WE HONOR GOD BY PUTTING THE WELFARE OF OTHERS

AHEAD OF OUR OWN DESIRES.

**We will:**

**Stay home if we feel ill**

Remove all non-essential items from our worship spaces

Wear a mask at all times

**Follow the seating plan**

Physically distance – no hugs or handshakes

Enjoy instrumental music only

Properly dispose of all items used (bulletins, communion cups, etc.)

Use hand sanitizer as appropriate

Minimize bathroom use to the extent possible

Follow the modified communion procedure

Clean and disinfect after each service

Be patient, kind, tolerant and flexible

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**PROPER 21 (A)**

**Sunday 27 September 2020**

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES**

26238 N HWY 59, Wauconda, IL 60084

*www.holyapostleswauconda.net*

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN** *(Please say together)*

 ***O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;***

***tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.***

 ***Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;***

***teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.***

 ***Teach me thy patience; still with thee in closer, dearer company,***

***in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.***

 ***In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future’s broadening way,***

***in peace that only thou canst give, with the, O Master, let me live.***

**OPENING SENTENCE**

**Presider:** Blessed be our God.

***People: For ever and ever. Amen.***

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**Presider:** 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.

***People: Amen.***

**HYMN OF PRAISE** *(Please say together)*

**Canticle J – A Song of Judith**

***I will sing a new song to my God, for you are great and glorious, wonderful in strength, invincible.***

***Let the whole creation serve you, for you spoke and all things came into being.***

***You sent your breath and it formed them, no one is able to resist your voice.***

***Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths, rocks melt like wax at your presence.***

***But to those who fear you, you continue to show mercy.***

***No sacrifice, however fragrant, can please you, but whoever fears the Lord shall stand in your sight for ever.***

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**Presider:** The Lord be with you.

***People: And also with you.***

**Presider:** Let us pray. God of strange authority, whose questions challenge the powers of this world: teach us to look beyond appearance, to see your kingly rule emptying itself in cross-stretched arms, through Jesus Christ, the only Lord, the humble servant.

***People: Amen.***

*(We read from the various translations of the Bible authorized by our Church. This month we read from the New Jerusalem Bible (1987))*

**FIRST LESSON** Exodus 17:1-7

**Reader:** A reading from Exodus. 1 The whole community of Israelites left the desert of Sin, travelling by stages as Yahweh ordered. They pitched camp at Rephidim where there was no water for the people to drink. 2 The people took issue with Moses for this and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses replied, 'Why take issue with me? Why do you put Yahweh to the test?' 3 But tormented by thirst, the people complained to Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt,' they said, 'only to make us, our children and our livestock, die of thirst?' 4 Moses appealed to Yahweh for help. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'Any moment now they [will](https://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=12332) stone me!' 5 Yahweh then said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, taking some of the elders of Israel with you; in your hand take the staff with which you struck the River, and go. 6 I shall be waiting for you there on the rock (at Horeb). Strike the rock, and water will come out for the people to drink.' This was what Moses did, with the elders of Israel looking on. 7 He gave the place the names Massah and Meribah because of the Israelites' contentiousness and because they put Yahweh to the test by saying, 'Is Yahweh with us, or not?' The Word of the Lord.

***People: Thanks be to God.***

**RESPONSE**  *(Please say together)*  Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

***1 My people, listen to my teaching, pay attention to what I say.***

***2 I will speak to you in poetry, unfold the mysteries of the past.***

***3 What we have heard and know, what our ancestors have told us***

***4 we shall not conceal from their descendants, but will tell to a generation still to come: the praises of Yahweh, his power, the wonderful deeds he has done.***

***12 he did marvels in the sight of their ancestors in Egypt, in the plains of Tanis.***

***13 He split the sea and brought them through, made the waters stand up like a dam;***

***14 he led them with a cloud by day, and all the night with the light of a fire;***

***15 he split rocks in the desert, let them drink as though from the limitless depths;***

***16 he brought forth streams from a rock, made waters flow down in torrents.***

**SECOND READING** Philippians 2:1-13

**Reader:** A reading from the letter to the Philippians. 1 So if in Christ there is anything that will move you, any incentive in love, any fellowship in the Spirit, any warmth or sympathy – I appeal to you, 2 make my joy complete by being of a single mind, one in love, one in heart and one in mind. 3 Nothing is to be done out of jealousy or vanity; instead, out of humility of mind everyone should give preference to others, 4 everyone pursuing not selfish interests but those of others. 5 Make your own the mind of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, did not count equality with God something to be grasped. 7 But he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, becoming as human beings are; and being in every way like a human being, 8 he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. 9 And for this God raised him high, and gave him the name which is above all other names; 10 so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus 11 and that every tongue should acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 12 So, my dear friends, you have always been obedient; your obedience must not be limited to times when I am present. Now that I am absent it must be more in evidence, so work out your salvation in fear and trembling. 13 It is God who, for his own generous purpose, gives you the intention and the powers to act. The Word of the Lord.

***People: Thanks be to God.***

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Presider:** Alleluia, alleluia. We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

***People: Alleluia, alleluia. Open our ears to year your word.***

**GOSPEL** Matthew 21:23-32

**Presider:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

***People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

**Presider:** 23 He had gone into the Temple and was teaching, when the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him and said, 'What authority have you for acting like this? And who gave you this authority?' 24 In reply Jesus said to them, 'And I will ask you a question, just one; if you tell me the answer to it, then I will tell you my authority for acting like this. 25 John's baptism: what was its origin, heavenly or human?' And they argued this way among themselves, 'If we say heavenly, he will retort to us, "Then why did you refuse to believe him?"; 26 but if we say human, we have the people to fear, for they all hold that John was a prophet.' 27 So their reply to Jesus was, 'We do not know.' And he retorted to them, 'Nor will I tell you my authority for acting like this.' 28 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, go and work in the vineyard today." 29 He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. 30 The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. 31 Which of the two did the father's will?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'In truth I tell you, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. 32 For John came to you, showing the way of uprightness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him. The Gospel of the Lord.

***People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**THE SERMON**

**THE NICENE CREED** *(Please say together in unison)*

*Note that what follows is the ELLC text of the Nicene Creed. It is slightly different than the Nicene Creed found in the Book of Common Prayer.*

***All: 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified., who 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***

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**  Personalized VI

**Leader**: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

**Leader:** For all people in their daily life and work;

***People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

**Leader**: For this community, the nation, and the world; and especially for those in positions of power and authority.

***People: For all whose work is properly the pursuit of justice, freedom, and peace.***

**Leader:** For the wise and just use of your creation;

***People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

**Leader:** For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble, especially those whose names we raise up now, either silently or aloud. *(We will keep a 10-second silence)*. We pray also for all caregivers and counselors.

***People: For the sick, the friendless, and the needy, and for those who minister to them.***

**Leader:** For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

***People:  For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

**Leader:**  For all bishops, priests, and deacons; for those named on our Anglican and Diocesan cycles of prayer; and for all who have responded to their call to ministry;

***People:  For all who serve God in God’s Church.***

**Leader:**  We thank you for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially those whose names we raise up now, either silently or aloud. (*We will keep a 10-second silence.*) We thank you for all the blessings of our lives. We will exalt you, O God our King;

***People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

**Leader:** We pray for our beloved departed, especially those whose names we raise up now, either silently or aloud. (*We will keep a 10-second silence.*) We pray for those whose lives have been lost at the hands of others, of natural or human-made disasters, or in service to others. We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

***People: Who put their trust in you.***

**Leader:** We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence*

***All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**Presider:** 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.

***People: Amen.***

 *(A brief period of silence follows)*

**Presider:** Those things, O God, that your servants have prayed for, give us grace to work for; and in the purpose of your love answer our prayers and fulfil our hopes for Jesus' sake.

***People: Amen.***

**THE PEACE**

**Presider:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People: And also with you.***

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Presider:** Giving is not a casual act—it relates God’s work to our work. Peter writes: “as each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace, that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.”

***People: Let us give as people whose work is inextricably linked to God’s great works of creation, redemption and empowerment.***

**Presider:** Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives.

***People: Amen.***

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** EOW-II

**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.***

**Presider:** 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 water; 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:

**SANCTUS** *(Please say together in unison)*

***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.***

**Presider:** 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.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray:

**LORD’S PRAYER**

***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.***

**FRACTION**

*(The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A brief period of silence is kept.)*

**Presider:** God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

***People: Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.***

**Presider:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**BREAKING OF BREAD TOGETHER**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Presider:** Let us pray. Gracious God, lover of all, in this sacrament we are one family in Christ your Son, one in the sharing of his body and blood and one in the communion of his Spirit: help us to grow in love for one another and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ. We make our prayer through your Son our Savior.

***People: Amen.***

**BLESSING**

 *(The Presider gives this or another Blessing)*Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always.

***People: Amen***

**DISMISSAL**

*The Presider gives a dismissal or says:*  Our worship is over, our service now begins. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

***People: Thanks be to God.***

**Collect of the Day:** Prayers for an inclusive church, Stephen Shakespeare

**Offertory Prayer:** posted on **Life in Liturgy.** <https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/>

**Post-Communion Prayer:**

https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/common-material/collects-post-communions/ordinary-time-after-pentecost%29