



October 31st, 2021 - Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

O Praise Him

Turn your ear to heaven
And hear the noise inside
The sound of angels' awe
The sound of angels' songs
And all this for a King
We could join and sing
All to Christ the King

How constant, how divine
This song of ours will rise
O, how constant, how divine
This love of ours will rise, will rise

*O praise Him, O praise him,
He is Holy, He is Holy*

Turn your gaze to heaven
And raise a joyous noise
The sound of salvation come
The sound of rescued ones
And all this for a King, angels join to sing
All for Christ our King

How infinite and sweet
This love so rescuing
O, how infinitely sweet
This great love that has redeemed
As one we sing

*Alleluia, Alleluia,
He is Holy, He is Holy*

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Leader: Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. 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.

Corporate Confession

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.

Absolution

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always
Thou and Thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven my treasure Thou art

*O God be my everything, be my delight
Be Jesus my glory, my soul satisfied (2x)*

High King of heaven, my vict'ry won,
May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun!

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Psalm 31:1-8

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me! Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily! Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me! For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me; you take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD. I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have known the distress of my soul, and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; you have set my feet in a broad place.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles [1:6-11]

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** *Thanks be to God.*

Please stand for The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Mark [12:28-34]

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord. **People:** *Praise to you, Lord Christ!*

Sermon: "Witness to What? Witness to Whom?" - The Rev. Canon John Macdonald

The Apostles' Creed

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 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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Join me in praying the collect of the day.

Together: *Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, as we live among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and the world. [Add your prayers verbally or silently after each petition.]

Oh Lord, show us your mercy *and grant us your salvation* [personal repentance and faith]

Clothe your ministers with righteousness *and make your chosen people joyful* [church leaders and people]

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world *for only in you can we live in safety* [worldwide justice and peace]

Lord, keep this nation under your care *and guide us in the way of justice and truth* [our nation and national and local leaders]

Let your way be known upon earth, *Your saving health among all nations* [world mission]

Let not the needy, O Lord, Be forgotten *nor the hope of the poor be taken away* [local and global need]

Create in us clean hearts, O God *and sustain us with your Holy Spirit* [spiritual growth]

Join me in praying this prayer for our pastor search:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Rector for this congregation that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Leader: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the Unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Standing) Passing of the Peace

(Seated) Announcements

(Standing) The Doxology

(Standing) THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with your spirit.*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Leader: It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away, you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

People: *You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.*

Leader: In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

People: *He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.*

Leader: On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends, he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

People: *Father, we do this in remembrance of him; his body is the bread of life.*

Leader: At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

People: *Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.*

Leader: As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

People: *As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.*

Leader: With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven: *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.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (together)

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, forever and ever. Amen

The Anthem

By His stripes, we are healed
By His nail-pierced hands we're free
By His blood, we're washed clean
Now we have the victory

The pow'r of sin is broken
Jesus overcame it all
He has won our freedom
Jesus has won it all

Hallelujah, You have won the victory
Hallelujah, You have won it all for me

'Cause death could not hold You down
You are the risen King
Seated in majest
You are the risen King

Our God is risen, He is alive
He won the victory, He reigns on high

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own
Awake my soul and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of love
Behold His hands and side
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight
But downward bends each burning eye
At mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of peace
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole
That wars may cease
And all be prayer and praise
His reign shall know no end
And round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet

Crown Him the Lord of years
The Potentate of time
Creator of the rolling spheres
Ineffably sublime
All hail Redeemer hail
For Thou hast died for me
Thy praise shall never never fail
Throughout eternity

The Blessing

All of our problems: *We send to the cross of Christ* All of our difficulties: *We send to the cross of Christ*
All of the devil's works: *We send to the cross of Christ* And all of our hopes: *We set on the risen Lord!*

Leader: May God bless you and keep you, may his face shine upon you, may he be gracious unto you and give you peace. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: *Thanks be to God!*