

ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



St. Margaret's Episcopal Church is a joyful community, grounded in the love of Christ that welcomes and includes ALL with meaningful worship, service to the community, and commitment to growing as faithful Christians.

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2020

8 AM

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME

The people standing, the Presider says

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

People *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.*

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

*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

Presider God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider 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

THE FIRST READING

EXODUS 14:19-31

¹⁹The 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. ²⁰It 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.

²¹Then 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. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At 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. ²⁵He 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."

²⁶Then 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." ²⁷So 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. ²⁸The 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. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel 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.

THE PSALTER

PSALM 114

¹Hallelujah!
When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
²Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.
³The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.
⁴The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.
⁵What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
⁶You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?
⁷Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
⁸Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

THE SECOND READING

ROMANS 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those 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. ⁴Who 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.

⁵Some 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. ⁶Those 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.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If 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. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why 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. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 18:21-35

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²¹Peter 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?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, 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. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE VERY REV TOMMY DILLON

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

Intercessor

Rejoice in the waters of life, those who honor God in all things, and raise your voices in prayer, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

In thanksgiving for this holy day where we gather as a household of faith to hear the word of God with open minds and grateful hearts; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for the arms of forgiveness that embrace us in the midst of our sin, leading us to repentance, and filling us with the waters of mercy through which we will forgive others; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For honesty in government, and integrity in our dealings with one another, that trust may be restored between people and throughout the institutions of our society; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may commit ourselves to a life of simplicity, so that we may provide for the needs of the poor and hungry, as Jesus provided nourishment and hope to his followers; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may share our spiritual doubts with one another, convinced that in our mutual self-disclosure we will be strengthened in faith and grow in the conviction that God's love can forgive all things and transforms all life; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving for those who are teachers and catechists in our Church; may they be given the blessing of knowledge and wisdom, as they bear the Christian message to those in their charge; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the dead may be redeemed from the grave, and wear the crown of eternal life; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Miriam sang to the Lord for all the glorious gifts her people had received, and so we join with her in continuing our prayers.

(Special intentions of the congregation, the diocese, and the Anglican Communion are added here either silently or aloud)

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

Presider

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**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 Priest, stands and says

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

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements are made and blessings for anniversaries and birthdays are given.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Presider says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Psalm 50:14



Contributions – online as well as via snail mail!

To enable us to continue doing what we do as a congregation, supporting one another and our neighbors, we particularly appreciate your continued financial support, as you are able. We are checking our mail and making deposits. We also now have a donate button on our website: <https://www.saintmargarets/support-st-margarets>.

To give a gift now to the ministries of St Margaret's, you can scan the QR code at the left with your mobile phone. Thank you so much for your support

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say

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.

The people stand

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
People and Presider

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and a period of silence is kept.

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

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Instructions for Communion

Please maintain physical distance of at least 6 ft. from the person in front of you when you come forward to collect your Communion cup, and remember to sanitize your hands first. Family groups may come forward together. Parents, please assist children by taking a cup for them. Bring your Communion cup back to your pew with you. Once everyone has come forward, the priest will direct everyone to consume the bread at the same time. Though we are only able to receive communion in one kind at this time, our tradition assures us this is acceptable. Reception in one kind confers all the benefits of receiving in both kinds. Please do not leave paper cups in the pews. The church has a designated receptacle at the door to the church. These will then be collected and disposed of properly and reverently by the priest.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

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.

BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak;
help the afflicted;
honor everyone;
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ..

People: Thanks be to God.

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