



Sunday, August 20, 2023

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude..... "The River" (Praise Band)

Introduction

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

Gathering Hymn....."Oh, For A Thousand Tongues To Sing"



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. We confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Song of Praise....."The River"



1. To the riv - er I am go - ing, bring - ing sins I can - not bear;
 (2. In these) wa - ters, heal - ing mer - cy flows with free - dom from de - spair;



Come and cleanse me, come, for - give me; Lord, I need to meet You there.
 I am go - ing to that riv - er; Lord, I need to meet You there.

1, 3 | 2, 4

(2nd x to V2)



(2. In these) 2. In these Pre - cious Je - sus, I am read - y to sur -



ren - der ev - 'ry care; Take my hand now, lead me clos - er; Lord, I

1 | 2



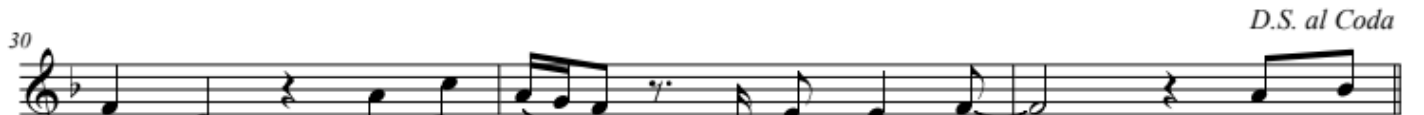
need to meet You there. 1. To the 3. Come and join us in the



riv - er; Come find life be - yond com - pare; He is call - ing, He is



wait - ing; Je - sus longs to meet you there; He is call - ing, He is



wait - ing. Je - sus longs to meet you there. Pre - cious

D.S. al Coda

Continued.....

33  Coda

Take my
hand now, lead me clos - er; Lord, I need to meet You there. —

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First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

HERE ENDS THE READING.

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they

have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

HERE ENDS THE READING.

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

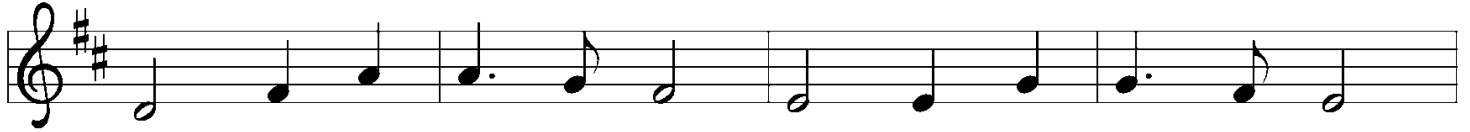
Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Sermon Hymn..... "My Faith Looks Up To Thee"



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887

Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

The Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 Intercession

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

O God, your Spirit gathers the church. Shepherd those who are newly baptized and newly ordained in the proclamation of the gospel, breathe life into ecumenical and inter-religious endeavors, and support missionaries throughout the globe. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You created the earth and all its inhabitants and declared it good. Clean polluted skies, seas, and soil, provide nourishment to plants and animals, and make us aware of our impact on the environment. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You call leaders to bridge differences and practice generosity. Inspire all in authority to protect people in harm's way, deliver those in bondage, support fair elections, provide care for military personnel and veterans, and show mercy to those for whom they have responsibility. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You provide for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Embrace people who have been rejected because of difference, heal trauma caused by racism or prejudice, shield any who are persecuted, console the dying, and heal the sick (*especially Mary Ann, Bob, Melissa, Nelly, Barbara, Briden, Owen, Christi, Sue, Michael, Kathy, Jenna, Joe, Dave, Joy, Frank, Vicki, Linda, Tom, Penny, Sandy, Ken, Pete, Hadlee, Maryann, Prentice, Rebecca, Trisha, Henry, Del, Ruth, Gloria, Vince, Michael, Sara, Maria, Peggy, Sumi, Celine, Michael, Darcie, Leslie, Joan, Skylar and Friends and Family of Cheryl*). Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

O God, you journey with us in all of life's transitions. Guide those preparing for baptism, marriage, and retirement. Guide our church council and committees in their visioning and ministry. Safeguard those who travel.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for those who now rest from their labors. Motivate us by their lives of dedication to the gospel, until that day when we join with them in our eternal home. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.


Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all.
And also with you.

Offering

Offering Song..... "Make Us One"



Make us one, Lord, make us one, — Ho-ly Spir - it, make us
4
one. — Let Your love flow so the world will know we are one in You.

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Offering Prayer

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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, forever and ever.
Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

Communion Song..... "One Bread One Body"


Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bles-sing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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Distribution

We will be using the intinction method for distribution. You will be handed bread and asked to dip the bread in the chalice. Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available. Please make your way forward by the center aisle, returning down the side. If mobility is a problem for you, please notify an usher and you will be served at your seat.

Post Communion Prayer

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

Amen.

Sending Song..... "Your Grace Is Enough"

VERSE



1. Great is__ Your faith - ful - ness, _ O God; _
 2. Great is__ Your love ___ and jus - tice, God ___



You wres - tle with ___ the sin - ner's rest - less heart. _
 You use _ the weak ___ to lead _ the strong. _



You lead _ us by ___ still wa - ters in - to mer - cy
 You lead _ us in ___ the song _ of Your sal - va - tion,



and noth - ing can ___ keep us ___ a - part. _ So, re -
 and all ___ Your peo - ple sing _ a - long. _

PRE-CHORUS



-mem - ber ___ Your peo - ple, _ re - mem - ber ___ Your chil - dren, _ re -



-mem - ber ___ Your prom - ise ___ O ___ God. _____ Your

CHORUS 1



grace is e - nough, _ Your grace is e - nough _ Your



grace is e - nough, _ for ___ me. _____

Continued.....

2. D.S. 3. PRE-CHORUS

Your Re - mem - ber _ Your peo - ple, _ re -
 - mem - ber _ Your chil - dren, _ re - mem - ber _ Your prom - ise _ O _ God.

CHORUS 1

Your grace is e - nough, _ Your
 grace is e - nough _ Your grace is e - nough, _ for _ me.

CHORUS 2

Your grace is e - nough; _ heav - en reach -
 grace is e - nough; _ I'm cov -
 - es out _ to us. _ Your grace is e - nough _ for _ me.
 - ered in _ Your love. _ Your grace is e - nough _ for _ me,

1. 2.

_ God, _ I sing: _ Your _ for _ me. _

ENDING

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.