183rd Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana

Holy Eucharist

Saturday, October 24, 2020
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, New Orleans
— Opening Hymn —

Jesus shall reign where’er the sun
doth his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his Name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his Name.

Blessings abound where’er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

— Opening —

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

People And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant 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.
— Gloria —

All
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

— the Collect of the Day —

Celebrant
The Lord be with you.
People
And also with you.
Celebrant
Let us pray.

Celebrant
Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to
serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the
service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they
may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the
needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son
our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

— First Reading: Zechariah 8:3-12, 16-17 —

3 The Lord proclaims: I have returned to Zion; I will settle in Jerusalem. Jerusalem
will be called the city of truth; the mountain of the Lord of heavenly forces will be
the holy mountain.

4 The Lord of heavenly forces proclaims:
Old men and old women will again dwell in the plazas of Jerusalem. Each of them will have a staff in their hand because of their great age. The city will be full of boys and girls playing in its plazas.

6 The Lord of heavenly forces proclaims:

Even though it may seem to be a miracle for the few remaining among this people in these days, should it seem to be a miracle for me? says the Lord of heavenly forces.

7 The Lord of heavenly forces proclaims:

I’m about to deliver my people from the land of the east and the land of the west. I’ll bring them back so they will dwell in Jerusalem. They will be my people, and I will be their God—in truth and in righteousness.

9 The Lord of heavenly forces proclaims:

Be strong, you who are now hearing these words from the mouths of the prophets spoken on the day when the foundations for the house of the Lord of heavenly forces were laid. Before this time, there were no wages for people or animals; there was no relief from distress about going out or coming in, because I set everyone against their own neighbor. But now, unlike those earlier days, I’ll be with the few remaining among this people, says the Lord of heavenly forces.

12 The seed is healthy:

the vine will give its fruit.

The land will give its produce;

the heavens will give its dew.

I will give the remnant of this people all these things.

16 These are the things you should do: Speak the truth to each other; make truthful, just, and peaceable decisions within your gates. Don’t plan evil for each other. Don’t adore swearing falsely, for all of these are things that I hate, says the Lord.

Reader       The Word of the Lord
People       Thanks be to God
— Psalm 146 —

Praise the Lord!

Let my whole being praise the Lord!
I will praise the Lord with all my life;
I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

Don’t trust leaders;
don’t trust any human beings—
there’s no saving help with them!
Their breath leaves them,
them they go back to the ground.
On that very same day, their plans die too.

The person whose help is the God of Jacob—
the person whose hope rests on the Lord their God—
is truly happy!
God: the maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
God: who is faithful forever,
who gives justice to people who are oppressed,
who gives bread to people who are starving!
The Lord: who frees prisoners.
The Lord: who makes the blind see.
The Lord: who straightens up those who are bent low.
The Lord: who loves the righteous.
The Lord: who protects immigrants,
who helps orphans and widows,
but who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn!

The Lord will rule forever!
Zion, your God will rule from one generation to the next!

Praise the Lord!

— Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:7-11 —

7 The end of everything has come. Therefore, be self-controlled and clearheaded so you can pray. 8 Above all, show sincere love to each other, because love brings about the forgiveness of many sins. 9 Open your homes to each other without complaining. 10 And serve each other according to the gift each person has received, as good managers of God’s diverse gifts. 11 Whoever speaks should do so as those who speak God’s word.
Whoever serves should do so from the strength that God furnishes. Do this so that in everything God may be honored through Jesus Christ. To him be honor and power forever and always. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

— Sequence Hymn —

Great is Thy faithfulness 1 LEVAS II #189
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Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not,  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided,  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness,  
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Refrain

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

— the Gospel: Mark 10:42-52 —

Reader The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ

42 Jesus called them over and said, “You know that the ones who are considered the rulers by the Gentiles show off their authority over them and their high-ranking officials order them around. 43 But that’s not the way it will be with you. Whoever wants to be great among you will be your servant. 44 Whoever wants to be first
among you will be the slave of all, 45 for the Human One didn’t come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people.”

46 Jesus and his followers came into Jericho. As Jesus was leaving Jericho, together with his disciples and a sizable crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, Timaeus’ son, was sitting beside the road. 47 When he heard that Jesus of Nazareth was there, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, show me mercy!” 48 Many scolded him, telling him to be quiet, but he shouted even louder, “Son of David, show me mercy!”

49 Jesus stopped and said, “Call him forward.”

They called the blind man, “Be encouraged! Get up! He’s calling you.”

50 Throwing his coat to the side, he jumped up and came to Jesus.

51 Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?”

The blind man said, “Teacher, I want to see.”

52 Jesus said, “Go, your faith has healed you.” At once he was able to see, and he began to follow Jesus on the way.

Reader  
The Gospel of the Lord

People  
Praise to you, Lord Christ

--- Sermon ---

The Rt. Rev’d Morris K. Thompson, Jr.

--- the Renewal of Baptismal Vows ---

Celebrant  
Dear People of God: In Holy Baptism we are made one Body by the one Spirit, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; and we are given one hope, and one faith, in one God and Father of all. I call upon you therefore as both clergy and laity gathered together, even if from a distance, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

Celebrant  
Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People  
I do.

Celebrant  
Do you believe in God the Father?
People

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

Celebrant

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People

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.

Celebrant

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People

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.

Celebrant

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.
— Prayers of the People —

Reader  Let us pray.

People  

— the Peace —

Socially distant/virtual exchange of the peace

— Announcements —

— Offertory Hymn —

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

— the Great Thanksgiving —

*Book of Common Prayer*  \ Page #361

Celebrant  The Lord be with you.

People  *And also with you.*

Celebrant  Lift up your hearts.

People  *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Celebrant  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People  *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Celebrant  It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All  *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,*

*heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Blessed is he in the highest.*

Celebrant  Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.
He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All

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

Celebrant

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

— the Lord’s Prayer —

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

— the Breaking of the Bread —

Celebrant
Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

People
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

— a note about Communion —

Please maintain physical distance of at least 6 ft. from the person in front of you when you come forward to collect your Communion cup and remember to sanitize your hands first. Family groups may come forward together. Parents, please assist children by taking a cup for them. Bring your Communion cup back to your pew with you. Once everyone has come forward, the priest will direct everyone to consume the bread at the same time.

Though we are only able to receive communion in one kind at this time, our tradition assures us this is acceptable. Reception in one kind confers all the benefits of receiving in both kinds.

For those worshipping with us today, either in person or online, who are unable or unprepared to receive at this time, be assured that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth. To aid you in experiencing God’s grace more directly in these circumstances this prayer for spiritual communion may be helpful:

— a Prayer for Spiritual Communion —

written by Teresa Berger

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the one true vine. I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. I seek you. I worship and adore you. Since I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine, I pray that you will come into my heart and soul, that I may be united to you, by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit. Let me receive you, and be nourished by you. Become for me the manna in my wilderness, the bread of angels for my very human journey through time, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and solace in the hour of my death. I pray all this, trusting that you yourself are our Life, our Peace, and our everlasting Joy. Amen.
— Communion Hymn —

Lord, make us servants of your peace:  
where there is hate, may we sow love;  
where there is hurt, may we forgive;  
where there is strife, may we make one.

Where all is doubt, may we sow faith;  
where all is gloom, may we sow hope;  
where all is night, may we sow light;  
where all is tears, may we sow joy.

Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek  
to be consoled, but to console,  
nor look to understanding hearts,  
but look for hearts to understand.

May we not look for love’s return,  
but seek to love unselfishly,  
for in our giving we receive,  
and in forgiving are forgiven.

Dying, we live, and are reborn  
through death’s dark night to endless day:  
Lord, make us servants of your peace,  
to wake at last in heaven’s light.

— Post Communion Prayer —

Celebrant  
Let us pray.

All  
Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.
— Blessing —

— Closing Hymn —

We are all one in mission | WLP #778
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We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission compels us from above
to plan and work together that all may know Christ’s love.

We all are called for service to witness in God’s name.
Our ministries are diff’rent, our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others by God’s surprising grace,
so people of all nations may feel God’s warm embrace.

We all behold one vision, a stark reality;
the steward of salvation was nailed upon a tree.
Yet resurrected Justice gives rise that we may share
free reconciliation and hope amid despair.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel for God’s redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

— Dismissal —

People   Thanks be to God.

Music | Matt Wood, piano/organ; Meredith Hotard, cantor

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Dr. Laura Beth Ramirez | Junior Warden

Mr. John Joseph | Sexton
Ms. Lori Lavelle | Parish Administrator
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Dr. Matthew Wood | Organist/Choirmaster