St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Our mission is to know Jesus Christ and to make him known.

October 25, 2020

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy Eucharist Rite II (Service of the Word only)



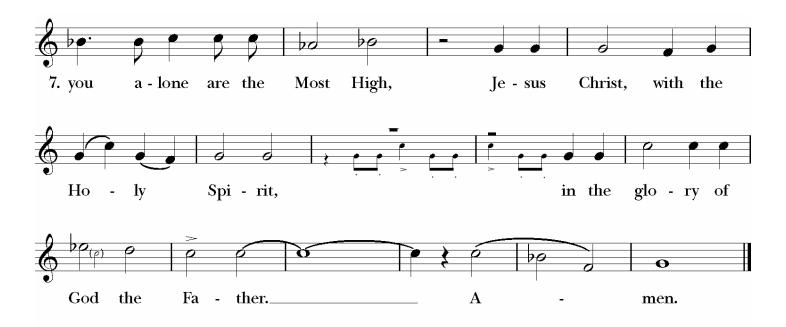
ANNOUNCEMENTS Prelude



2

Gloria





COLLECT OF THE DAY

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*.

THE FIRST

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain – that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees – as far as Zoar. 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 Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, 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 Moab 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 unequaled 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.

PeopleThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

- 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.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 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 Philippi, 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.

Gradual Hymn: God of mercy, God of grace verses 1 before Gospel; verse 2 after Gospel



Hymnal 538

Matthew 22:34-46

THE GOSPEL

People's Response at the beginning of the Gospel:

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, 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 Pharisees 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.

People's Response at the close of the Gospel:

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON	Rev. Susie Comer
THE NICENE CREED	BCP 358
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM III	BCP 387
CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION	BCP 393
THE PEACE	BCP 360

Offertory Hymn: "Have you heard God's voice?" (Frederick Chatfield) by St. Mark's Choir

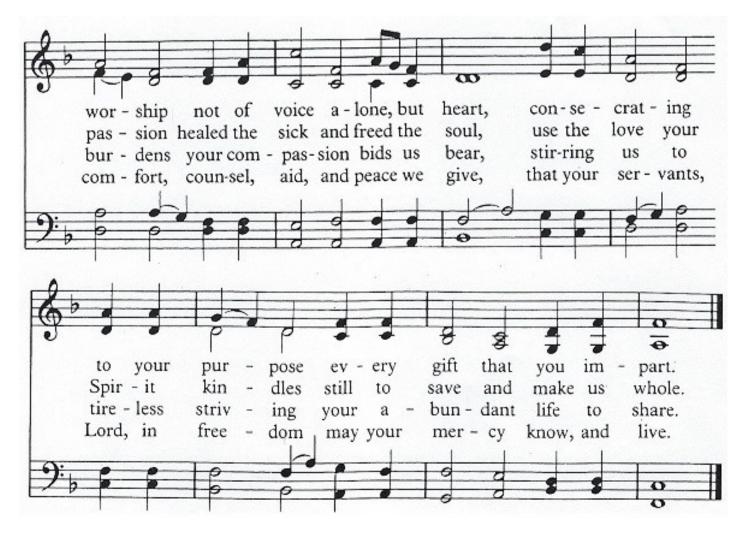
PRAYER FOR A BIRTHDAY	BCP 830
PRAYER FOR A WEDDING ANNIVERSARY	BCP 431
FOR THE ABSENT	BCP 830
THE BLESSING	

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Recessional Hymn: Lord, whose love through humble service



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DISMISSAL – *People's Response:* Thanks be to God. **Postlude**

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St. Mark's Core Values

Gracious. In our relationship with Christ, God welcomes us home, and we, in turn, offer gracious hospitality to all those whom God leads to our church.

Rooted. Our worship and liturgy are rooted in the rich tradition of the Episcopal Church, drawing on the wellspring of customs from the ancient church through those of today.

Authentic. We are an authentic people, true to our Christian identity, and genuinely thankful for the gift of our gathering and for the sacred space of our church.

Christ-centered. We are the church, the Body of Christ, and we therefore have Jesus Christ at the center of our life; for in the risen Christ we live and move and have our being.

Empowered. Jesus commissions us to go to all nations with his good news, and we, the people of St. Mark's, are empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim by word and example the Gospel in Fort Bend County and beyond.

The Reverend Susie Comer Rector

Kimberly Hart Executive Administrative Assistant

> Tom Thompson Organist & Music Director

> > Jerri Carington School Director