

*Grace Episcopal Church
401 Pendleton Street
Waycross, Georgia 31501*



**Morning Prayer
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

July 19, 2020

*The Right Rev. Frank Logue
11th Bishop of the Diocese of Georgia*

*The Rev. Kit Brinson, Rector
Mike Taylor, Church Musician and Choir Director*

The Hymn *Lord of all hopefulness* **H 482**

The Invitatory

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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. Alleluia.

Officiant: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

People: Come let us adore him.

Venite (*Said in unison*) *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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 the Prophet Isaiah (44:6-8)

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, he LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come?

Let them tell us what is yet to be.

Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 86:11-17

**Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.**

**I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, * and glorify
your Name for evermore.**

**For great is your love toward me; * you have delivered me from the
nethermost Pit.**

**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men
seeks my life; * they have not set you before their eyes.**

**But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion, * slow to anger,
and full of kindness and truth.**

**Turn to me and have mercy upon me; * give your strength to your
servant; and save the child of your handmaid.**

**Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and
be ashamed; * because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted
me.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the be-
ginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

A Reading from Romans (8:12-25)

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint

heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. The Word of the Lord...**Thanks be to God.**

The Hymn *(standing) Spirit of the living God*

*Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
(Sung twice)*

The Reading from Matthew (13:24-30, 36-43)

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the

weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Word of the Lord...**Thanks be to God.**

The Homily Rev. Kit Brinson

The Apostles' Creed *Officiant and People together, all standing*

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.

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you. *People* And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

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 Suffrages - A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord; **R. And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness; **R. Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world; **R. For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care; **R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth; **R. Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten; **R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God; **R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Church

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the

Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Nation

Lord, God Almighty, you have made all peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of this country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

*As we reach out our thoughts and our energies beyond the walls of this gathering space, hoping that God's reign may be the deepest desire of every human heart, let us pray, saying: In the Spirit we plead, **hear us, O God.***

O God, may your dominion grasp us and ravish the hearts of all who claim Christ as Lord. *In the Spirit we plead, **hear us, O God.***

O God, make your justice grow in our land, that the victims of this age will find shelter in its branches. *In the Spirit we plead, **hear us, O God.***

To you, Abba, we raise our eyes in hope. Inspire those whose decisions influence the lives of others, that they may discern wisely and act compassionately. *In the Spirit we plead, **hear us, O God.***

O God, imaginative Creator, bless artists, poets and writers with the creative touch of your word. Make them avenues of your vision. *In the Spirit we plead, **hear us, O God.***

O God, we pray for all oppressed, all the needy, all in terror, all sick especially Alyssa, Mae, Amanda and family, Patsy, Rob, Chris, Tim, Madelyn, Dan, Johnny, Gloria, Tasha, Joey, Keith, Chandler, Una, Steven, Linda, Marcia, Larry, Jim, Greg, Denny, Vicky, Tristan, Rachel, Freddy, James and family, Tifani and Leland, Faye, Jerry, Jackie, Teresa, Shaun, Norene, Sandra, C.J., Andrea, Lonnie, Allen, Michelle, Sam, Frances, Bill, David, Jean, Zachary, Judy, Diane, Lauren, Barb, and Shary. In you and all who are oppressed, that the reign of God will hold sway in all human life, we pray: ***In mercy, hear us.***

O God, we pray for the dead, especially Mike, Joe, Bobbie, and Pat. On the last day gather us all into your heavenly realm. In the Spirit we plead: ***In mercy, hear us.***

The Closing Collect

O Master of might and merciful Judge, in our weaknesses we turn to you for help. Hear us, and come to our rescue. You have promised to hear our prayers if we raise them in the name of Jesus, and so we do. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen

The General Thanksgiving (*Officiant and People*)

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

The Blessing and DismissalThanks be to God.

The Closing Hymn *Love lifted me* **LEVAS 198**