



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Wilson, NC  
An Online Expression of the Holy Eucharist  
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

(Proper 22)

October 04, 2020

The Rev. James G. Reed – Celebrant and Preacher  
Dexter Ruffin, Organist

**Opening Hymn**

*Christ is made the sure foundation*

**H 518**

*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**

**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 and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except

through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON** (read by Pat Williams)

**A Reading from Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20**

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**PSALM 19** (chanted by Ed Fischer)

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

- <sup>3</sup> Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,
- <sup>4</sup> Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.
- <sup>5</sup> In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- <sup>6</sup> It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- <sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the LORD is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the LORD are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the LORD is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.
- <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.
- <sup>11</sup> By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup> Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- <sup>13</sup> Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.
- <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

**THE EPISTLE** (read by Pat Williams)

**A Reading from Philippians 3:4b-14**

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place*

**W 752**

**THE GOSPEL**

**Matthew 21:33-46**

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord's doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

*Celebrant  
People*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**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 Jennifer Long)

For St. Timothy's Wilson NC

*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*

Buster Dawson, Bonnie Campbell, Eva Morriss, Bill Wrenn, Dallas Clark, Pat Grainger, April Lamm, Melanie Womble, Dick Cozart, Betty Jean Gauss, 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 unique needs as we continue this journey to recognize and select our new Rector.

We ask Your Holy Spirit for guidance, insight, and direction as we prayerfully draw to our midst the leader you would choose for us.

Grant us continued confidence in our choices and strength to embrace the changes.

Finally, we ask Your blessing upon the St. Timothy's family, even as we continue to pray for the priest, known only to You, who is on the way to us. 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; Lisa Robbins, Christine Gilmore, Ed Etheridge, Mac McKinney, Randall Hornsby, and Randy Prouty.

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.

*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**

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.**

### **THE BLESSING**

### **THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **CLOSING VOLUNTARY**