

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: SUNDAY 12 JULY 2020



Hymn 440: "Blessed Jesus, at thy word"

Liebster Jesu

Bob Workmon, tenor

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to hear thee;
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness shroud - ed
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro - ceed - ing;

let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear thee;
till thy Spi - rit breaks our night with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed;
o - pen thou our ears and heart, help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing.

by thy teach - ings, pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - y.
thou a - lone to God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.
Hear the cry thy Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

The Officiant begins with these sentences

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

Song of Praise

tune: *Thomas Merton*

Bob Workmon, tenor

Surely it is God who saves me;
trusting him, I shall not fear.
For the Lord defends and shields me
and his saving help is near.
So rejoice as you draw water
from salvation's living spring;
in the day of your deliverance
thank the Lord, his mercies sing.

Make his deeds known to the peoples:
tell out his exalted Name.
Praise the Lord, who has done great things;
all his works God's might proclaim.
Zion, lift your voice in singing;
for with you has come to dwell,
in your very midst,
the great and Holy One of Israel.

Carl P. Daw, Jr.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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 forever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A reading from 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 65:9—14 (BCP, p. 801)

chant: John Sullivan

Bob Workmon, tenor

You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.
May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans (8:1—11)

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (13:1—9, 18—23)

Jesus went out of the house 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Solo: “*Almighty God, your word is cast*”

Bob Workmon, tenor

Walden, Jane Manton Marshall

arr. John Sullivan

Almighty God, your word is cast like seed upon the ground,
now let the dew of heaven descend and righteous fruits abound.

Let not our selfishness and hate this holy seed remove,
but give it root in every heart to bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy,
but let it yield a hundredfold the fruits of peace and joy.

John Cawood, alt.

The Nicene Creed (p. 96)

Officiant and People together

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers

A prayer for transition

Almighty God, you know the needs of your church in every place: look graciously upon the people of St. James Parish, and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we move through the search process for our new rector. Thank you for the faithful stewards you have provided, and will provide, for our leadership. We give thanks for those who have committed to serve on the Search Committee and ask for blessing on their endeavors. Give us discernment, wisdom, patience, and confidence in your timing. Help us to care for each other with mutual trust, respect, kindness, and clarity of purpose. You are the Good Shepherd, and we ask you to shepherd us throughout this journey. In the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers in this time of pandemic

O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. In this challenging and uncertain time of global pandemic and public health crisis, we come before you offering our prayers on behalf of those in need, the church, and the world.

We pray for the church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and serve as a beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for Michael, the Presiding Bishop, Rob our Bishop, Pierce our Interim Rector, our clergy, staff, wardens and vestry, and all who minister in your name.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all affected by the coronavirus around the world. For the leaders of the nations that they may work together for the common good as the outbreak spreads. Grant public health and government officials the strength and will to act swiftly and decisively, with wisdom and compassion in service to all. We pray especially for our president, the Congress, Governors and mayors.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they have access to medical care and regain their strength and health; grant them your healing grace. Give strength to all who are caring for loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for an end to racial and ethnic inequality. Let us pray for the wisdom and the will to eradicate the hatred and disrespect that weave through our culture and its official structures. And let us beg God's mercy upon this land for the unspeakable sin of slavery.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for renewed dedication to the best instincts and the most noble hopes of our nation, for calm in our cities, and for the safety of those who protest, and for those whose property and safety are threatened.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those known to our community who stand in need of God's healing power, remembering especially **Adrienne, John, Bill, Max, Sarah, Terry, Stuart, Florence Ellen, Betty, and Tim...** and others who we mention at this time.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for healthcare workers. Grant them courage and protection as they put the needs of public safety before their own. Bless scientists and researchers as they combat the virus, that their work may yield knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce its spread.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Remove the presence of fear and anxiety from our hearts, that confident in your providence we may be generous in sharing our resources. Grant that our churches and communities of faith may reflect your love, as they minister to the most vulnerable among us.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have already lost loved ones to the virus and those who will yet suffer such loss that they may know the consolation of your love. On this Sunday, we pray for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, ... that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

The Concluding Collect

Holy and sovereign Lord, when the earth and all its people quake, you hold its pillars firm. What is uncertain and frightening to us is completely known to you and controlled by you. Look mercifully on the people of St James Parish. Although at this time we are apart from each other, we pray your Holy Spirit will unite us as one. Pour upon us your peace which passes all understanding, keep us safe and healthy, and above all, keep us mindful of those to whom we should show the love and compassion of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

Officiant

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.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

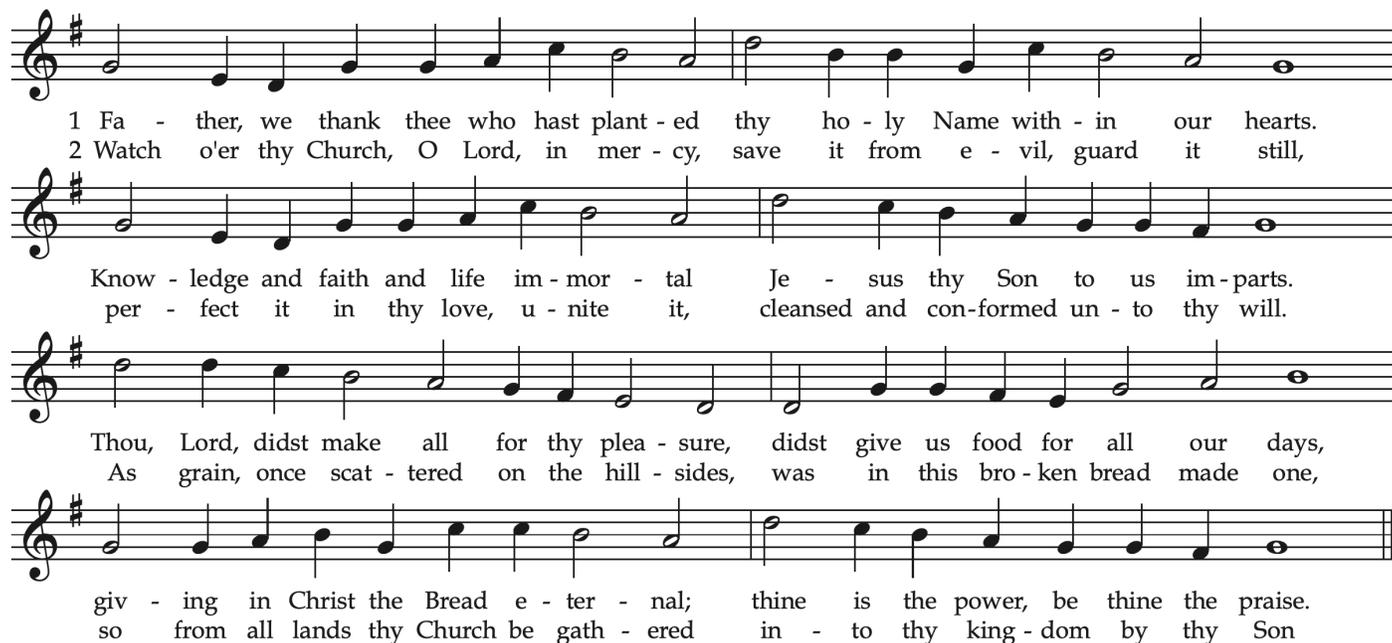
Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 302: "Father, we thank thee who hast planted"

Rendez à Dieu

Bob Workmon, tenor



1 Fa - ther, we thank thee who hast plant - ed thy ho - ly Name with - in our hearts.
2 Watch o'er thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil, guard it still,
Know - ledge and faith and life im - mor - tal Je - sus thy Son to us im - parts.
per - fect it in thy love, u - nite it, cleansed and con - formed un - to thy will.
Thou, Lord, didst make all for thy plea - sure, didst give us food for all our days,
As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides, was in this bro - ken bread made one,
giv - ing in Christ the Bread e - ter - nal; thine is the power, be thine the praise.
so from all lands thy Church be gath - ered in - to thy king - dom by thy Son

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