

8:00 SERVICE



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

(831) 708-2278 125 Canterbury Drive Aptos CA 95003
www.st-john-aptos.org



Fourth Sunday in the Season of Creation

September 27, 2020

MORNING PRAYER

Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer (1979)

Opening Acclamation

BCP 78

Officiant The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Habakkuk 2:20

Confession of Sin

BCP 79

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept to allow time to confess specific sins to God.

All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

BCP 80

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Invitatory & Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

BCP 80

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

All Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Jubilate (*Psalm 100*)

BCP 82-83

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
 serve the Lord with gladness
 and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
 he himself has made us, and we are his;
 we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
 give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
 and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 33:3–9, 13–15

BCP Version

3 Sing for him a new song; *
 sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.
4 For the word of the LORD is right, *
 and all his works are sure.
5 He loves righteousness and justice; *
 the loving-kindness of the LORD fills the whole earth.
6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, *
 by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.
7 He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin *
 and stores up the depths of the sea.
8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; *
 let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.
9 For he spoke, and it came to pass; *
 he commanded, and it stood fast.
13 The LORD looks down from heaven, *
 and beholds all the people in the world.
14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
 on all who dwell on the earth.
15 He fashions all the hearts of them *
 and understands all their works.

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

First Lesson- Ezekiel 47:6-12

Common English Bible

In this passage, God shows Ezekiel a vision of the restoration of the Temple in Jerusalem, from which living streams of water flow that nourish life.

[The LORD] said to me, “Human one, do you see?” Then he led me back to the edge of the river. When I went back, I saw very many trees on both banks of the river. He said to me, “These waters go out to the eastern region, flow down the steep slopes, and go into the Dead Sea. When the flowing waters enter the sea, its water becomes fresh. Wherever the river flows, every living thing that moves will thrive. There will be great schools of fish, because when these waters enter the sea, it will be fresh. Wherever the river flows, everything will live. People will stand fishing beside it, from En-gedi to En-eglayim, and it will become a place for spreading nets. It will be like the Mediterranean Sea, having all kinds of fish in it. Its marshes and swamps won’t be made fresh (they are left for salt), but on both banks of the river will grow up all kinds of fruit-bearing trees. Their leaves won’t wither, and their fruitfulness won’t wane. They will produce fruit in every month, because their water comes from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for eating, their leaves for healing.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the residual of the bell ringing anymore before beginning the canticle.

Canticle 13: A Song of Praise

BCP 90

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *
 you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
 we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
 on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
 we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you, beholding the depths; *
 in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
 we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Second Lesson- Romans 8:18-23

Common English Bible

This passage from Romans emphasizes that the whole creation waits to be set free from its suffering by God's action in Christ.

I believe that the present suffering is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us. The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice—it was the choice of the one who subjected it—but in the hope that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children. We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. And it's not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the residual of the bell ringing anymore before beginning the canticle.

Canticle 19: The Song of the Redeemed

BCP 94

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done, *
surpassing human understanding.

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, *
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name? *
for you only are the Holy One.

All nations will draw near and fall down before you, *
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: ***
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Mark 16:14-15

Common English Bible

In this passage from the end of the Gospel of Mark, Jesus instructs the disciples to proclaim the Gospel to all creation - not just to people.

Finally he appeared to the eleven while they were eating. Jesus criticized their unbelief and stubbornness because they didn't believe those who saw him after he was raised up. He said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the good news to every creature."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. The preacher waits until they cannot hear the residual of the bell ringing anymore before beginning the sermon.

Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Roger Wharton, EcoSpirit Chaplain

A moment of silence follows the sermon.

The Apostles' Creed

BCP 96

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 97

Server The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Server Let us pray.

All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Suffrages B

BCP 98

Server Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

People **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Server Day by day we bless you;

People **We praise your Name for ever.**

Server Lord, keep us from all sin today;

People **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

Server Lord, show us your love and mercy;

People **For we put our trust in you.**

Server In you, Lord, is our hope;

People **And we shall never hope in vain.**

Collect of the Day

Server O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

BCP 98

Server O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

BCP 100

Server Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Mission

BCP 100

Server Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

Community Prayers

For Birthdays:

BCP 830

Watch over **Pat Dorr** (28), **Jimi Damon** (29), **Trink Praxel** (1) & **Leslianne Rowen** (2), O Lord, as their days increase. Bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For Baptism Anniversaries:

Almighty God, through baptism you unite us to the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ and commission us for ministry in his name. As your servants **Heather Richardson** (27), **Sherrie DeWitt** (28), & **Deacon Joan Anderson** (29) celebrate the anniversaries of their baptisms, give them courage, patience, and vision, and strengthen them in their Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For Wedding Anniversaries:

BCP 431

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church; send therefore your blessing upon your servants _____; that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in

faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For Travelers:

BCP 831

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel, in particular _____; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

All Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
 we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness
 to us and to all whom you have made.
 We bless you for our creation, preservation,
 and all the blessings of this life;
 but above all for your immeasurable love
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
 for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
 And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
 that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,
 by giving up our selves to your service,
 and by walking before you
 in holiness and righteousness all our days;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Closing Versicle & Response

BCP 102

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence

BCP 102

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen. *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Serving Today at 8 a.m.

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller
Server: Win Fernald
Lesson: Margy Cottle
Epistle: Barb Raney
Gospel: Chris Cottle
Scripture Introductions: The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller

Contact Information

Clergy

The Reverend Tracy J. Wells Miller, Rector

rector@st-john-aptos.org / (831) 708-6828 (text preferred when possible)

The Reverend Joan Anderson, Deacon

deaconjoan@st-john-aptos.org (new)

Church Office

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 9 am - 2 pm

Phone: (831) 708-2278 (Church main line- **Please leave voice mail!**)

Text: (831) 708-6850 (Office Manager's direct line)

Email: admin@st-john-aptos.org

Pastoral Care Line: 831-531-7152 (call or text)

For prayer requests, to notify the church of surgery or hospitalizations, to schedule meals or rides, etc. (Pastoral Care Committee members take turns answering this line.)

Clergy On-Call Line: 831-531-7187 (for urgent needs or emergencies, 24/7)