

The 5th Sunday after Pentecost

5 July 2020

Hymn

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZ9j3e8_yQc

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|---|---|
| <p>You servants of God,
your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad
his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious
of Jesus extol:
his kingdom is glorious,
and rules over all.</p> <p>2 God rules on high,
almighty to save;
and still he is nigh,
his presence we have;
the great congregation
his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation
to Jesus our King.</p> | <p>3 Salvation to God,
who sits on the throne!
let all cry aloud,
and honour the Son:
the praises of Jesus
the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces,
and worship the Lamb.</p> <p>4 Then let us adore,
and give him his right,
all glory and power,
all wisdom and might,
and honour and blessing,
with angels above,
and thanks never-ceasing,
and infinite love.</p> |
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Together in Song 215

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps. 47.10-11

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
And also with you.

The celebrant may briefly introduce the Mass of the day.

Penitential Act

The choir sings

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

The celebrant or another minister says

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Silence. Then all say

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The celebrant says:

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness
to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon ✠ you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.**

Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
your Son Jesus Christ has taught us
that what we do for the least of his brothers and sisters
we do also for him:
give us the will to serve others
as he was the servant of all,
who gave up his life and died for us;
yet lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Genesis 24.34–38, 42–49, 58–67

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The servant whom Abraham had sent said to Laban: ‘I am Abraham’s servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, “You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.”

I came today to the spring, and said, “O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, ‘Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,’ and who will say to me, ‘Drink, and I will draw for your camels also’ – let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master’s son.”

Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, “Please let me drink.” She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, “Drink, and I will also water your camels.” So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, “Whose daughter are you?” She said, “The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.” So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshipped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.’

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, ‘Will you go with this man?’ She said, ‘I will.’ So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, ‘May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.’ Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, 'Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?' The servant said, 'It is my master.' So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 45.10-17

℟. Grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed you for ever.

- 10 Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear:
forget your own people and your father's house.
- 11 The king desires your beauty:
he is your lord, therefore bow down before him. **℟.**
- 12 The richest among the people, O daughter of Tyre:
shall entreat your favour with gifts.
- 13 The king's daughter is all glorious within:
her clothing is embroidered cloth of gold. **℟.**
- 14 In robes of many colours she is led to you, O king:
and, after her, the virgins that are with her.
- 15 They are led with gladness and rejoicing:
they enter the palace of the king. **℟.**
- 16 In place of your fathers you shall have sons:
and make them princes over all the land.
- 17 And I will make known your name to every generation:
therefore the peoples shall give you praise for ever. **℟.**

Second Reading

Romans 7.15-25a

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf Acts 16.14

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At that time Jesus said, ‘To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another, “We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.” For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Fr Graeme Kaines

Everyone in our society has a choice: to be a person of faith or unbelief. The choice we make depends on so many factors – upbringing, good and bad experiences of church, the influence of friends and work colleagues, and others. Is it, however, our own choice in the end? The Gospel reading today suggests that some are chosen by God to believe while others are not.

This poses a great difficulty for us because we prefer to think that everyone can be person of faith potentially. We find it hard to imagine God deliberately choosing to make someone an unbeliever. It does not fit our notions of justice and kindness.

As always we need to remember that our notions of justice are not necessarily the same as God’s. We should not make God according to our own convictions. However, we need to look more closely at this Gospel reading.

Is there a principle underlining God’s choices here? Far from trying to understand God in any prescriptive sense, it does seem that God hides the truth from wise and the learned people and instead, reveals the truth to people who are humble and lowly. We can see here that many wise and learned people can be arrogant and proud and quite possibly be unable to repent because of this. It is nothing to do with God being selective in any

arbitrary sense or vindictive.

The key to God's welcome and gift of faith is that we need to be conscious of our need of God's grace and equally conscious of our own failings. Such consciousness makes us more humble with no room for any arrogance.

Interestingly, Jesus calls us to take on his yoke which he says is easy to bear. The law of Jesus' yolk is love. Our sins are forgiven and now the task is to love another without worrying about unnecessary matters. The law of love is easy to learn, Jesus says unless we make it more difficult for ourselves.

In answer to the question about belief and unbelief, a first step towards finding an answer is to look carefully and critically at oneself. To what extent, if any, am I putting myself out of contention for belief? Am I truly receptive to the Gospel or do I tend strongly to have too much faith in myself?

Profession of Faith

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**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;
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,**

who 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 for the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

“For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light”

Holy God, we pray for the peoples of the world:

for victims of war, violence and oppression,
for families battling pandemic and poverty
for the hungry, the homeless and all refugees.

We give thanks, and pray for leaders who serve the common good, and for all whose work promotes justice and peace.

Make us a people whose hearts are ruled by your mercy and compassion, and in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for the church:

for courage to act against injustice,
for integrity in our deeds and words,
for faith and trust in you, our Creator.

We give you thanks, and pray for all who are shepherds to your people: for deacons, priests and bishops, and all who minister in your name.

We pray for members of religious orders who have devoted their lives to you.

We pray for our sisters and brothers at St Andrew's, Kiyosato.

Make us a people whose hearts are ruled by your inspiration and grace, and in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for those to whom our lives are bound:

for our families, our friends and all whom we love,
for this parish community,
for those with whom we work and play.

We give you thanks for all whose love or care or daily work enriches our lives.

We pray for those we know are struggling or unhappy.

Make us a people whose hearts are ruled by your reconciliation and love, and in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for all in special need:

for those lost in grief, loneliness or hopelessness,
for those imprisoned by pain, guilt or addiction.

We pray for those sick in body, mind or spirit, especially those known to us, and those living with Covid-19.

We give you thanks for all who bring healing and hope to those in need. We give thanks, and pray for the medical staff, cleaners, carers, volunteers and scientists working to support and protect us. Strengthen and guide them in that work.

Make us a people whose hearts are ruled by your compassion and hope, and in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we remember before you all have died, and we commend them to your care.

We remember Jonathan Carter, Nancy Wallace, Gillian Boyce and all whose years minds occur around this time.

Help us to follow in the footsteps of Mary Magdalene, Andrew and all your saints, that we, like them, may be gathered into your eternal presence where grief and pain are no more.

Loving God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

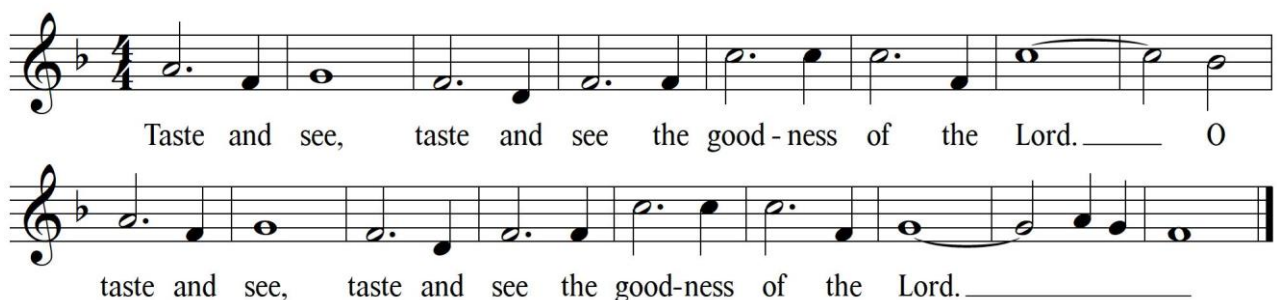
Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.
God's Spirit is with us.

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

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

During the preparation of the gifts, the chant is sung. Please note that there will be no Collection taken up: offerings of money can be left in the Collection plates at the front and rear of the pews.



The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: "Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. _____ 0" on the first staff, and "taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. _____" on the second staff. The first staff ends with a fermata over the word "Lord" and a "0" below it. The second staff ends with a double bar line.

When all is prepared, the Priest says,

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice
for the praise and glory of God's name,
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

God of heaven and earth,
receive our sacrifice of praise,
and strengthen us
for the perfect freedom of your service,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.

He is your living Word,
through whom you have created all things.

You sent him from heaven to take our flesh:
born of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
he was revealed as your Son.

He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might break the chains of evil and death,
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.

By his resurrection
he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices
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.

Holy and gracious God,
accept our sacrifice of praise,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying to his disciples, 'Take, and eat:
this is my body which will be given for you.'

In the same way he took the cup,
saying, 'This is my blood which will be shed for you.
When you do this, you do it in memory of me.'

In remembrance of his death and resurrection,
with this bread and this cup,
we give you thanks that you have counted us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon the celebration of your Church:
gather into one all who share in these holy mysteries,
filling them with your Spirit and confirming them in the truth,
that together we may praise you and give you glory
through Jesus your servant.

All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit, in the holy Church,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

At the Savior's command
and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**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.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the bread, saying –

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

While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is sung –

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

All receive Holy Communion.

Communion will be administered in one kind only.

Communicants are asked to approach the Priest in single file, maintaining physical distance, returning to their places via the side aisles.

Those who are not to receive the Blessed Sacrament are invited to unite themselves with Jesus by making a Spiritual Communion.

Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Music for Reflection

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is,
blest is the man that trusteth in him.

(Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFM2IkZQSJE>

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 33.9

Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed are they who seek refuge in him.

or

Matthew 11.28

Come to me, all who labour and are burdened,
and I will refresh you, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

O God,
may we who have shared in holy things
never fail to serve you in your world,
and so come to the fullness of joy,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_UvhmqtSGk

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk,
till travelling days are done.

Together in Song 585

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.