

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020 10:00 a.m.

At-Home Packet



Love Sculpture, by [Alexander Milov](#)

Image credit: [Andrew Miller](#)

St. Mark's Episcopal Church | 2128 Barton Hills Drive | Austin, TX 78704
512.444.1449 | www.stmarksaustin.org

GATHERING

Preparing for Virtual Worship

Set up a space in your home for worship and prayer. Light a candle, set out a cross or icon to help you focus; set your phone on Do Not Disturb, wash your hands. Take a few deep breaths and say a short prayer to prepare your heart to “enter” a different kind of space. We recommend 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.

Prelude: *Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 541*

J. S. Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) wrote the Prelude and Fugue in G sometime between 1708 and 1717 during his years as court organist in Weimar. The Prelude is structured like an Italian solo violin concerto, with string-like figuration and harmonic progressions that reflect his study of Antonio Vivaldi and Arcangelo Corelli's music. The buoyant Fugue demonstrates Bach's mastery of counterpoint and virtuosic use of the pedal. Bach appears to have liked this piece a great deal, for he returned to it twice during his later years to add further refinements.

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This urtext edition edited by Dietrich Kilian.

Opening Acclamation

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

***People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The Collect of the Day

Priest 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 First Reading

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.

The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

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."

Priest The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day: *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive***Hymn 674**

“Forgive our sins as we forgive” you taught us, Lord, to pray; but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say. How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart? In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew, what minor debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you. Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls, and bid resentment cease; then, bound to all in bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

Rosamund Eleanor Herklots was born in India in 1905. She was educated at Leeds Girls' High School and the University of Leeds in England. Working as a teacher and secretary, she began writing hymns in the early 1940s. She submitted some for the "Hymns for Britain" competition, two of which were selected to be sung on television. Her total corpus of hymns numbered more than seventy. Herklots died in Greenwich, London, in 1987. The idea for this hymn came in June 1966 when she was digging out weeds in a garden; she reasoned that their deep roots, obstructing the growth of the flowers near them, resembled the bitterness and resentment that can become entrenched and hinder our growth in grace.

Words: Rosamond E. Herklots (1905-1987), alt.

Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

RESPONDING TO THE WORD**Prayers of the People****Form III, BCP 387**

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.

Silence

The celebrant concludes with prayers and a collect

The Lord's Prayer

Priest 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.
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.

Announcements

The Offertory Solo: *I Have Chosen the Way of Truth* **Craig Courtney**

I have chosen the way of truth; I have set my heart on your laws. I hold fast to your statutes, O Lord, my God; let me not be put to shame. I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free. Teach me to follow your decrees, O Lord, and I shall keep them to the end. Turn my heart to your decrees, away from worthless gain. Preserve my life, according to your word. I have chosen the way of truth; I have set my heart on your laws. Lead me in the path of your commands, for there will I find delight.

Iona Olive, soloist

A native of Indiana, Craig Courtney (b. 1948) began playing the piano at the age of three and the cello at the age of eleven. He received degrees in piano performance at the University of Cincinnati. He composed this solo based on a portion of Psalm 119 in 1999.

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The Peace

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

Postlude: *Ceremonial March*

Herbert Sumsion

Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995) was organist of Gloucester Cathedral in England from 1928 to 1967. Although Sumsion is known primarily as a cathedral musician, his professional career spanned more than 60 years and encompassed composing, conducting, performing, accompanying, and teaching. Written late in life, his Ceremonial March was published posthumously in 1997.

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PARISH INTERCESSION LIST

You are invited to use this Intercession List to pray for those listed below.

For healthcare workers and teachers: Heather, Michael B., Christine, Eric, Joan, Beth, Mac, Jodi, Courtney, Russ, Nicole, Jewellyn, Jana Kay, Steven, Pam, Marcille, Jesse, Laurie, Charles, Cilla, Jonea, Jennifer R., Jennifer S., Samuel, Mary, Jordan, Jeffrey, Kim, Sarah, Michael T., Amber, Aaron.

For those celebrating birthdays: Al McKinney, Betty Lee, Zephyr Gates, Sydney Doidge, Logan Pugh, Sonnie Barham, Kim Buckner, Oliva Rush, Annabel Brum, Clay Buckner, Ann Coley, Emily Rogers, Carolyn Wier.

For those celebrating anniversaries: Penny & Christopher Considine, Beth & John Chenoweth.

For those whom the Daughters of the King pray.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Outdoor in-person Sunday eucharist services are underway:**
 - **8:00 a.m.** (parking lot, approximately 25-person limit)
 - **7:00 p.m.** (Meditation Trail, approximately 15-person limit).
 - **Reservations are required and will open on the Monday prior to the Sunday service.** Links are on our home page: www.stmarksaustin.org
- **Rector's Book Group, Tuesdays in September at 7:00 p.m.** Join Fr. Zac as we read & discuss *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by James Cone. Please read through chapters two & three prior to the meeting. Access link [here](#).
- **Upcoming Compline: Wednesday, September 16, 7:00 p.m.** Prayers, scripture and song, with music by members of the St. Mark's Choir. Mark your calendar for this meditative evening service - a great chance for a mid-week reset. Link will be shared on our homepage.
- **Sunday School in September, 9:00 a.m.,** with Rev. Dr. Nathan Jennings.: *Becoming Christians: Core Christian Practices in a time of Pandemic*. Link will be posted on our website.
- **YOUTH: in-person gathering, Wednesday, September 23rd, at 6:30 p.m.!** Youth and their families are invited to a short Eucharist service on the meditation trail. *Reserving a spot is required and the RSVP link will be sent out soon.* Contact casey@stmarksaustin.org.
- **Kid's Club is underway! Here's the details: Kids Club** - 1st grade and under, and will learn about "God's Family." **Storymakers** for 2nd grade through 5th, will explore the latest volume in the Storymakers series: "The Stars." Materials are available for pickup in a bin outside of the church office doors.

ONGOING EVENTS

- **Morning Prayer, Mondays - Fridays, 8:30 a.m.** via Zoom. Links posted on our website each day www.stmarksaustin.org.
- **Tuesdays: Noon Bible Study resumes September 15th,** continuing the Gospel of Matthew. The link will be available under the [Virtual Gatherings](#) tab on our website.

Ministers of the Service

Lectors:

Andrea Michael, Michael Meigs, Ginny Acker and Dean Denny.

Peace videos from the following (list may not be in order of appearance):

Ginny Acker & Dean Denny, The Mayor Family, Andrea Michaels.



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The Rt. Rev. Andy Doyle, *Bishop of Texas*

The Rev. Zac Koons, *Rector*

The Rev. Dr. Nathan Jennings, *Theologian-in-Residence*

Casey Bushman, *Director of Christian Formation*

Barbara Gausewitz, *Seminarian*

Brandon Haynes, *Seminarian*

The Rev. Mary Keenan, *Curate*

Mark Reed, *Organist/Director of Music and Bookkeeper*

Joanne Foote, *Parish Administrator*

Karon Hammond, *Head of St. Mark's Day School*

Irma Glover, *Sexton*

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