

Grace Episcopal Church
A Parish Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta
Est. 1828



Last Sunday after Pentecost Year A

The Feast of Christ the King

November 22, 2020

*The mission of Grace echoes the mission of the entire Christian community:
to aid in the reconciliation of the entire world with and through Jesus Christ.*

Prelude

Prelude in C Major BWV 531

J. S. Bach

Community Minute

Prayer for the Human Family

BCP 815

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Opening Sentences

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

The Confession of Sin

BCP 79

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People

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.

The Absolution

Officiant 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.*

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

BCP 80

Officiant and People

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.
Alleluia.

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

BCP 82

Officiant Let us say the Venite in unison.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn 609 8:15AM service—sung at home
10:45 AM service—sung by virtual quartet

Gardiner

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on sha - dowed
3 The cup of wa - ter given for thee still holds the
4 O Mas - ter, from the moun - tain side, make haste to
5 till all the world shall learn thy love, and fol - low

1 cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
2 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
3 fresh - ness of thy grace; yet long these mul - ti -
4 heal these hearts of pain; a - mong these rest - less
5 where thy feet have trod; till glo - rious from thy

1 self - ish strife, we hear thy voice, O Son of Man.
2 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of thy tears.
3 tudes to see the true com - pas - sion of thy face.
4 throngs a - bide, O tread the ci - ty's streets a - gain;
5 heaven a - bove, shall come the ci - ty of our God.

Psalm 100

BCP 729

- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the LORD is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Solo 8:15AM service

Lead on, O King Eternal
Andrea Price, Soprano

Henry Smart

Lead on, O King Eternal, the day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong;
and now, O King Eternal, We lift our battle song.
Lead on, O King Eternal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace.
For not with swords' loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy the heav'nly kingdom comes.
Lead on, O King Eternal, we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning where'er Thy face appears.
Thy cross is lifted o'er us, we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest; Lead on, O God of might.

10:45AM service

King of Glory, King of Peace
Cody Otero, Tenor

Gerald Near

King of glory, King of peace, I will love Thee; and that love may never cease, I will move Thee.
Thou hast granted my request, thou hast heard me; Thou didst note my working breast, thou hast spared me.
Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing Thee, and the cream of all my heart I will bring Thee.
Though my sins against me cried, thou didst clear me; and alone, when they replied, thou didst hear me.
Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise Thee; in my heart, though not in Heaven, I can raise Thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll Thee: e'en eternity's too short to extol Thee.

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry

and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Homily: The Rev. Mary Demmler

The Apostles' Creed

BCP 96

Officiant and People together

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

BCP 97

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Officiant Let us pray.

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.

Suffrages A

BCP 97

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Prayers of the People Form III

BCP 387

Remembering the concerns of the parishes in our diocese during these days, Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Remembering Michael, our Presiding Bishop and Robert, our bishop, we pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Remembering especially those who hold the sacred trust of political leadership; those who seek political office; and all of us during this particular election season; we pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Remembering the gifts we each have to share with our community and the responsibility we have to support the common good; give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Remembering especially Leonard Parks, parishioner; Hope Filchak, granddaughter of parishioners Maria and Tom Bower; Ellery, granddaughter of parishioners Steve and Susan Carlson. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Remembering Bill Tovell, brother of parishioner Martha Nesbitt; give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Remembering Blessed Mary, the Mother of God; Blessed Joseph; and all those who continue to inspire and guide us by their lives and witness, we praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn 544

Duke Street

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun doth his suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners
5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

1 ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
2 throng to crown his head; his Name like sweet per -
3 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
4 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
5 hon - ors to our King; an - gels de - scend with

1 shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2 fume shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
3 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his Name.
4 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
5 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Fugue in C Major BWV 531

J. S. Bach

A donation has been made to the flower fund given to the glory of God
in thanksgiving for Carolyn R. Smith on her birthday
by Mary Jardine
and
in thanksgiving for the 50th wedding anniversary of Craig and Judy Carpenter
by Craig and Judy
and
in thanksgiving for the 30th wedding anniversary of Jeff and Margaret Whalen
by Jeff and Margaret