The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
(Proper 20)

Sunday, September 20, 2020
10:00 a.m. by Zoom conference

To join, click here:

https://zoom.us/j/92940092936

Alternatively, you may dial in at the following number:
1 (929) 205-6099
When prompted, enter the Meeting ID: 929 4009 2936

Trinity Episcopal Church
Hampton, New Hampshire

and

Christ Episcopal Church
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

In keeping with our practice of following the customs of the host church of any joint liturgy, we will be following the liturgical norms of Christ Church for today’s service.
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged, And think my work's in vain, But
2. If you cannot preach like Peter, If you cannot preach like Paul, You can
3. Don't ever be discouraged For Jesus is your friend, And

1. then the holy spirit Revives my soul again.
2. tell the love of Jesus, And say He died for all.
3. if you lack for knowledge, He'll never refuse to lend.

Words: Traditional
Music: American Melody; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals
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The Word of God

The Celebrant says the opening acclamation
Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant and People
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.
**SONG OF PRAISE**

This little light of mine

*Lift Every Voice 221 (verse 1)*

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1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

**The Collect of the Day**

The Celebrant says to the people

God be with you.

People    **And also with you.**

Celebrant  Let us pray.

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 READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

The Lesson  Read by Betty Lane

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

At the conclusion, the Reader says

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People  Thanks be to God.

The Epistle  Read by Belinda Wilkes

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

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.

At the conclusion, the Reader says

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People Thanks be to God.

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

Lord God, Creator, life of all we do

**tune:** Hymnal 662

This hymn text was written by Tony Law for use as we mark the end of six months living with COVID-19. It is sung to the tune of “Abide with me,” *Eventide.*

1 Lord God, creator, life of all we do:
   friends, neighbors, family are our gift from you.
   Now, in these days when we are kept apart,
   may they be sure you hold them in your heart.

2 Lord, for the ill, and those approaching death:
   give them your solace, through each labored breath.
   For those who serve with courage, skill and care
   we ask your strength. You know the loads they bear.

3 Lord, in this time when much is set aside
   show us the truths which busyness can hide.
   Where wealth misguides us: Lord of life, forgive;
   give grace to shape anew the way we live.

4 Lord, in adversity we learn again
   there is no place where your love cannot reign!
   Hear now our prayer, from fear our minds release;
   grant both to us and to your world your peace.

**Words:** Tony Law, 2020

**Music:** *Eventide,* William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

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At the announcement, the People respond:

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.”

At the conclusion, the Priest says
The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. David G. Robinson, Jr., Vicar

The Nicene Creed

Enriching Our Worship

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
 true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
 of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
 and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
 he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
 he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
 and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People  Led by Liza McGuckin

Intercessor
We begin our prayers today by giving thanks for our Shared Ministry, praying especially for Dress for School Success, and for Audrey Murdock and Lee Hoginski.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Christ, have mercy.”

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Christ, have mercy.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Rob, our own Bishop; for Chip, our Vicar, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.
Christ, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.
Christ, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.
Christ, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.
Christ, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, especially Donald, our President and Chris, our Governor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.
Christ, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.
Christ, have mercy.
For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord. 

**Christ, have mercy.**

For those on our church prayer lists:

- **Christ Church:** Anthony, Bob, Erin, Gary, Lynda, Pat, Robert & Jennifer, Roy
- **Trinity Church:** Audrey, Ayyad, Barbara, Bob, Caileigh, Cassidy, Christine, David, Elyse & George, Ginnie-Lee, Lauran, Madelyn, Mike, Nita, Noah, Robert, Rosemarie, Sally, Sandy (Ct.), Thelma, Wes & Anne

we pray to you, O Lord. 

**Christ, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord. 

**Christ, have mercy.**

**Celebrant**

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. 

*Amen.*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Silence may be kept.**

**Celebrant and People**

*God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,*

**We have denied your goodness in each other,**

**in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,**

**and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**that way we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

*The Priest offers the Absolution*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**
A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Recognizing that we are unable to physically receive Holy Communion in this service, we offer the following prayer recognizing Christ’s presence in our midst. When bid in the prayer to do so, you are invited to hold out your hands as you would to receive the sacred Host.

Celebrant and People

O Lord Jesus Christ,

we believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of your Body and Blood.

We love you above all things, and desire to receive you into our souls.

Since we cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into our hearts.

As we hold out our hands in longing for Communion with you, help us to embrace you knowing that you are already here and unite us wholly to you.

Never permit us to be separated from you.

We pray this in your holy Name. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

Celebrant

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people

Holy eternal Majesty,
Holy incarnate Word,
Holy abiding Spirit,
bless you for evermore.

Response Amen.
CLOSING HYMN

Lead on, O King eternal

Hymnal 555

1 Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;
   henceforth in fields of conquest thy tents shall be our home;
   and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

2 Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
   and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;
   but deeds of love and mercy, the heavenly kingdom comes.

3 Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears;
   for gladness breaks like morning wher' e'er thy face appears.
   the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!

Words: Ernest Warburton Shurtleff (1862-1917)
Music: Lancashire, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)
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The Dismissal

*The Celebrant dismisses the People with these words*

Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Virtual Coffee Hour

*Please stay online after the liturgy ends for some time of conversation and connection with one another.*

*Please raise your hand (directly in front of your face so it is in camera range) and wait for the host to call on you. This will prevent confusing cross-talk.*

~ ASSISTING WITH TODAY’S SERVICE ~

Pianist: Brendan Battey
Zoom Co-Host: Betty Lane
First Reading: Betty Lane
Second Reading: Belinda Wilkes
Gospel: The Rev. Audrey Murdock
Intercessions: Liza McGuckin

~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

**Saturday Evening Holy Eucharist** – Our next outdoor celebration of the Holy Eucharist will be on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 5:00 p.m. on the lawn of Christ Church. While there are some significant changes as to how Communion will be set up, celebrated and administered, these services are proving quite popular and we are delighted we can once again receive the Sacrament as a gathered body. Join us!

**Noonday Prayer at a new time Tuesdays; Thursdays discontinued** – We now meet only once weekly, each Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. The Zoom link, which will be the same weekly through the end of October is: https://zoom.us/j/95907635727. Phone access is at (929) 205-6099, meeting ID 959 0763 5727. If you haven’t tried it, join us!

**New Christian Formation program** – This fall, we are trying a new learning experience called “This is NOT Sunday School.” It’s a free, weekly online resource that’s intergenerational, making it a perfect tool for families with children of all ages. To access the free material, follow this link and sign up for your free account. Once you’ve opened your account, you’ll be taken to the course and the instructions are easy to follow from there. You can either do this entirely within your household – or invite an adult mentor to open an account and develop a way of sharing the materials from there.
Blessing of the animals - For the last several years we have held a joint Blessing of the Animals on the Sunday closest to the Feast of St. Francis. This year, it will be on the day itself: Sunday, Oct. 4, at noon, a chance to celebrate the mutual relationship of all God’s creatures while actually enjoying one another’s company in person (masked, of course). We plan to gather in the rear courtyard of Christ Church near our Pet Memorial Garden, as a way to give our companion animals as much freedom as possible, and to make it accessible to all, not just our two congregations. This will follow (and be separate from) our online service that same morning at 10:00.

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THE MINISTERS OF OUR SHARED MINISTRY ARE THE PEOPLE OF THESE CONGREGATIONS supported by

Our Bishop: The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld
Phone: 603-427-8720 (You may call any time night or day for a pastoral emergency.)
Email: priest@christepiscopalchurch.us
priest@trinityhampton.org
Our Music Director: Brendan Battey
Christ Church’s Warden: Suzanne George
Trinity’s Warden: Rusty Bridle
Christ Church Office: 603-436-8842*
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Trinity Church Office: 603-926-5688
Email: admin@trinityhampton.org

CC Website: www.christepiscopalchurch.us
TC Website: www.trinityhampton.org
Vicar’s Office Hours at Christ Church:
Tuesday & Thursday 9 am - noon
Shared Ministry Office Hours:
Mon. – Fri. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Shared Secretary: Nita Niemczyk
Little Blessings Child Care
Director: Shannon Tremblay
Phone: 603-431-1809
The Village Preschool
Director: Ginny Bridle
Phone: 603-929-7349

* Christ Church’s phone rings through to Shared Ministry office located at Trinity Church, Hampton, when the Christ Church office is closed.

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CHRIST CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of Christ Church is to share the light of Christ in the world. As progressive Christians we welcome all people into our sanctuary, regardless of race, economic circumstances, gender, sexual orientation, or religious background.

We gather to worship, sing, celebrate, acknowledge common needs, be fed at God’s table, and care, love and nurture one another.

From here we go forth into the world to be active servants of the spirit of Jesus, ministering to those in need and taking God’s grace and peace into the wider community.

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TRINITY CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT
Trinity Episcopal Church is a welcoming community of faith engaged in outreach to each other and our community as modeled by Jesus Christ.