



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Wilson, NC
A Service of Ante-Communion. The Liturgy of the Word
ALL SAINTS' DAY

November 01, 2020

The Rev. James G. Reed – Celebrant and Preacher
Dexter Ruffin, Organist
Carl Rees, Lay Reader

Opening Hymn

For all the saints, who from their labors rest

H 287

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 in excelsis (Dexter)

**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.**

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

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 34:1-10,22 (read by Carl Rees)

- ¹ I will bless the LORD at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- ² I will glory in the LORD; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- ³ Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; *
let us exalt his Name together.
- ⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- ⁵ Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- ⁶ I called in my affliction and the LORD heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.

⁷ The angel of the LORD encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.

⁸ Taste and see that the LORD is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

⁹ Fear the LORD, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.

¹⁰ The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.

²² The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

THE EPISTLE (read by Carl Rees)

A Reading from 1 John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Ye watchers and ye holy ones

H 618

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. James G. Reed

NICENE CREED

**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 - FORM VI (read by Carl Rees)

The Leader and People pray responsively

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 Donald our President, Roy our Governor, Carlton our Mayor, 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 Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Sam and Anne, our Bishops; Jim, our priest; and for all bishops, priests, deacons, and those in religious orders;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

Pray for those on our parish prayer list, especially: those who have immediate needs -- Buster Dawson, Bonnie Campbell, Eva Morriss, Bill Wrenn, Dallas Clark, Pat Grainger, April Lamm, Dick Cozart, Betty Jean Gauss, Lee Wilhelm, Jerry Hamill, Miles Johnson, Chris Perri, those affected by Covid-19, those affected by the lack of respect for the dignity of every person; and, those who have ongoing needs as listed in our website and those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

O gracious God, you know our needs as we continue this journey to recognize and select our new Rector. Help us to listen anew to You and each other so that we may discern the direction you would have us go. Be with us as we create a new, shared vision and guide our steps with your heavenly compass, that we may accomplish our task inspired by imagination and not memory.

Finally, we ask Your blessing upon the St. Timothy's family, as we continue to pray for the priest, known to You. All this we ask in Jesus's name, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

We pray for the mission and ministries of our sister Episcopal Churches of St. Mark's and Guadalupana.

We pray for our military personnel serving throughout the world, particularly those in war zones. We pray for those affected by terrorism, both domestic and abroad, and for those who protect us from such acts of violence.

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

We pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week, especially; John Wilson, Maddox Jones, Cook Rhodes, Edna Lovelace Gaston, Rebecca Agner, Nissa Harrell, April Higgins, Cayton Williams, and Virginia Williams.

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, especially Janie Bostick.

Silence - The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

CONFESSION OF SIN (led by Carl Rees)

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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.*

ALL SAINTS DAY PRAYER

Almighty God, with whom still live the spirits of those who die in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful are in joy and felicity: We give you heartfelt thanks for the good examples of all your servants, who, having finished their course in faith, now find rest and refreshment. May we, with all who have died in the true faith of your holy Name, have perfect fulfillment and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY (Dexter)