

Worship Aldersgate  
August 3, 2020

Announcements

Welcome

Prelude-Holy Holy Holy

Opening Prayer

Hymn: Leaning on the Everlasting Arms/'Tis So Sweet

**Call to Worship:**

Come all who are weary  
**of wealth, of poverty, of power, of struggle, of division**

Come all who are heavy-laden  
**with too much, with too little, with anxiety, with fear, with anger**

Come all who have hope  
**for liberation, for peace, for freedom, for the kingdom**

Hear these words  
**“See, I am making all things new.”**

Song: Peace Be Still By Hope Darst Sung By Katie Collins and Jacob Smith

Centering Prayer:

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-10

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, **2** and he began to teach them.

**The Beatitudes**

He said:

**3** “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**4** Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

**5** Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

**6** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

**7** Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

**9** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**10** Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Offering: Build My Life by Housefires Sung By Katie Collins and Jacob Smith

Blessing over Offering

Old Testament: 1 Samuel 24:1-19

**24** When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, “David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.” **2** Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to look for David and his men in the direction of the Rocks of the Wild Goats. **3** He came to the sheepfolds beside the road, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself.<sup>[a]</sup> Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. **4** The men of David said to him, “Here is the day of which the LORD said to you, ‘I will give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.’” Then David went and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul’s cloak. **5** Afterward David was stricken to the heart because he had cut off a corner of Saul’s cloak. **6** He said to his men, “The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the LORD’s anointed, to raise my hand against him; for he is the LORD’s anointed.” **7** So David scolded his men severely and did not permit them to attack Saul. Then Saul got up and left the cave, and went on his way.

**8** Afterwards David also rose up and went out of the cave and called after Saul, “My lord the king!” When Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the ground, and did obeisance. **9** David said to Saul, “Why do you listen to the words of those who say, ‘David seeks to do you harm’? **10** This very day your eyes have seen how the LORD gave you into my hand in the cave; and some urged me to kill you, but I spared<sup>[b]</sup> you. I

said, 'I will not raise my hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed.' **11** See, my father, see the corner of your cloak in my hand; for by the fact that I cut off the corner of your cloak, and did not kill you, you may know for certain that there is no wrong or treason in my hands. I have not sinned against you, though you are hunting me to take my life. **12** May the LORD judge between me and you! May the LORD avenge me on you; but my hand shall not be against you. **13** As the ancient proverb says, 'Out of the wicked comes forth wickedness'; but my hand shall not be against you. **14** Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom do you pursue? A dead dog? A single flea? **15** May the LORD therefore be judge, and give sentence between me and you. May he see to it, and plead my cause, and vindicate me against you."

**16** When David had finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul said, "Is this your voice, my son David?" Saul lifted up his voice and wept. **17** He said to David, "You are more righteous than I; for you have repaid me good, whereas I have repaid you evil. **18** Today you have explained how you have dealt well with me, in that you did not kill me when the LORD put me into your hands. **19** For who has ever found an enemy, and sent the enemy safely away? So may the LORD reward you with good for what you have done to me this day.

Sermon: Blessed are the Meek:

So here are a couple of strategies to take on the characteristic of meekness.

- I. Moderate your expectations of others. God remembers we are dust, we should too. I need to remember that all of us are sinners in the process of redemption.
- II. Try like my friend to find joy in the evidence of God's grace. Remember Philippians 4:8
- III. Remember how much you have been forgiven. *Whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.* (2 Peter 1:9)
- IV. Take time to form judgments or act. Remember David in our lesson today. He waited and realized the better course of action
- V. Make friends with those who are meek. Don't saddle upside those who rush to anger and violence.

VI. Try to understand what God is doing in the action of your enemy. Jesus knew the religious rulers were going to be his end but he saw God's redemptive plan at work in them.

Holy Communion:

**Holy God, you created the world and all who live in it. As your first act of Creation, you said, "Let there be light." And there was light, and it was good. You make the sun rise on the good and evil alike, for your love has no prejudice. It is not dependent on who we are but is steadfast and true because that is who you are.**

Jesus, Light of the World, you came into the world so we may have life. In the mystery of God, you call us to be light in the world because life is something to be shared. With your compassion on the sick, the poor, and the outcast, you taught us what love is. In the glory of your resurrection you demonstrated how far love will go. Love, life, light – you have given us a purpose in the world.

Holy Spirit, light within us, you enable us to be the fragrance of life and the salt of the earth. You lead our hearts so that we may season the world with grace. In the same way, you gather us at this table to sustain us so that we may be salt and light in the world.

Ever thankful, we pray that you would sprinkle salt on this meal we share today. May it renew our communion in Christ and with one another. With joy, we celebrate that this meal is not limited to this time and place. And so as you bind us together with the cup and the loaf, we give thanks that this table extends to every cathedral, sanctuary, home and group where two or three have gathered in your name.

With the boldness of those who know the love of God, the light of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in the prayer you taught us. Using the words each of find most familiar, we 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 and we forgive those who trespass against us, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

## **We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

### **It is right to give our thanks and praise**

It is right and good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you father Almighty

Creator of heaven and earth., bringer of justice and righteousness. In ancient days you created us in your image, and invited us to be reflections of your presence in the world. When we fell short and wandered far from your path of justice and love, you held our hands and walked with us in humility and compassion. You called us to be your people and invited us to walk meekly by your side. Even when we turned away, you continued to walk along side us, calling us back to your path of justice and love, through your prophets, and the wisdom of your poets and storytellers. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ to reveal your gracious presence in the world, and to invite us to the journey with you again. You anoint us with your blessing and trust and call us to bless your world with your love, justice, mercy and truth.

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn saying:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

With joy and gratitude we break this bread and remember the many acts when Jesus blessed his disciples in the breaking of the bread. In remembrance, we will take and eat this bread and reflect on your blessed presence which fills our souls and leaves us satisfied, With joy and gratitude we fill this cup and remember the many times when Jesus poured out his love and compassion all the way to the cross. In remembrance we drink from this cup and reflect on your blessed presence which overflows in our lives.

In remembrance of these your mighty acts of grace and love, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as humble servants, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on our fellowship, that we may be blessed with your love and your grace. Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine that they may nourish us in truth Guide us in your Spirit, that we may be

more like you, being one with Christ in compassion and mercy, one with each other in meekness and justice, and one in ministry to all the world until Christ comes again in final victory and we feast at His heavenly banquet. Through Jesus Christ our Lord and your holy Church, all honor and glory are yours now and forever. Amen

Hymn #2 My Jesus I love Thee/O How I Love Jesus

Benediction

Postlude O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing