

GRACE CHURCH OF WEST FELICIANA



THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Holy Eucharist: Rite II
September 13, 2020

THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY

S. Wesley

Diapason Piece

HYMN 390

Praise to the Lord, the almighty

Lobe den Herren

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant 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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a

strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

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

Read in unison.
Psalm 114

- ¹ **Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, ***
 the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- ² **Judah became God's sanctuary ***
 and Israel his dominion.
- ³ **The sea beheld it and fled; ***
 Jordan turned and went back.

- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

HYMN 494

Descant

5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned a - bove;

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown

crown him to whom is given the won - drous name of Love.

1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
 3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
 4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now
 5 him the King, to whom is given the won - drous name of Love. Crown

Crown him with man-y crowns, as thrones be-fore him

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu-man breast, and
 3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown

fall, crown him, ye kings, for he is King of all.

1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

Matthew 18:21-35

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Reid T. McCormick
Interim Rector

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE- FORM VI

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

Intercessor For all people in their daily life and work;
People **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Intercessor For this community, the nation, and the world;
People **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;
People **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression. We pray especially for the victims of Hurricane Laura and the other natural disasters.**

Intercessor For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
People **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, the needy, and all essential workers.**

Intercessor For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
People **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Intercessor For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Morris our Bishop, Reid, our interim Rector, and for Trish as she continues to discern her call to the priesthood; and for all bishops and other ministers;
People **For all who serve God in his Church.**

Intercessor Please join in reading the prayer for the call of our new rector:

Our Heavenly Father who has blessed this church family since 1827, and knows our needs before we ask. We pray that you guide and bless us with wisdom, patience, and open minds as we begin this search, that our next rector will lead our congregation to serve

you in peace and healing in our troubled world. All this we ask in the name of Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for Valerie, Kyle, Marcy, Patsy, Melissa, Hayes, Charles, Charlotte, Shane, Eleanor, Glenn, Cozette, Julie, Kay, Wendell, and Jake.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Intercessor Hear us, Lord;
People **For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence *The People may add their own thanksgivings*

Intercessor We will exalt you, O God our King;
People **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Intercessor 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

Intercessor Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People **Who put their trust in you.**

Intercessor We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Celebrant 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 PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The minister receives the Sacrament in both kinds.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

People and Celebrant
Act of Reception

In Union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer your praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I pray you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen.

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep my body and soul in everlasting life. Amen.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The peace of God, that passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

HYMN 690



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, shield, thee, feed me now and ev - er - more. be thou still my strength and shield. I will ev - er give to thee.

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

S. Wesley

Voluntary

Permissions

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for joining us for worship at Grace Church this morning! We would love for you to join our church family. Worship looks and feels different right now; nonetheless, we are held tightly in the warm embrace of God. If you have questions about how to become a member, join a ministry, or be on our prayer list, please email Meg Kendrick, administrator@gracechurchwfp.org. May the Peace of the Lord be always with you.

The altar flowers and sanctuary candle are given in thanksgiving for Maria's mother's birthday on the 15th, by Joe and Maria Gerry.

Search Committee Update:

The Search Committee is pleased to announce that we have concluded the Focus Group Meetings portion of our search. There were as many as 65 members of our congregation that participated, which we felt was an outstanding number. Thank you for those that took part in this first step of our search, it was greatly appreciated. The information collected by those that participated face to face and via phone calls has helped set a base line for our committee to proceed. Currently, we are composing a survey that will be sent to every member of our church in the near future. This Survey, once concluded, will further our knowledge of what you, our congregation is seeking in our next Priest. The anticipated time frame of when the Survey will be sent to everyone will be in the second half of September.

Again, a special Thank You to all that have participated and allowed their voice to be heard. Please continue to pray for our committee as we collect information through this process.

Birthdays: Lindsay McGehee Young, Hamilton Willis-Sept. 13; Blake LeBlanc, Rebecca Kastl Millsap- Sept. 14; Tristan Farthing, Tom Flynn-Sept. 15; Victoria Eulaerts-Sept. 16; Tommy Klein, Shannon Sparks Shaffer, Wendy Hegwood-Sept. 17; Diana Weller, Belton Didier, Teeta Moss-Sept. 18; Kenneth Miller, Nicole Barrow, Kim Martin Wood, Karen Snyder-Sept. 19

Anniversaries: No anniversaries this week.

