

**Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2020**

Officiant & Rector:

Organist & Choirmaster
Mrs. Debbie Scott

Today's Hymns

Processional:

#680, "O God, our help in ages past"

Sequence:

#551, "Rise up ye saints of God"

Offertory:

Doxology v.3 – p 380

Recessional:

#450, "All hail the power of Jesus' name"

The Collect of the Day
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 25

BCP p. 235

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 34: 1 – 12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Mo'ab to Mount Ne'bo, to the top of Pis'gah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gil'ead as far as Dan, all Naph'tali, the land of E'phraim and Manas'seh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Neg'eb, and the Plain--that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees--as far as Zo'ar. The LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, "I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Mo'ab, at the LORD's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Mo'ab, opposite Beth-pe'or, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Mo'ab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 90

Domine, refugium

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *

in the evening it is dried up and withered.

13 Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

SECOND READING: 1st Thessalonians 2: 1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philip'pi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: ***Thanks be to God***

GOSPEL: Matthew 22: 34 – 46

When the Phar'isees heard that he had silenced the Sad'ducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Phar'isees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet" "? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Special Needs and Concerns: planning for regathering and resuming in-person worship services; for those harmed and traumatized by the wildfires, hurricanes, and civil unrest; for students and staff of the universities and schools that have had re-close; for the deepening of our faith and trust in the goodness of God's plan for the entire world.

For the Sick in our Congregation: Barb Janssen; Mike Fowler; Peggy Brittain; Mark Raines; Faye Trunkfield; LuJuan Harrill; Pat LaFevers; Alex Fowler; Toon Scott; Jerel Hoffman; Mary Phillips; Biff Bauer, Debbie and Danny Scott

For Our Families & Friends: Betty Fowler's brother Howard; Bill Phillips' brother-in-law John, LJ Dragon Boat founder Patti Kirchhoff; Gin Creswell's granddaughter, Kylie, Jan Henleys sister and her husband; Bill Flango's father, recovering from COVID 19, LuJuan Harrill's parents Marie and Junior; Tyler Hodge, friend of Pat LaFevers and Rev Kris Kramer, priest at St Mary's/St Stephen's, Debbie Scott's Mother and Brother.

Thanksgivings for the Blessings of This Life: helping hearts and hands giving generously to our community

Those whose ministry is public safety: Lake Deputy Tyler Gantt; Burke and McDowell Sheriff and Police Departments; NC Swift Water and Mountain Rescue Teams.

Those in the Military: those deployed to combat zones, especially Afghanistan. The families who wait for the safe return of their soldier. National Guard units deployed to assist in Hurricane and Fire Disasters.

First Responders: health and well-being of all care-givers and home health aides; refresh and restore the reservoir of hope in the hearts of EMTs.

Care Facilities: implementation and effectiveness of infection prevention protocols; sufficient PPE for everyone.

Covid 19: prayers for protection from infection for Julie Blake and all the teachers as Burke County begins Plan B; for all the 'lunch ladies' as they have contact with every student. For the wisdom and discernment of our re-opening committee in their planning and implementation of Morning Prayer outdoor in-person services.

Concerns of the Congregation: prayers for the wisdom and discernment for preparing to resume in-person worship services that will glorify God and be safe for all attending.

Christ's Comfort and Consolation: LuJuan Harrill's family on the death of her aunt Mary Lou

Those celebrating a Birthday or Wedding Anniversary:

Happy Birthday to Jessica Byerly on October 27 and Alex Pashayan on October 30.

If you have a name you would like on the Prayer list please let Mary Stang know.