

Lift high the cross!

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
The Feast of the Holy Cross
Morning Prayer
September 15, 2019, 10:30 am

From our opening hymn

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: *Lift High the Cross*.....473

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

Jubilate – Psalm 100.....Songsheet

Psalm 98 (*we continue standing*)

Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *

and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

The Lessons

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

The First Lesson – Isaiah 45:21-25

Declare and present your case;
let them take counsel together!

Who told this long ago?
Who declared it of old?

Was it not I, the LORD?
There is no other god besides me,

a righteous God and a Savior;
there is no one besides me.

Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other.

By myself I have sworn,
from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness
a word that shall not return:

“To me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear.”

Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me,
are righteousness and strength;

all who were incensed against him
shall come to him and be ashamed.

In the LORD all the offspring of Israel
shall triumph and glory.

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;

for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle A – *A Song of Wisdom*.....Page 5

Epistle Lesson – Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 17 - *The Song of Simeon*.....S 260

The Gospel Lesson – John 12:31-36a

Jesus said, "Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn – *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*.....498

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

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

Hymn – (*we remain seated*)

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross.....Page 6

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, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said (we stand)*.....675

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 **Mike** Oniffrey, **Micah** Hart, **Dennis** Harper, **Charlie** Hayes, **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 Interfaith Mission Services, Huntsville; Christian Center of Concern, Fayette; Grace Harbor, Pell City; and Greater Birmingham Ministries.

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Hymn: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (we stand)*

1. When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.
3. See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

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

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Ushers: Kay and Mike Dickey
Altar Guild: Lavonne Hart
Lay Reader: Lavonne Hart
Officiants: Lee and Amanda Borden
Refreshments: Betty Weldon
Grounds: Maurice McCord and Lee Borden

And next:

Ushers: John and Kathy Haynie
Altar Guild: Lee Borden
Lay Reader: Amanda Borden
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Kay Dickey
Refreshments: Lavonne Hart
Grounds: Jimmy and Betty Weldon

Canticle A

1. Wis dom freed a ho ly peo ple, blame-less from op pres-sors' sword,
 2. Through the Red Sea safe ly brought them, led a long the wa ters steep,

5
 and with-stood, with signs and won ders, rul ers dread to serve the Lord.
 but their en e mies she swal lowed, o ver-whelmed them in the deep.

9
 Giv ing them re ward of la bors, let the saints a long her way.
 For sal va tion Lord, the right eous praised your name with one ac cord:

13
 she was a blaze of stars in dark ness and a shel ter through the day,
 song filled tongues of new-born peo ple ut tered Wis-dom's might ty word.



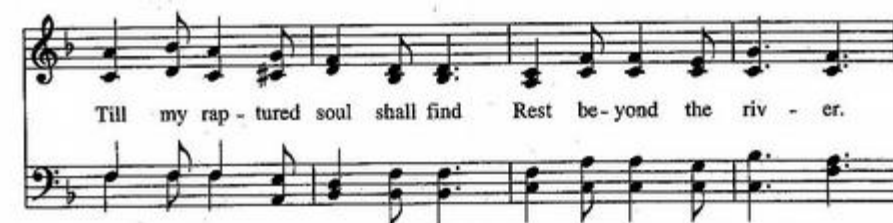
1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross, There's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2. Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, Love and mer - cy found me;
 3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4. Near the cross. I'll watch and wait, Hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



1. Free to all, a heal - ing stream Flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 2. There the Bright and Morn - ing Star Sheds its beams a - round me.
 3. Help me walk from day to day With its shad - ows o'er me.
 4. Till I reach the gold - en strand Just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross Be my glo - ry ev - er;



Till my rap - tured soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915)
 Music: William H. Doane (1832-1915)