

"No slave can serve two masters; . . .
You cannot serve God and wealth."

Psalm Luke 16:13a,c

We worship today according to the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two,
beginning on page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer.

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
18th Sunday after Pentecost
September 22, 2013, 10:30 am

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn:

God of Grace and God of Glory.....594

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

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

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.**

Hymn of Praise: *Be Thou My Vision*.....488

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to
love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed
among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those
that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever
and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (the people sit)

The First Lesson – Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

My joy is gone, grief is upon me,
my heart is sick.

Hark, the cry of my poor people
from far and wide in the land:

"Is the LORD not in Zion?
Is her King not in her?"

("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?")

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved."

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,
I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people
not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water,
and my eyes a fountain of tears,

so that I might weep day and night
for the slain of my poor people!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 79:1-9

Refrain:

**How long will you be angry, O LORD?
will your fury blaze like fire for ever?**

O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance;
they have profaned your holy temple; *

they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.

They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the
birds of the air, *

**and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of
the field.**

They have shed their blood like water on every side of
Jerusalem, *

and there was no one to bury them.

We have become a reproach to our neighbors, *

an object of scorn and derision to those around us.

How long will you be angry, O LORD?*

will your fury blaze like fire for ever?

Pour out your wrath upon the heathen who have not known
you *

**and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon
your Name.**

For they have devoured Jacob *

and made his dwelling a ruin.

Remember not our past sins;

let your compassion be swift to meet us; *

for we have been brought very low.

Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your Name; *

**deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your Name's
sake.**

Refrain:

**How long will you be angry, O LORD?
will your fury blaze like fire for ever?**

The Epistle - 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions,
and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all
who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and
peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is
acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires
everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the
truth. For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and
humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

who gave himself a ransom for all.

This was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – Luke 16:1-13 (the people stand)

Hymn: *Jesus, All My Gladness*.....701
Verse 1

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Hymn: *Jesus, All My Gladness*.....701
Verses 2-3

Sermon The Rev Dr John Wells Warren

The 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 (Form IV, page 388 of the Book of Common Prayer)

Let us pray for Saint Michael's and All Angels, Anniston; for Saint Michael's and All Angels, Millbrook; for our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishops, Zaché and Ogé; for the ministry of all church musicians and choir members; and for the Diocesan Department of Liturgy and Music. (*Silence*) Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. (*Silence*) Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. (*Silence*) Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. (*Silence*) Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. (*Silence*) Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for **Lynda Denton, Dot and Thurman Harris, Charlotte and Lannon Poole, Pam Harper, Dee Shell, Greg Dubay, Ramona and Randy Norris, Dezel Oliver** (Kathy Haynie), **Billie Wilkinson, Lindsey Burt** (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Kathy Brumbleloe** (Jere and Pam Van Etten), **Oletta Goodwin, Sherry Gritz** (Jean Kerr), **Clifford Flood** (Jean Kerr), **Lois Shytle** (Bill Shell), **James Barnes** (Bill Shell), and **Lee Leahey** (Charlotte Poole), and **Joe Wilson** (Jean Kerr). (*Silence, during which the people offer their own petitions*)

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy **Jack** Heil and all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin (the people stand or kneel)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn: *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*

**Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea,
day by day his clear voice soundeth,
saying, "Christian, follow me;"**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."**

**Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.**

The Presentation

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP p 361)

(Musical Response in the Hymnal at S 120)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord.....S 130*

The people stand or kneel

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of
silence is kept.*

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

Fraction Anthem: *O Lamb of God*.....S 157

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.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then
immediately deliver it to the people.*

Communion Hymn: *There is a Balm in Gilead*.....676
*After Communion, the people stand or kneel and the
Celebrant says*

Let us pray.
**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.**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn (*the people stand*):
Praise To the Lord.....390

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the
Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Mark your calendar: On October 6, two weeks from today, we will dress down and
celebrate the Feast of St Francis with the Liturgy of Creation, enjoy the
Blessing of the Animals, and have lunch outside.

Did you know the church web site - EpiphanyTallassee.org - links to the
Revised Common Lectionary scriptures each week? Look for the link near the bottom of the page.

Serving at Epiphany this week . . .

Ushers: Jere and Pam Van Etten
Altar Guild: Cathy Jones
Lay Reader: Betty Weldon
Piano: Caleb Hart

Eucharistic Minister: Lee Borden
Refreshments: Lavonne Hart
Stewards: Eddie and Pam Harper

and next . . .

Ushers: Laura Williams and Nancy Dupree
Altar Guild: Pam Van Etten
Lay Readers: Lannon Poole
Piano: Caleb Hart

Eucharistic Minister: Jere Van Etten
Refreshments: To be determined
Stewards: Cathy Jones and Laura Williams