

How long, O Lord? . . .  
how long will you hide your face from me?

Psalm 13:1

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
Morning Prayer  
June 28, 2020, 9:30 am

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**.

*We will observe silence together to prepare for worship, which begins with  
the ringing of the bell. We stand.*

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and  
bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

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  
forever. Amen. Alleluia.

Jubilate – Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 13 (*we remain standing*)

1 How long, O Lord?  
will you forget me for ever? \*  
how long will you hide your face from me?

2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,  
and grief in my heart, day after day? \*  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?

3 Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my God; \*  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;

4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," \*  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.

5 But I put my trust in your mercy; \*  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.

6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt with me richly; \*  
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

The Lessons

*Unless noted otherwise, we sit for each lesson and stand for each  
canticle.*

The Old Testament Lesson – Genesis 22:1-14

God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The

fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Canticle 13 – A Song of Praise

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \*  
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.  
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.  
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \*  
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.  
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.  
Glory to you, beholding the depths; \*  
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.  
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

### Hymn – *The God of Abraham Praise (we sit)*

The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above;  
ancient of everlasting days, and God of love; the Lord, the  
great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed; we bow and bless  
the sacred Name forever blest.

The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high; "Hail,  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!" they ever cry; hail, Abraham's  
Lord divine! With heaven our songs we raise; all might and  
majesty are thine, and endless praise.

### The Epistle Lesson – Romans 6:12-23

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to  
make you obey their passions. No longer present your  
members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present  
yourselves to God as those who have been brought from  
death to life, and present your members to God as instruments  
of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you,  
since you are not under law but under grace.

**What then? Should we sin because we are not under  
law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know  
that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient  
slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either  
of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which  
leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you,  
having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient  
from the heart to the form of teaching to which you  
were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from  
sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am  
speaking in human terms because of your natural  
limitations. For just as you once presented your  
members as slaves to impurity and to greater and  
greater iniquity, so now present your members as  
slaves to righteousness for sanctification.**

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to  
righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the  
things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those  
things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin  
and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is  
sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is  
death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus  
our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Canticle 16 – The Song of Zechariah

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;  
he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.  
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most  
High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the  
shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
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 Gospel Lesson – Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus said, “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple -- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Mike Harber

### 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 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.**

### Suffrages

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 built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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 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.**

### Collect for Social Justice

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **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: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (we sit)*

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! O fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.

O to grace, how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee; prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

## Intercessions and Thanksgiving (*we stand*)

We pray for the souls of all those who have died from Covid-19, and all 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 **Micah Hart, Dennis Harper, Larry and Pat Sharpton, Dezel Oliver, Tom Haynie, Beth Hall, Maurice McCord, Sharon Browning, Julie Williams, Mike Dickey, Harrison Smith**, 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 the Commission on Aging, End of Life, and Grief; Episcopal Place, Birmingham; St. Martin's in the Pines, Birmingham; St. Paul's, Greensboro; St. Paul's, Lowndesboro; St. Paul's, Minter; and St. Paul's, Selma.

## 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.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

<b>Serving at Epiphany this week:</b>	<b>And next:</b>
Officiant: Mike Harber	Officiant: The Rev. Lee Lowery!!!!
Lay reader: Pam van Etten	Lay reader: Kathy Haynie
Grounds: Lee Borden and Maurice McCord	Grounds: Jimmy and Betty Weldon