⁶ I have sworn and am determined
to keep your righteous judgments.

- 107 I am deeply troubled;
preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.
- 108 Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips,
and teach me your judgments.
- 109 My life is always in my hand,
yet I do not forget your law.
- 110 The wicked have set a trap for me,
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
- 111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever;
truly, they are the joy of my heart.
- 112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes
for ever and to the end.

Gospel Song

Every Promise

From the break - ing of the dawn to the set - ting of the sun, I will
Through this dark and trou - bled land, You will guide me with Your hand as I
stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your word. Grace suf - fi - cient, grace for
stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your word.
me, grace for all who will be - lieve, we will stand on ev - 'ry pro - mise of Your word.

From the breaking of the dawn
To the setting of the sun
I will stand on every promise of Your word
Through this dark and troubled land
You will guide me with Your hand
As I stand on every promise of Your word
Grace sufficient grace for me
Grace for all who will believe
We will stand on every promise of Your word

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus went out and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since

they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!”

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Toppie Bates

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of the People

Leader To God who so loved the world, let us pray with hearts full of love.

(A brief silence)

For the church everywhere: In our Parishes, we pray for Christ Church in Clayton and their rector the Rev. Lisa Busby; and St. James' Church in Clinton. In our Diocese, we pray especially for all those who have died because of the Pandemic. In our Companion Diocese, we pray for Iglesia de San Pablo, in San Juan de Letran, Usulután and their priest The Rev. Antonio López. In the Episcopal Church, we pray for the Diocese of Western North Carolina and their bishop the Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin. And in the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea and their Arch Bishop the Most Rev. Allan Migi. May the church's life be marked by prayer and service to those in need. Loving God; **hear us as we pray.**

For peace among all peoples of the earth: may God redeem us from the slavery of selfishness. Loving God; **hear us as we pray.**

For the health and sustainability of the earth and all living things: may we grow as stewards of the marvelous gift you have given in all of creation. Loving God; **hear us as we pray.**

For this nation and our local communities: may we continually seek to offer gifts of care and advocacy, intervention and support until all people live in justice and freedom. Loving God; **hear us as we pray.**

For those who suffer from any illness, be it physical, mental, or spiritual, especially those we name silently or aloud _____. May they know the healing touch of Jesus to be a source of rest, comfort, and restoration. Loving God; **hear us as we pray.**

For those we have loved but see no longer, especially those we name silently or aloud _____. May they live forever with God in Christ. Loving God; **hear us as we pray.**

Clergy Hear our prayers, loving and gracious God, and receive them for the sake of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Music for Reflection

Hymn of Promise

In the bulb there is a flower
In the seed an apple tree
In cocoons a hidden promise
Butterflies will soon be free

In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

There's a song in every silence
Seeking word and melody
There's a dawn in every darkness
Bringing hope to you and me
From the past will come the future
What it holds a mystery
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see

In our end is our beginning
In our time infinity
In our doubt there is believing
In our life eternity
In our death a resurrection
At the last a victory
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see!

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.

Prayer for mission

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Announcements

Anniversary & Birthday Blessings

May the strength of God pilot you, May the power of God preserve you, May the wisdom of God instruct you, May the hand of God protect you, May the way of God direct you, May the shield of God guard you against the snares of evil and the temptations of the world. May the Spirit of God bless you in the coming year.

Adapted from Patrick, c.389 - c.46

Blessing

Clergy Now go in peace,
do what God wills,
follow where Christ calls,
pray for the gifts of the Spirit;
and may the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer
Rest on and remain with you now and always.

All **Amen.**

Closing Song

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him, Alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heav'n along
O praise Him alleluia
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening find a voice
O praise Him O praise Him
Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
O praise Him, Alleluia

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, Three in One
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia!

Dismissal

Clergy God has told us what is good and right;
Live justly,
Love kindly,
Walk with God.

All **Amen. Alleluia. Thanks be to God.**

Additional sources for today's liturgy:
Iona Abbey Worship Book