

PRAYER SERVICE

The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

October 31, 2021, 9:00 a.m.



Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension Northwoods, MO

Mission Statement: *To be the Light of Christ that builds relationships in our congregation, our community, and with our God.*

Vision Statement: *Finding Christ in Relationships*

“ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP”

OPENING HYMN *“Trust and Obey”*

LEVAS #205

When we walk with the Lord In the light of His word,
What a glory He sheds on our way! While we do His good will,
He abides with us still, And with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain -

Trust and obey, For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies,
But His smile quickly drives it away; Not a doubt nor a fear,
Not a sigh nor a tear, Can abide while we trust and obey.

Refrain -

Trust and obey, For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, Not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay; Not a grief nor a loss,
Not a frown nor a cross, but is blest if we trust and obey.

Refrain -

Trust and obey, For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.

But we never can prove The delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay; For the favor He shows,
And the joy He bestows, Are for them who will trust and obey.

Refrain -

Trust and obey, For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.

When in fellowship sweet We will sit at His feet,
Or we'll walk by His side in the way; What He says we will do,
Where He sends we will go, Never fear, only trust and obey.

Refrain -

Trust and obey, For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

THE 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 Savior. ***Amen.***

SONG OF PRAISE: GLORIA (spoken)

***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 God is with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

THE FIRST LESSON

Ruth 1:1-18

A Reading from the Book of Ruth.

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to

go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said,

"Do not press me to leave you
or to turn back from following you!
Where you go, I will go;
Where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.
Where you die, I will die—
there will I be buried.
May the Lord do thus and so to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!"

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

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

THE PSALM **Psalm 146** *Lauda, anima mea*

- 1 Hallelujah!
Praise the LORD, O my soul! *
***I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.***
- 2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.
- 3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.
- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the LORD their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.
- 7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger; *
***he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.***
- 9 The LORD shall reign for ever, *
***your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!***

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 9:11-14

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered

himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

SEQUENCE HYMN *“Bless the Lord, O My Soul”* LEVAS #65

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me,
Bless His holy name.

He has done great things, He has done great things,
He has done great things, Bless His holy name!

THE GOSPEL

Mark 12:28-34

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

People ***Glory to you, O Christ.***

One of the scribes came near and heard the Sadducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 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.” Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; 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,’ —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

THE SERMON

The Rev. Renee L. Fenner

THE 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.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM VI

The Worship Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, O 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 and Deon our Bishop. In our Diocese of Missouri, we pray for the people and ministry of Faith Christian Church of India (2018), and Sujanna and Clive, their Priests. We pray for Renee, our Rector, and Jamal, our Assisting Clergy; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation and those of others especially:

The Rev. E. Henry Adams	Cleo Anderson	Joey Beeker
Rose Marie Bell	Chazetta Bland	V. Lester Bond
Harold Briggs	Juanita Carroll	Lorenzo Carter
Bessie Clemmons	Stephanie Curry-Edward	
Keyanna Dorsey and Family	Aubrey Escoffery	Carman Gayden
Antonio Graves	Suzanne Harris	John & Sharon Jackson
Doug Jones	Mary K. Jones	Ruby Mathews
Willa McClain	Diana Oliver	Helen Owens
Arvel Parker	Ezell Roberts	Marion Robinson

Florence Ross
Gerri Sleydin
Larry Williams

Larry Sample
Rodney Weade

Sallie Simmons
Douglas Williams

For all veterans and those who are currently serving in the military especially:

Sgt. Omar Fernandes (Brantley)-United States Air Force
Sr. Airman Matthew Heeter- United States Air Force
Captain 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 This Time of Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake. May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable. May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health and making their rent. May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options. May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go. May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all. May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home. As fear grips our country, let us choose love. And during this time when we may not be able to physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. **Amen.**

Written by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, O God;

For your mercy is great.

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

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God;
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

O God, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Pause

Celebrant 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.

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.*

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

We thank you, O God, for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present, O Jesus, as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again face-to-face. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

Celebrant In the Name of God who made us, God who heals us, God who sets us free, most glorious Trinity, One God now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve our God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Today's Liturgical Leaders

Celebrant

The Rev. Renee L. Fenner, Rector

Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Jamal Scarlett

Worship Leader

Gaylard Williams

Reader

Joyce Crittenden

Minister of Music

Rick Earley

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS AND ASCENSION VESTRY

Class of 2022

Stanley Johnson, Jr. Warden

Rickey Mabry

Michael Watson

Machelle West

William Young, Sr. Warden

Class of 2023

Sylvia Thomas

Andrea Young

Class of 2024

Betty Brown

Michael Griffin,

Clerk

OUR MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Mission Statement: *To be the Light of Christ that builds relationships in our congregation, our community, and with our God.*

Vision Statement: *Finding Christ in Relationships*

FRIENDLY REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



RETURN TO THE OFFICE

Karen will return to the office tomorrow, Monday, November 1st.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We will return to in-person worship on Sunday, November 7! Worship will be held at 10:00AM. We hope that it will be the start of our ability to live stream. For those joining us in-person it is mandatory that face masks be worn properly. A Calling Post message will be sent to verify the starting time by Wednesday, November 3rd.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

We will observe All Saints Sunday on November 7th. The names of loved ones, family and friends who passed since November 2020, will be read in a special litany during the liturgy.

UBE CHAPTER IN MISSOURI

At long last, a UBE Chapter (Union of Black Episcopalians) has been formalized here in the Diocese of Missouri! Our chapter is appropriately named after someone most of us knew, the Rev. Emery Washington, Jr. ***Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2, at 7:00PM. The Zoom link will be shared with those interested in joining.*** If you are interested, please contact the Rev. Shug Goodlow via email at shuggoodlow@aol.com. Or you may contact Rev. Renee by phone or email and she will pass along your contact information.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Daylight Savings Time ends **next Sunday, November 7th**. Don't forget set your clocks back one hour!!!



THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Please plan to attend a Thanksgiving Eve Service of Holy Eucharist at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 24. We will have in-person service and hopefully via live stream.

182nd MEETING OF THE CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MISSOURI
The 182nd meeting of the Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri will be held via Zoom, November 18-20, 2021. Please keep all voting delegates and the Diocese of Missouri in your prayers!



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