

Give unto God what is God's.



20th Sunday After Pentecost
October 18, 2020



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Introduction

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

Welcome to Worship

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity,
✝ one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

All Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

Faithful God,,

All have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you**

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

All Amen.

Opening Song

Seek Ye First

Verse 1

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you—
Allelu, alleluia!

Verse 2

Man shall not live by bread alone but by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of God—
Allelu, alleluia!

Verse 3

Ask and it shall be given unto you. Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you—
Allelu, alleluia!

CCLI Song # 1352

Karen Lafferty

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The Greeting

P The Lord be with you!

All And also with you!

Prayer of the Day

P Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts.

All Created by you, let us live in your image;
created for you, let us act for your glory;
redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

[You may be Seated](#)

A Reading from Isaiah, the 45th chapter

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you and level the mountains,

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Isaiah 45:1-7

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians, the 1st chapter

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became

imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit,⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.⁹ For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Please stand in body or spirit.

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Matthew 22:15-22

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be Seated

Sermon

Pr. Gordon Young

Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 Intercession

L With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: Hear us, O God. *All:* **Your mercy is great.**

Or

L: Lord, in your mercy, *All:* **hear our prayer.**

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

The Lord's Prayer

P Gathered together in this new dawn, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

All **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 Invitation and The Meal

P Come to the banquet table
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

Sharing the Meal

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All **Amen**

P Let us pray,

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.

All **Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Please stand in body or spirit.

Benediction

P Mothering God,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

All **Amen.**

Sending Song

My Life in in You

Refrain

My life is in You Lord. My strength is in You Lord.
My hope is in You Lord. In You it's in You.
My life is in You Lord. My strength is in You Lord.
My hope is in You Lord. In You it's in You.

Verse

I will praise You with all of my life.
I will praise You with all of my strength.
With all of my life, With all of my strength,
All of my hope is in You.

Ending

In You

CCLI Song # 17315

Daniel Gardner

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Dismissal

P Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ has forgiven you. *Ephesians 4:23*
Go in peace. Remember the poor.

All **Thanks be to God.**

THEY'VE GIVEN
JESUS NO
GOOD WAY TO
ANSWER THIS.



RIGHT. EITHER HE'LL
ANGER THE RELIGIOUS
LEADERS OR HE'LL RUN
INTO TROUBLE WITH THE
ROMAN GOVERNOR.



DON'T THOSE
THINGS HAPPEN
ANYWAY?



YES
THEY
DO.



WELL PLAYED
JESUS!



MATTHEW 22:15-22

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Readings for next Sunday,
October 25th
Reformation Sunday

First Reading:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm:

Psalm 46

Second Reading:

Romans 3:19-28

Gospel:

John 8:31-36

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