



**SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE  
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST**

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS AND ASCENSION**

4520 Lucas and Hunt Road  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63121  
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*allsaintsascension.com*

**Sunday Prayer Service for August 16, 2020**  
**Enriching Our Worship**

**Opening Acclamation**

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People* *Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Collect for Purity**

*Celebrant* 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 Savior. *Amen.*

**Song of Praise**

**BCP page 356**

*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.*

*People*      *And also with you.*  
*Celebrant*    Let us pray.

### **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*    Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **First Reading**

### **Genesis 45:1-15**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his

brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

*People Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm 133                      BCP page 787**

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
    when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
    that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
    and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
    that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: \*  
    life for evermore.

**Second Reading                      Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

*People Thanks be to God.*

**The Gospel                                      Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28**

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People Glory to you, O Christ.*

[Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Renee L. Fenner**  
**(posted online)**

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP page 358**

*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.*

**Prayers of the People Form VI**

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*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 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, Deon our Bishop, and Renee our Priest. In our Diocese of Missouri, we pray for the hunger, feeding, and garden ministries in this diocese, and the diocesan Task Force on Hunger. We pray for our companions in the Diocese of Lui; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *(pause)*  
We pray especially for:

Cleo Anderson	Kimberley Baker	Terry Baker
The Barnes Family	Joey Beeker	Rose Marie Bell
Jourice Bishop	Chazetta Bland	V. Lester Bond
The Buckner Family	Brandon Burgett	Juanita Carroll
Lorenzo Carter	Bessie Clemmons	The Rev. Samuel L Cosby
Keyanna & Zachary Dorsey and Family		Aubrey Escoffery
Evans Ford	Carman Gayden	Jim Goodwin
Antonio Graves	Suzanne Harris	Diana Oliver
Drea Malone	Ezell Roberts	Larry Sample
Jerri Sleydin	The Rev. Marc Smith	Mary Stafford
Catherine Thrope	Valiente Waltz	

We pray for all those affected by recent storms and those still in harm's way.

We also pray for those serving in the military:  
Sgt. Omar Fernandes (Brantley)-United States Air Force  
Sr. Airman Matthew Heeter- United States Air Force  
First Lt. Jovonny Carrion-United States Army  
Staff Sgt. Ashley Cole-United States Air Force  
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Keshar Miller-United States Army Reserve

### **A Prayer in Time of Pandemic**

Loving God, your desire is for our wholeness and wellbeing.  
We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.  
We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.  
We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future.  
We pray: may love, not fear, go viral.  
Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.  
Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to  
come together in spirit and in solidarity.  
Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence,  
You, the God who does not abandon. *Amen.*

*Sister Christine Koelhoffer, IHM*

### **A Prayer For Social Justice**

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; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

### **A Prayer for An End to Gun Violence**

Gracious God who loves us so perfectly, help us to better love you and each other.  
We weep for the gun violence that kills children and so many others needlessly.  
Bless us with the wisdom and strength to put down our weapons and may violence cease in the nation and in our world. We ask all this in the Name of Jesus, your Son, and our Redeemer. *Amen.*

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;  
*For your mercy is great.*

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

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, especially Willie Barnes, family member of Rev. Renee, 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.*

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**

*Celebrant* 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**

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*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.*

## **A Prayer for those wishing Communion**

*In union, O God, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

## **Blessing and Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those whom we love or those walk this way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind and may the Divine Mystery that is beyond our ability to know be your companion along the way. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the grace of Christ the Son and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

*Celebrant* Let us bless our God.

*People* *Thanks be to God.*