

## **Morning Prayer – September 20, 2020 – Pentecost 16**

**Zion Church, Manchester, VT.**

**Opening Hymn: #660** O Master, let me walk with thee

1 O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
tell me thy secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.

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." *Isaiah 57:15*

### **Confession of Sin**

*The Officiant says to the people*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of  
Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to  
hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf  
of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our  
salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and  
mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with  
penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may  
obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together,*

**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.**

*The Priest alone says*

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.*

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People*

**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.**

## **Old Testament**

### **Jonah 3:10-4:11**

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast

love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

## **The Response**

### **Psalm 145:1-8**

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, \*  
**and bless your Name for ever and ever.**
- 2 Every day will I bless you \*  
**and praise your Name for ever and ever.**
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \*  
**there is no end to his greatness.**
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another \*  
**and shall declare your power.**
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty \*  
**and all your marvelous works.**
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, \*  
**and I will tell of your greatness.**
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; \*  
**they shall sing of your righteous deeds.**

8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

**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 Epistle**

### **Philippians 1:21-30**

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

### **Sequence - The Magnificat**

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \***

**and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**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**

### **Matthew 20:1-16**

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

## **The Sermon – Fr. Ian Montgomery**

### **The Apostles Creed**

*Officiant and People together,*

**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**

*Leader* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Leader* 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**

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R. **And grant us your salvation.**  
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

### **The Collect, Pentecost 16.**

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 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 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 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 Collect for mission**

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.*

**We will pray for the thanksgivings and needs of our congregation.**

**Please communicate via zoom or the live comment section of Facebook live. You may send prayer requests beforehand to the Church office - [office@zionchurchmanchester.org](mailto:office@zionchurchmanchester.org)**

***Zion Church/St. John's Chapel Prayer List***

We pray for all who grieve.

We pray for Mary Jo Gourd and family on the passing of her father, Bob Beaber, condolences to PO Box 600, Manchester VT 05254

We pray for Jessie Forrest, Katie Brooks, Gerald Avery, Chris Powers, Karl Soderberg, Kevin Beattie, Ian Mackenzie, Carolyn, Bob, and all who need healing in mind, body, or spirit.

We pray for a safe vaccine, available to all, for COVID-19, and we pray for all who have been affected by the virus, especially those who have died.

We pray for a containment of the wildfires in the West, and for the firefighters. Birthdays this week: Abigail Lewis, Gabriel Lewis, Daniel Larson, Katie Peltz, Henry Markcrow

Anniversary: David & Carol Donnelly

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan  
Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Calvary Church, Underhill

***A prayer of St. Augustine - together***

**Lord, you are the light of the minds who know you,  
the life of the souls who love you,  
and the strength of the souls who serve you.  
Help us to know you that we may truly love you,  
so to love you that we may fully serve You,  
whose service is perfect freedom.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***The General Thanksgiving***

*Together*

**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.**

### **Announcements –**

*- Zion asks for your continued pledges and donations as our church continues 'to know Christ's love and to share it' during these unprecedented times of COVID-19. If you are able, I encourage you to continue your support of Zion, please consider giving online or by mail. Details are on the Zion Church Manchester website. <https://www.zionchurchmanchester.org/> Click the **DONATE** button at the top of the page. Or you may mail checks to Zion Episcopal Church, PO Box 717, Manchester Center, VT 05255. Thank you for your continued support and all the ways you continue to participate in the life of our parish community while we cannot gather inside our church!*

***Your gift supports the general fund at Zion and we thank you for your gifts. Together, with faith in God and each other, we will weather our common challenge.***

### **September is Zion's month to help staff the Community Food Cupboard**

Please register on Zion's website: [www.zionchurchmanchester.org](http://www.zionchurchmanchester.org) on the Events page. Help is needed on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings and afternoons.

### *Officiant*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

*Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

### **The Blessing**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

**Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Officiant: The Rev. Ian Montgomery  
Director of Music/Organist: Christopher Lewis  
Prayers: Polly Montgomery  
Lectors: 8:00 Mary Squire, Leslie van Breen, Carol Donnelly  
10:00 Tony du Pont, Marguerite Mason, Yvonne Lodico

**Closing Hymn:** #690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand;  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.

2 When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side;  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.