

The Church of St. Paul, Cambria • 3rd Pentecost • Proper 6 A• June 18, 2023•

Opening Hymn 620

Blessed be God the 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*.

God of the covenant, you have made us a priestly and prophetic people, living and visible signs that the kingdom of heaven has come near. Send us forth, then, into your abundant harvest, that by offering a living sacrifice of praise to you and the gift of loving service to our brothers and sisters. Assist us in fulfilling our baptismal vocation as missionaries and witnesses to the good news, as we confess our shortcomings.

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.

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**.

Lord, open our lips

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.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: O come, let us adore him.

Psalm 67:1-5 Deus misereatur

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of your countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Psalm 116:1,10-17

- 1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, * because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 10 How shall I repay the LORD * for all the good things he has done for me?
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation * and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD * in the presence of all his people.
- 13 Precious in the sight of the LORD * is the death of his servants.
- 14 O LORD, I am your servant; * I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving * and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD * in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the LORD'S house, * in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson

The first lesson is from Genesis (18:1-15. 21:1-7)

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said."

And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh ves, you did laugh." The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age." Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Canticle 12: The Song of Creation

Thanks be to God.

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, * praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, * praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Let the earth glorify the Lord, * praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth, * praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, * O whales and all that move in the waters.

All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, * praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, * and all you flocks and herds.

O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, * praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

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**

Second lesson Letter of Paul to the Romans (5:1-8) Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15: The Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; * for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: * the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, * and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, * and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, * for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, * to Abraham and his children for ever.

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

Alleluia:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew (9:35-10:8)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a

shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Sermon Music

Here follows the Nicene Creed, all standing

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 of the People

God has called us to be priests for all peoples, offering to God the world's concerns. Let us then pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,

and for all people according to their needs, saying: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

(As the Spirit moves you, please take turns reading one or more of the petitions.)

Blessed are you, our sovereign God: for you do not abandon what you have created, but continue to make your grace known among us. We thank you for those you have chosen to speak your reconciling word in this age, and we pray for the grace to receive it. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Blessed are you, our caring God: for you hear the cries of the poor, you see the tears in the eyes of all who mourn, you feel the pain of those in anguish, and you come to the side of the lonely. Call your church to compassion and service. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Blessed are you, our God of peace: for you have bid us to make warfare cease and to place our trust in you who bore us up on eagle's wings. Raise up among us peacemakers, and confound those who trust in chariots and horses. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Blessed are you, our God of justice: for you desire that all be one. Erase the prejudice and class divisions among us, that together we might share in your vision of harmony. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Blessed are you, our God of strength: for you do not desire harm, but you favor our health. Give to us necessary measures of health, patience, and hope. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Blessed are you, our God of youth: for you did not give us strength and vitality to have it squandered in war. Give guidance and protection to our young people who are so engaged and bring them home healthy in body and soul. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We Pray for Jennifer. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)
Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Offertory: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn 383

Prayer over the gifts: God of reconciliation and forgiveness, the saving work of Christ has made our peace with you. May that work grow toward its perfection in all we offer you this day. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (EP B)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God,

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise

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**.

And now as our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray (sung):

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Then may be sung or said

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Then the celebrant and people pray together.

We do not presume to come to your holy table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercy. We are not worthy even to gather the crumbs from under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the body of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation or other suitable words.

Behold the gifts prepared by the Teacher who ate with sinners: draw near to the banquet of mercy, partake of the feast of forgiveness.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Holy and blessed God, as you give us the body and blood of your Son, guide us with your Holy Spirit, that we may honor you not only with our lips but also in our lives. Let us pray. 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.

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

The God of all grace who called you to eternal glory in Christ Jesus, restore establish and strengthen you in the faith, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Announcements

Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 812 WLP

Children of God, joint heirs with Christ and led by the Spirit, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.