

# Third Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 7)

June 21, 2020

## Hymn 372

## Praise to the Living God

Praise to the living God! All praised be his name,  
Who was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same!  
The one eternal God ere aught that now appears:  
The first, the last, beyond all thought his timeless years!

Formless, all lovely forms declare his loveliness;  
Holy, no holiness of earth can his express.  
Lo, he is Lord of all! Creation speaks his praise,  
And everywhere, above, below, his will obeys.

His spirit floweth free, high surging where it will:  
In prophet's word he spoke of old, he speaketh still.  
Established is his law and changeless it shall stand,  
Deep writ upon the human heart, on sea, on land.

Eternal life hath he implanted in the soul;  
His love shall be our strength and stay while ages roll.  
Praise to the living God! All praised be His name,  
Who was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my  
redeemer. *Psalm 19:14*

## Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together

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.

The Officiant says

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

## The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

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!

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us  
adore him.

**Jubilate** *Psalm 100*

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 69: 8-11, (12-17), 18-20**

*Salvum me fac*

8 Surely, for your sake have I suffered reproach, \*  
and shame has covered my face.

9 I have become a stranger to my own kindred, \*  
an alien to my mother's children.

10 Zeal for your house has eaten me up; \*  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

11 I humbled myself with fasting, \*  
but that was turned to my reproach.

[12 I put on sack-cloth also, \*  
and became a byword among them.

13 Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, \*  
and the drunkards make songs about me.

14 But as for me, this is my prayer to you, \*  
at the time you have set, O Lord:

15 "In your great mercy, O God, \*  
answer me with your unfailing help.

16 Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; \*  
let me be rescued from those who hate me  
and out of the deep waters.

17 Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,  
neither let the deep swallow me up; \*  
do not let the Pit shut its mouth upon me.]

18 Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind; \*  
in your great compassion, turn to me.'

19 "Hide not your face from your servant; \*  
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

20 Draw near to me and redeem me; \*  
because of my enemies deliver me.

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.

### **Jeremiah 20:7-13**

O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have  
overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a  
laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak,

I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word  
of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If  
I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then  
within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many  
whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce  
him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps  
he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our  
revenge on him." But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They  
will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal  
dishonor will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, you test the  
righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution  
upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the Lord;  
praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the  
hands of evildoers.

Here ends the reading.

### **The Second Song of Isaiah**     *Quaerite Dominum* *Isaiah 55:6-11*

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*  
call upon him when he draws near.  
Let the wicked forsake their ways \*  
and the evil ones their thoughts;  
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, \*  
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*  
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \*  
so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as rain and snow fall from  
the heavens \*  
and return not again, but water the earth,  
Bringing forth life and giving growth, \*  
seed for sowing and bread for eating,  
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \*  
it will not return to me empty;

But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \*  
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

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.

### **Romans 6:1b-11**

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Here ends the reading.

### **Hymn 675          Take up your cross, the Savior said**

1 "Take up your cross," the Savior said,  
"if you would my disciple be;  
take up your cross with willing heart,  
and humbly follow after me."

2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
fill your weak spirit with alarm;

his strength shall bear your spirit up  
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame,  
and let your foolish heart be still;  
the Lord for you accepted death  
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength,  
and calmly every danger brave:  
it guides you to abundant life  
and leads to victory o'er the grave.

5 Take up your cross and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down,  
for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

### **Matthew 10:24-39**

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,  
and a daughter against her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;  
and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me;  
and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;  
and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

Here ends the reading.

Sermon:

Jesus said “whoever loves ‘anyone’ more than me is not worthy of me and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.” During this turbulent time in our lives, we are being called to take up our cross and follow Jesus. Do we have to follow Jesus all the way to death as he did? Not necessarily. Are we called to do everything Jesus did? Not necessarily. We are called to do what we can in this day and age to make a positive difference in people’s lives. What does that mean? In our Baptismal Covenant we promise, “with God’s help” to “strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being.”

My thoughts are to find ways to start a relationship with someone who is different from me and you. Talk to someone whose skin color is different from yours. Ask them to describe their lives to you and really listen to what they are saying. That’s how things started with our transgender friends. I stopped to have a conversation with Catty-Anne not long after I moved here. It was several years of

bumping into each other and continuing that conversation that led to her and the others coming to church and being welcomed here. We are now family and I am anxious to get to the time we can be together in church once again.

Where does your mind go when you hear the chant of “Black lives matter”? When I first heard it a few years ago I thought to myself: yes, black lives do matter but actually all lives matter. After all, I am a priest and a nurse. Every life is important and must be honored and respected. However, I now understand that right now, this minute, it really is – “Black lives matter”. That is because black men and women are being killed by police and those who hate because of race right now and have been for years. Now is the time to end that. When we rally to save endangered species, we name the polar bear, or seal, or bald eagle, not all animals. When we rally to save human lives, we must also name who needs to be saved. Now, it is black lives matter and brown lives matter. Racism must be vanquished.

I grew up in Sewickley, PA. just west of Pittsburgh. I went to school with black kids, played with black kids, was taught to play the piano by a wonderful black woman who lived on the other corner of the block we lived on. Sure, I saw the color of their skin but it didn’t matter to me. We were friends. When I think back I do remember that the black families lived in their own section of town which was half a block from my street. Even though we played together, we did not visit each other’s homes. There was still a *de facto* segregation. But I was not aware of it at that age.

Then, my family moved to Louisiana in 1963, when I was 13. That’s when I learned the hard lessons of Jim Crow and segregation. I was there for the forced integration of schools. I saw hate on a white boy’s face when looking at and confronting a black classmate because of a perceived slight in the cafeteria line. It was awful and because of it, I continue to abhor racism to this day. It is wrong no matter where it raises it’s ugly head. I have observed racism here in Johnstown too. That look on a racist’s face when they just see someone whose skin is black is ugly and uncalled for. We need to change that look. We need to stop racism now.

One of my favorite songs from the musical South Pacific is called “You’ve got to be carefully taught”.

You've got to be taught to hate and fear  
You've got to be taught from year to year  
It's got to be drummed in your dear little ear  
You've got to be carefully taught

You've got to be taught to be afraid  
Of people whose eyes are oddly made  
And people whose skin is a different shade  
You've got to be carefully taught

You've got to be taught before it's too late  
Before you are six or seven or eight  
To hate all the people your relatives hate  
You've got to be carefully taught

Yes, people have to be taught to hate. Let us work to stop those lessons. Let us work to help people unlearn those lessons. Let us work to eliminate racism in our lifetime or, at least, make a start. With God’s help. Amen.

## The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People 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.

## The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.	Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.	Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.	Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.	Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.	For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

### Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

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.

*The Collect of the Day*

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your lovingkindness; 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*

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 the Renewal of Life*

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For those who Influence Public Opinion*

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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.*

*The General Thanksgiving*

Officiant and People

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.

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one  
accord to make our common supplication to you; and you  
have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two  
or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the  
midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions  
as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of  
your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

**Hymn 296            We know that Christ is raised and dies no more**

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!

2. We share by water in his saving death.  
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life  
as living members of our Savior Christ. Alleluia!

3. The God of splendor clothes the Son with life.  
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three-in-One. Alleluia!

4. A new creation comes to life and grows  
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.  
The universe, restored and whole, will sing: Alleluia!

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
*Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in  
believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*  
*Romans 15:13*