

**CHRIST CHURCH**  
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ASPEN



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

*Welcome to Christ Church! We're glad you're worshipping with us today.*

*Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent; for this is the House of God.*

*Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.*

**10:00 AM**

**THE ANTE-COMMUNION, RITE II**

*The Book of Common Prayer, pp. 355-360*

**Prelude**

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul, Arr. Heather Sorenson*

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**Welcome**

**The Rev. Peter Munson**

We welcome you to this time of worship. We are glad to have you with us, whether you are here in person or joining us online. The bulletin for our service of Ante-Communion can be found at [christchurchaspens.org](http://christchurchaspens.org) under the worship tab, click "service & handouts". The Bulletin is also linked in the description box below this YouTube video. The Sunday Newspaper, with the announcements, is distributed electronically in our Sunday Morning enews. Please sign up for our enews, on our website, to stay connected.

*Presider:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**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 Lord. *Amen.*

**Gloria In Excelsis**

**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.**

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider:* Let us pray.

**The Collect of the Day**

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. (Please be seated.)*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

*A Reading from the Book of Exodus (Exodus 17:1-7)*

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord  
*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

***A Reading from the Book of Psalms (Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16)***

Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**I will open my mouth in a parable; \***

**I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.**

That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.

**We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, \*  
and the wonderful works he has done.**

He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \*  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

**He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*  
he made the waters stand up like walls.**

He led them with a cloud by day, \*  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

**He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.**

He brought streams out of the cliff, \*  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

***A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians (Philippians 2:1-13)***

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

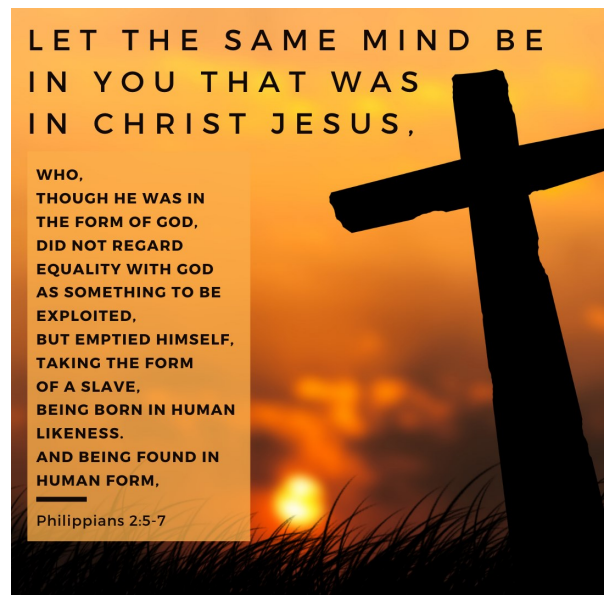
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death--  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord  
*People:* **Thanks be to God.**



## **The Gospel**

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (Matthew 21:23-32)*

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ*

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*Priest: The Gospel of the Lord*

*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ*

## **Sermon**

The Rev. Peter Munson

*A period of silence will be kept.*

*The Nicene Creed, (Please stand)*

**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.**

*Welcome / Announcements / Birthday & Anniversary Prayers / Travel Prayers*

*Offertory Music*

*How Great Thou Art, Arr. Dan Forrest*

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*The Prayers of the People (Form III)*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Let us pray for our families and friends at Christ Church, Aspen.

***Prayer list Names:***

***Christ Episcopal Church Members:*** Philip, Phyllis, Jan, Bob & Marsha, George, Margo & Keith, Veronica, BobbiAnn, John, Kim, Tom, Bob, All those serving their country, the young people and students of Aspen

***Friends and Family of CEC Members:*** Brad, Robin, Family and Friends of Armando, Julia, Dolly, Campbell, Jack, Noel, Susan & Mickey, Petra, Harrison, Charlie, Elizabeth, Beverly, Jocelyn, Henry, Annie, Otto

We pray for the health and well-being of all of our members and visitors, as we resume in-person worship and continue our online worship.

We pray for rain in the West. We give thanks for all firefighters and pray for their protection and safety. For the doctors, nurses and first responders in the Roaring Fork Valley and throughout the world, as they combat the coronavirus pandemic, and for all those who are suffering with the coronavirus. We pray for healing. We pray for the thousands of souls who have died from the coronavirus around the world this week.

***Let Us Pray for Christ Church***

Father, we ask for your continued blessing on Christ Church and all who are part of the ministries of this place. We thank you for blessing us as you have. Especially at this time of transition for our church, we ask for your help in discerning your will as we pursue our rector search process. We pray for your guidance as we seek to become the Christian community you wish us to be. Be with us we pray. We lift up our prayer of praise, worship and thanksgiving in Jesus name. Amen.

***A Prayer for Social Justice (BCP, p.823)***

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 Lord. *Amen*

*Please stand*

*Presider:* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**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 Blessing by the Priest**

*Presider:* Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and give glory to your Father in heaven.

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

Thank you for joining with members of Christ Church, Aspen in this time of worship. Have a blessed week.

***Postlude***

*Seek Ye First*, Arr. Molly Ijames

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