

"Is not my word like fire," says the Lord,
"and like a hammer that breaks a rock in
pieces?"

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Morning Prayer
August 18, 2019, 10:30 am

Jeremiah 23:29

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two, beginning on page 75 of the Book of Common Prayer and occasionally from *Enriching Our Worship*. Congregational responses are in **boldface type**. The initials "SH" refer to page numbers in the small Supplemental Hymnal in the pew racks.

Hymn: *All Glory Be To God On High*.....421

Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, "I dwell in the high and holy place and also with the one who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

We stand or kneel.

**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 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 (*we stand*)

Lord, open our lips.
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

Venite – Psalm 95.....S 35

Psalm 82 (*we continue standing*)

1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

2 "How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?

3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;

4 **Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

6 **Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;**

7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince."

8 **Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

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.

The Lessons

(*We sit for each lesson and stand for each canticle or hymn.*)

The First Lesson – Jeremiah 23:23-29

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back--those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 10 - The Second Song of Isaiah

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.

Epistle Lesson - Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets -- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 12 – *A Song of Creation*.....428

The Gospel Lesson – Luke 12:49-56

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn – *Before Thy Throne, O God We Kneel*.....574

The Apostles' Creed (*we stand*)

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 Peace

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

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation (*we sit*)

The Offering

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

Hymn

If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee (we remain seated).....635

Presentation – Doxology (*we stand*).....380:3

The Prayers (*we stand or kneel*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.**

Suffrage

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a
sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us
grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work,
and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for
ever. **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.**

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 Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our
being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by
your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our
life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are
ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A Prayer for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Lo! What a Cloud of Witnesses* (we stand).....545

Intercessions and Thanksgivings *(we stand or kneel)*

We pray for the souls of all those who have departed this life, including those we now name silently or aloud.

Silence

In our parish we pray for those who are sick or recovering from illness, including **Brian** Hudson, **Jere** Van Etten, **Greg** Dubay, **Barbara** Trogdon, **Laura** and **Russell** Foss, **Mike** Oniffrey, **Micah** Hart, **Dennis** Harper, **Barbara** Garnett, **Charlie** Hayes, **Hays** McKay, **Larry** and **Pat** Sharpton, and the others we now name.

Silence

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose. For Ministries to Young Adults in Alabama, the Department of Stewardship, Jubilee Ministry and all Jubilee Centers, and St. Bartholomew's, Florence.

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: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* (we stand).....691

Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Usher: Mike Rallo
Altar Guild: Betty Weldon
Lay Reader: Betty Weldon
Officiants: Lee and Amanda Borden
Refreshments: Kay Dickey
Grounds: John Haynie and Mike Rallo

And next:

Ushers: Pam and Eddie Harper
Altar Guild: Pam Van Etten
Lay Reader: Amanda Borden
Officiant: To be determined
Refreshments: Pam Harper
Grounds: Maurice McCord and Lee Borden