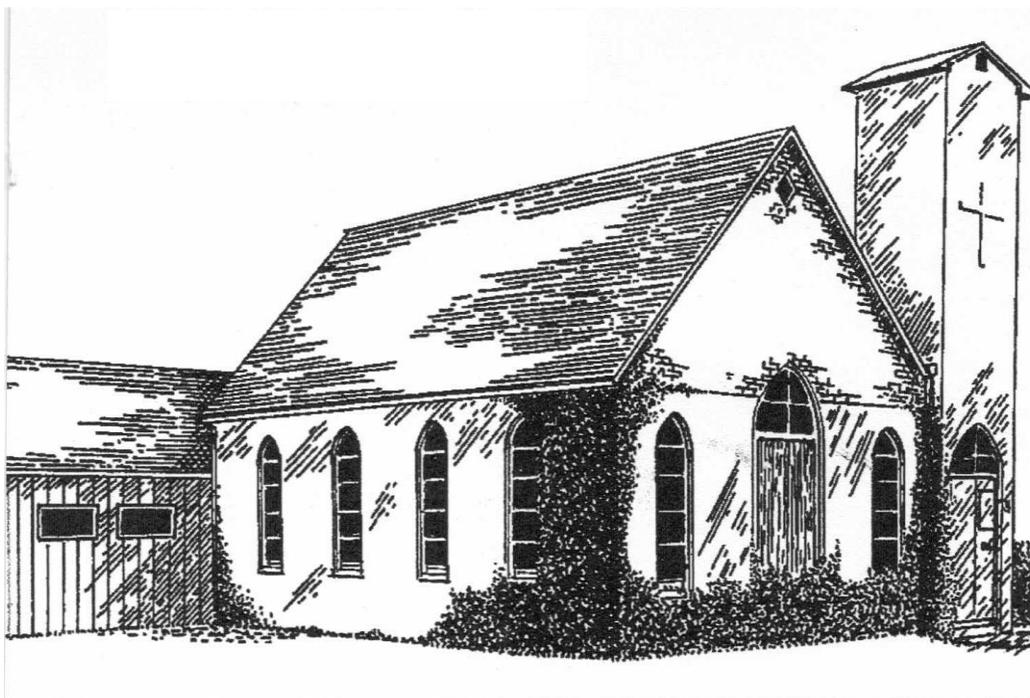


St. John's Episcopal Church

**The Twenty-Sixth Sunday
after Pentecost**

November 17, 2013



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A Note on Today's Service

In commemoration of Native American Heritage month we will be gathering in the parish hall and process to the parlor to begin our service. We will remain in the parlor while Ken and Shelia Phillips smudge the nave and sanctuary. The smudge used is of the four sacred herbs to the Cherokee: sage, tobacco, cedar and sweet grass. After the sanctuary and nave have been smudged you are invited to smudge yourself as you enter the nave by washing your face seven times in the smoke, an action that cleanses the mind and heart as one takes in the smudge. The smoke of the smudge carries our prayers to heaven in the same manner that the Psalmist observes, "Let my prayer be counted as incense before thee, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice!" (Psalm 141:2)

A Note on Today's Readings

As the church year ends, the liturgy turns our attention to the fact that the world is also moving towards its end. The gospel reading today is from the last portion of Jesus' teaching according to Luke. This "apocalyptic" teaching was central to Jesus' message and was a common theme in first century Judaism. God will come and bring all creation to its conclusion in the establishment of the Kingdom. The good news is that whatever tribulations occur in the end times, God is always present and will preserve all the redeemed into eternal life.

The first reading concludes our readings of the prophets, which we started last June. Though today's reading is from Isaiah, this is another author writing almost two hundred years later, around the time of Haggai. This author takes the prophetic message into new territory, as he deals not with events in his own time, but looks toward the end of time when God will establish sovereignty over the entire universe.

The reading from II Thessalonians tells first century Christians how they should live in the end times. In particular, Paul has no patience with those who stop working or ministering in anticipation of the end. The church proclaims that in Christ's death and resurrection the end has begun.

We are living in the end of time. In the Eucharist, in particular, we are already being met by Jesus, our loving, saving judge and are taken into his Kingdom. In the Eucharist, he comes "again in glory to judge the living and the dead." It is our knowledge that we are living in the end of the ages that gives Christian living its character, impelling us into worship and into ministry in the name of Christ.

Holy Eucharist

Ordinary Time, Proper 28

Sunday, November 17, 2013

Liturgy of the Word

Hymn

Come with us, O blessèd Jesus

Hymnal 336

All standing, the Celebrant says

People Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Celebrant says

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.

The following is sung, all standing

Opening Anthem

S 280

- 1 Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
- 2 Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
- 3 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
- 4 you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
- 5 you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.

6 For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
7 you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

All sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Remain seated.

Canticle 9

BCP p. 86

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Church in Thessalonika.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Sequence

All stand.

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

Hymnal 482

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:5-19

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel is read, the people respond as follows:

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Rebecca Myers

Reflection and Sharing

Ken and Shelia Phillips

Nicene Creed

All stand.

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 worshiped 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 of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

All remain standing.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Katharine, our Presiding Bishop, Doug, our Bishop, for Rebecca, our priest; and for
all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. In particular we pray for Buddy, Steve, Shelia, May, Jeff, Dura Anne, Barbara, Linda, Sue and family, Ray, June, Donna, Rob, Audrey, Paula, Betty, James, Raymond, Elaine, Diana, Jack, Jim, Sharae, Leroy, Faye, Jerry, Ruby, Brenda, Kevin, John and Emily. We pray for those serving in the armed forces, especially Sylvestre. I invite your own petitions at this time.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We pray in thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Henry Stoltz. I invite your own prayers of thanksgiving at this time.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. In particular we pray for Philip Girdner and Yonna Taylor.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world, and today in particular for the native peoples of this land. We pray for understanding among all races and peoples. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

All kneel.

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence.

Minister and People

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
 in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
 the evil we have done,
 and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Announcements may be made at this point in the service.

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

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

Offertory Hymn

Amazing Grace in Cherokee (a phonetic transliteration)

Hymnal 671

Repeat the Cherokee verse while the altar is being prepared.

Oo nay klah nah ee oo way gee

Ee gah goo yah hey ee

Nah gwoo joe sah wee oo low say

Ee gay goo yah hoe nuh

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

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 you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Sanctus

Celebrant and People

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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 Celebrant then continues

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Hymn

Precious Lord, take my hand

WLP 800

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Postcommunion Hymn

Journey Song

A Cherokee song

The words of the song translated mean, "Bless us, Creator, on our journey. We are Cherokee, your principle people."

Please follow the cross out of the nave to the church hall.