

An Order of Worship for Use at Home

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2020

Before you begin, choose a place for your devotion with a table or other flat surface and seating where you are comfortable, whether alone or gathered with your family.

Assemble the following:

- A Candle to represent the presence of Christ*
- A Bible that you can place near the candle*
- A Cross*

If you have others who can share in leading the worship, assign tasks for the reader, the intercessor, and the worship leader. When all are settled, the leader says:

Leader O Lord, open our lips
People **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

As the candle is lit, the leader says:

The Song of the Three

- 1 Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 2 Bless the Lord you heavens: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 3 Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 4 Bless the Lord all people on earth: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 5 O people of God bless the Lord: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 6 Bless the Lord you priests of the Lord: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 7 Bless the Lord you servants of the Lord: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
- 8 Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit: ♦
bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart.

The Song of the Three 35-37, 60-65.

The Collect for the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Let us pray

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 86: 11-17

Read together or take turns

- 11 Teach me your way, O Lord,
and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
- 12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.
- 13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
- 14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.
- 15 But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

The First Reading is from the prophet Isaiah (44:6-8)

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Wonder for a moment about these words from the prophet Isaiah. The Lord speaks through him, and declares that there is no other than he. If we are God's witnesses, how would we describe our God to another? What are the "things to come?"

The Gospel Reading is from Matthew (13:24-30, 36-43)

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of

fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Wonder for a moment about this story of Jesus teaching the disciples in the parable of the Wheat and the Weeds. How can we be sure that it is the good seed, and not the bad, which has been sown into our hearts? How do we become a "righteous" people?

If you have time, please also read the sermon from Father Barnabas Powell, parish priest at Sts. Raphael, Nicholas, and Irene Greek Orthodox Church in Cumming, Georgia.

The Apostles' Creed

All say together

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.

Benedictus

All You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.

1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, •
who has come to his people and set them free.

- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Savior, •
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old •
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, •
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: •
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, •
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, •
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation •
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God •
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, •
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

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

**All You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.**

Intercessory Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray for the Church and for the world,
and let us thank God for his goodness

We pray for God's grace.
Lord, receive our praise

All and hear our prayer.

Lord God, through your grace we are your people:
through your Son you have redeemed us;
in your Spirit you have made us your own.
We pray for ... (*the Church*)

Make our hearts respond to your love.
Lord, receive our praise

All and hear our prayer.

We pray for the Search Team as they seek God's will in discerning a new rector
for our St. Barnabas' community.

Lord, receive our praise

All and hear our prayer.

We pray for ... (*the world*)
Make our lives bear witness to your glory in the world.

Lord, receive our praise

All and hear our prayer.

We pray for ... (*the sick and those in need*)
Make our wills eager to obey, and our hands ready to heal.

Lord, receive our praise

All and hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for ...
Make our voices one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Open prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Concluding Collect

The Leader says

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

And now, 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 Prayer During this Time of Separation

Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.

The Conclusion

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,
and keep us in eternal life.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.