

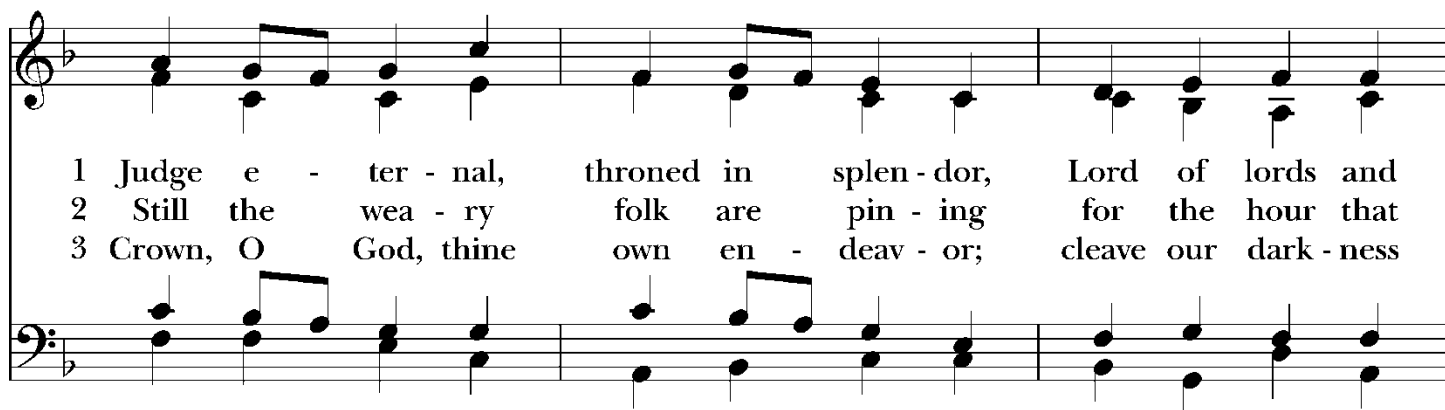
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Chester, Vermont
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 20, 2025



Musical prelude selected and played by Karlaine Livingston

*Following the prelude, the bell is rung ten times, summoning all within range to come join us for worship.
Then a moment of silence is observed.*

Entrance Hymn 596 *The Hymnal 1982*



1 Judge e - ter - nal, throned in splen - dor, Lord of lords and
 2 Still the wea - ry folk are pin - ing for the hour that
 3 Crown, O God, thine own en - deav - or; cleave our dark - ness



King of kings, with thy liv - ing fire of judg - ment
 brings re - lease, and the ci - ty's crowd - ed clang - or
 with thy sword; feed all those who do not know thee



purge this land of bit - ter things; sol - ace all its
 cries a - loud for sin to cease; and the home - steads
 with the rich - ness of thy word; cleanse the bo - dy



wide do - min - ion with the heal - ing of thy wings.
 and the wood - lands plead in si - lence for their peace.
 of this na - tion through the glo - ry of the Lord.

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and people

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.

Song of Praise S-280 The Hymnal 1982 Service Music



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



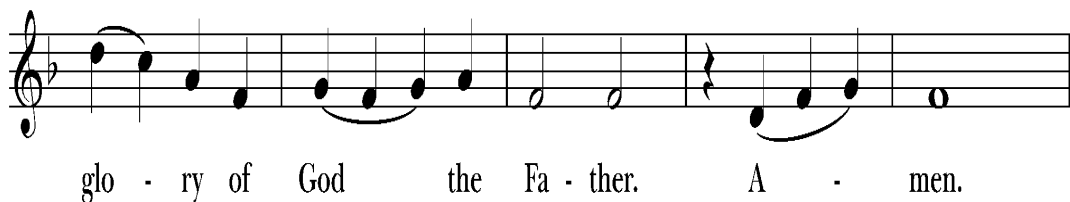
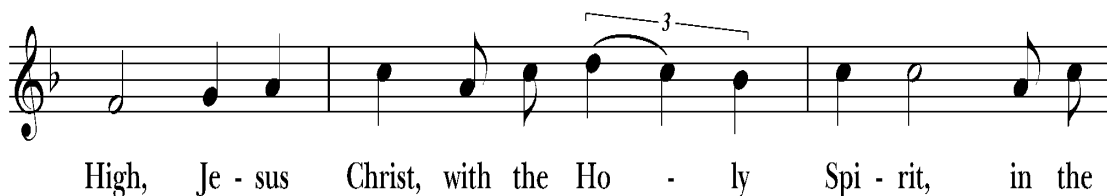
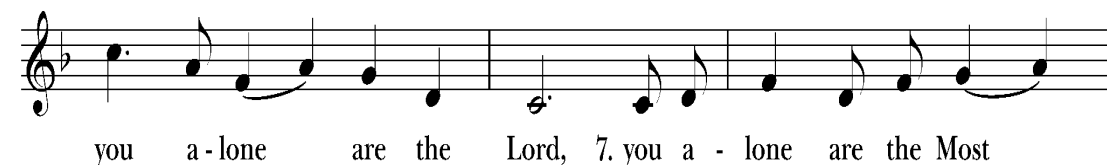
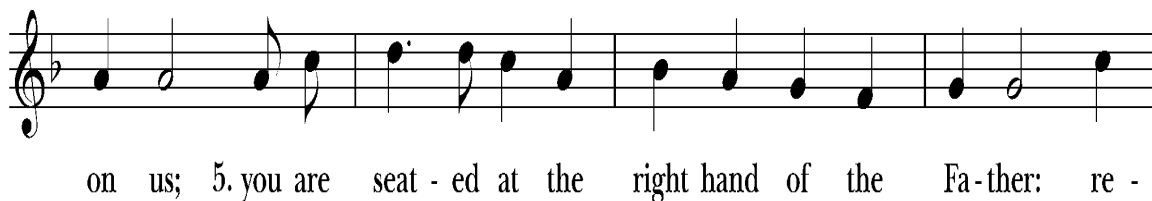
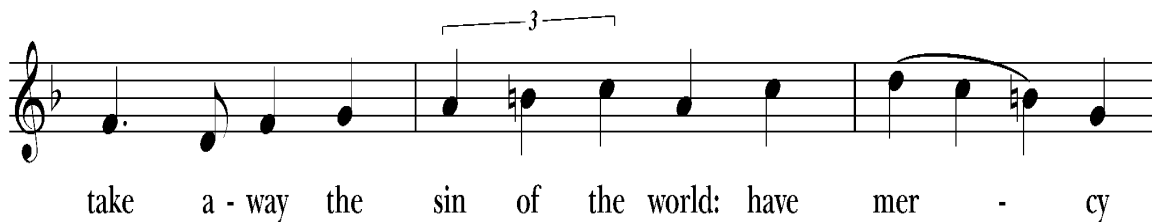
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Collect for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Presider and people

Ever-faithful God, whose being is perfect righteousness: reconcile us in your Son with the helpless and the needy, with those we would ignore or oppress, and with those we have called enemies, that we may serve all people as your hands of love, and sit at the feet of those who need our compassionate care. Amen. (*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*)

The First Reading Amos 8:1-12

Reader A reading from Amos.

¹This is what the Lord GOD showed me — a basket of summer fruit. ²He said, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit."

Then the LORD said to me,

"The end has come upon my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by.

³The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day,"
says the Lord GOD;

"the dead bodies shall be many,
cast out in every place. Be silent!"

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,

so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,

⁶buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

⁸Shall not the land tremble on this account,
and everyone mourn who lives in it,
and all of it rise like the Nile,
and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?

⁹On that day, says the Lord GOD,
I will make the sun go down at noon,
and darken the earth in broad daylight.

¹⁰I will turn your feasts into mourning,
and all your songs into lamentation;
I will bring sackcloth on all loins,

and baldness on every head;
I will make it like the mourning for an only son,
and the end of it like a bitter day.

¹¹The time is surely coming, says the Lord GOD,
when I will send a famine on the land;
not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water,
but of hearing the words of the LORD.

¹²They shall wander from sea to sea,
and from north to east;
they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD,
but they shall not find it.

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

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 52

1 You tyrant, why do you boast of wickedness *
against the godly all day long?

2 You plot ruin;
your tongue is like a sharpened razor, * O worker of deception.

3 You love evil more than good * and lying more than speaking the truth.

4 You love all words that hurt, * O you deceitful tongue.

5 Oh, that God would demolish you utterly, * topple you, and snatch you
from your dwelling, and root you out of the land of the living!

6 The righteous shall see and tremble, *
and they shall laugh at the tyrant, saying,

7 "This is the one who did not take God for a refuge, *but trusted in great
wealth and relied upon wickedness."

8 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God; *
I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

9 I will give you thanks for what you have done * and declare the goodness
of your Name in the presence of the godly.

The Second Reading – Colossians 1:15-28

Reader A reading from Paul's Letter to the Colossians.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him — ²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 467 *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Sing, my soul, his won-drous love, who, from yon bright throne a - bove,
2 Heaven and earth by him were made; all is by his scep - ter swayed;
3 God, the mer - ci - ful and good, bought us with the Sa - vior's blood,
4 Sing, my soul, a - dore his Name! Let his glo - ry be thy theme:

ev - er watch - ful o'er our race, still to us ex - tends his grace.
what are we that he should show so much love to us be - low?
and, to make sal - va - tion sure, guides us by his Spi - rit pure.
praise him till he calls thee home; trust his love for all to come.

The Holy Gospel – Luke 10:38-42

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, O Christ.

³⁸Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing.

Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon *Rev. Dr. Bruce L. MacDuffie*

Nicene Creed *Presider and people*

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, 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

Presider

Let us welcome the strangers at our door with food and prayer in the name of Jesus.

Intercessor

For Shannon, our bishop, for this holy gathering, and for the people of God in every place.

Christe eleison.

For all peoples on earth and their leaders.

Christe eleison.

For mercy, justice, and peace in the world.

Christe eleison.

For those on vacation, and for safety from violent storms.

Christe eleison.

For all those in danger and need: refugees in search of shelter, travelers on their journey, and for those who give them hospitality.

Christe eleison.

For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead.

Christe eleison.

For ourselves, our families, our companions, and all those we love.

Christe eleison.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord.

Presider

God who comes among us in the person of Jesus, hear the prayers we offer today and grace our homes with your presence in word and at table;

through Jesus Christ From riteplanning.com.

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Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins to God. *Silence may be kept.*

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.

Absolution 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.

The Peace *Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

"May you be made strong with the strength that comes for God's glorious power...who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light."(Colossians)

Offertory Hymn 488 *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,
all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!
thou my best thought,— by day or by night,
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
Heart of my heart,— what - ev - er be - fall,
wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Presentation of the offering *"The Doxology", vs. 3, #380 Hymnal 1982*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider The Lord be with you.

Presider All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places,

our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; through Jesus Christ our Lord; For you, O Father, are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. And so as the stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

(S -125 Service Music, The Hymnal 1982)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you,
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and
said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his
friends and said:
"Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ's coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and people

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of
time gather us with blessed Luke, the patron of this congregation, and all
your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

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

Presider and people

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

S-164 Service Music, *The Hymnal 1982*

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



Presider The Holy Gifts of God for the Holy People of God.

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here. All are welcome to receive communion. (Special COVID precautions may be voiced here.)

Communion Hymn 795 *Wonder, Love, and Praise*

1. Come now, O Prince of Peace, make us one bod - y,
 2. Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y,
 3. Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior,
 4. Come, Hope of U - ni - ty, make us one bod - y,

come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
 come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Post-communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

Presider 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.

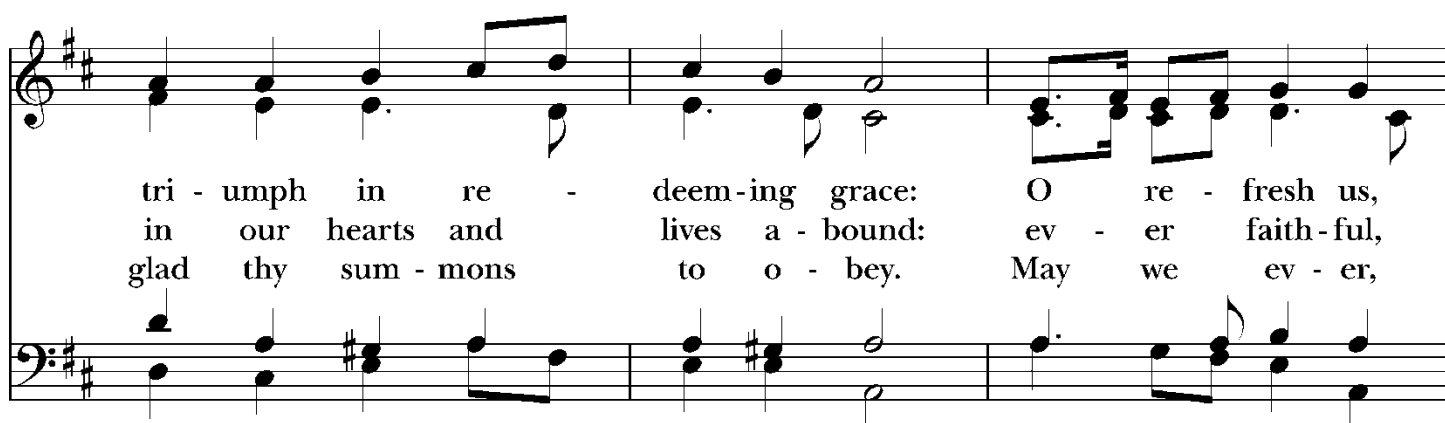
Closing Hymn 344 *The Hymnal 1982*



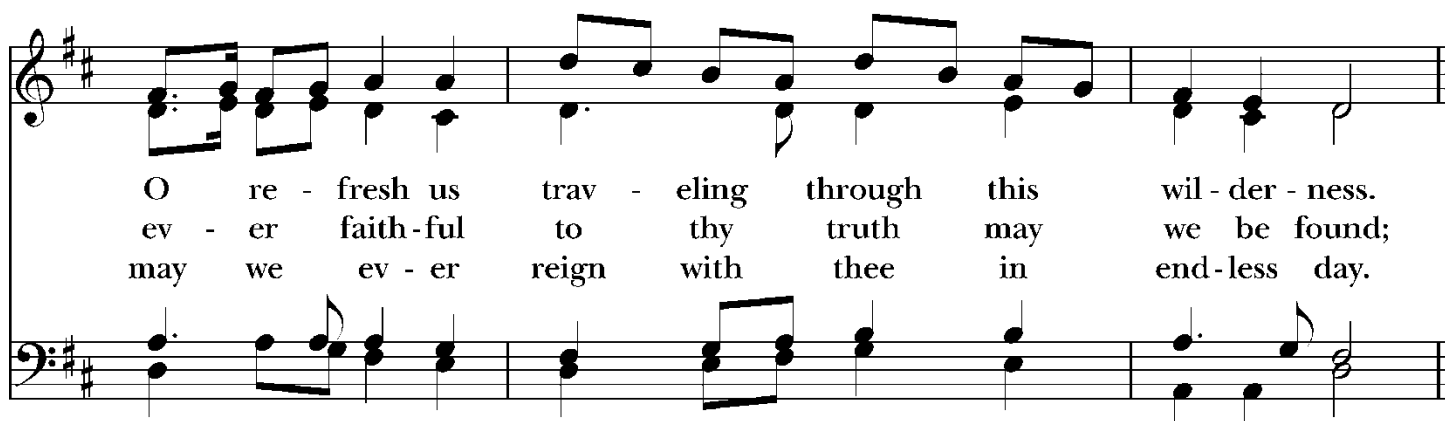
1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
 3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the



joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,



tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace: O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
 glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;
 may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

Closing Blessing

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. The Lord God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the holy and undivided Trinity, guard you, save you, and bring you to that heavenly City, where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Postlude Selected and played by Karlaine Livingston

Announcements

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PLEASE!! Take this service leaflet with you. Read the scriptures again. Learn a hymn or two. Use the prayers of the people all this coming week. Blessings!

Preparing for Sunday. Next Sunday, July 20, the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost.

Prepare to more fully participate in worship by carefully reading the scripture lessons for next Sunday. Try reading them aloud even if to yourself. Write down or record what thoughts or questions come to you and send Fr. Bruce an email about them. At a personal level, I, Bruce, will try to respond, as will others, and we can get a conversation going. The scripture lessons for next Sunday include: Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85; Colossians 2:6-19. Luke 11:1-13.

Worship Schedule

Wednesday, July 23 Midweek Eucharist 5:30-6:00 PM

 Commemorating John Cassian

Sunday, July 27 the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost 10-11:15 AM

 Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, July 30 Midweek Eucharist 5:30-6:00 P.M.

 Commemorating William Wilberforce

Other Events

Thursday, July 24 Fourth full Croquet Game of Season 6:00-7:30 PM

Thursday July 31 Fifth full croquet game of season 6:00-7:30 PM

Thursday August 7 Sixth full croquet game of the season.