

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Matthew 14:31

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Morning Prayer  
August 9, 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 (EOW)*.  
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.*

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*We stand or kneel. (BCP 79)*

**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 our 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 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 (*BCP 82*)

**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 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (*we remain standing*)

**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
make known his deeds among the peoples.  
Sing to him, sing praises to him,  
and speak of all his marvelous works.**

**Glory in his holy Name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.  
Search for the Lord and his strength;  
continually seek his face.**

**Remember the marvels he has done,  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,  
O offspring of Abraham his servant,  
O children of Jacob his chosen.**

**Then he called for a famine in the land  
and destroyed the supply of bread.  
He sent a man before them,  
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.**

**They bruised his feet in fetters;  
his neck they put in an iron collar.  
Until his prediction came to pass,  
the word of the Lord tested him.**

**The king sent and released him;  
the ruler of the peoples set him free.  
He set him as a master over his household,  
as a ruler over all his possessions,**

**To instruct his princes according to his will  
and to teach his elders wisdom.  
Hallelujah!**

The Lessons

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

The Old Testament Lesson – Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report

of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" — that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

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

### Canticle 18 – A Song to the Lamb (*BCP 93*)

Splendor and honor and kingly power \*  
are yours by right, O Lord our God,  
**For you created everything that is, \***  
**and by your will they were created and have their being;**  
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, \*  
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,  
**From every family, language, people, and nation, \***  
**a kingdom of priests to serve our God.**

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, \*  
and to Christ the Lamb,  
**Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, \***  
**for ever and for evermore.**

### The Epistle Lesson – Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

"The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

### Hymn – *Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven (we sit)*

Praise my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing: Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Father-like he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows; in his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

### The Gospel Lesson – Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But

immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Sermon

The Rev. Lee Lowery

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, aa  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Suffrages (*BCP 97*)

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

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; 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 Peace (*BCP 99*)

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 Prayer for Mission (*BCP 101*)

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* (*we sit*)

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light, take my hand, precious Lord, lead me on.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near, and the day is past and gone; at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand, take my hand, precious Lord, lead me on.

## Intercessions and Thanksgiving (*we stand*)

We pray for the souls of **Matt Stewart**, those who died in the Beirut explosion this week, all those who have died from Covid-19, and all who have departed this life, including those we now name silently or aloud.

*Silence*

## A Prayer for Our Schools

Almighty God, Heavenly Father, we pray for the well being of our schools. Keep all who work or study safe from illness and all danger. Give our educators wisdom and our students inquiring minds. Bless those many people who support them with a sense of purpose and security. We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In our parish we pray for those who are sick or recovering from illness, including **Dennis Harper, Larry and Pat Sharpton, Dezel Oliver, Tom Haynie, Beth Hall, Maurice McCord, Sharon Browning, Julie Williams, Mike Dickey, Harrison Smith, Ellen Solomon, Joan Ashurst Miller, Caleb Hart**, and the others we now name.

*Silence*

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our bishops, Kee and Glenda. For our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose. For Ministries to Young Adults in Alabama, Department of Stewardship, Jubilee Ministry, and all Jubilee Centers. For St. Mary's on the Highlands, Birmingham; St. Mary's, Childersburg; St. Mary's Jasper.

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This Saturday we mark the Feast of St Mary the Virgin. If you're looking for a simple way to observe it, consider the *Magnificat*, Mary's song of praise when her cousin Elizabeth recognized her as the mother-to-be of the Messiah. You'll find it at Luke 1:46-55 and on p 91 of the BCP.

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## The General Thanksgiving (*BCP 101*)

**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.**

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>
Lay reader: Lee Borden	Lay reader: Pam Van Etten
Grounds: Mike Rallo and Jimmy Weldon	

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