

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 14, 2024

Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982, with service music indicated by 'S' at the front of the blue Hymnal 1982; 'LEVAS' for hymns from red/black Lift Every Voice and Sing; and 'WLP' for hymns from green Wonder, Love, and Praise.

Prelude God Will Take Care of You, *Kaleb Brasee on piano*

Opening Hymn 671 Amazing Grace, *New Britain*

Collect of the Day

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

First Lesson A reading from the Prophet Amos. 7:7-15

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by;

the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,

and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,

and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.'

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,

and Israel must go into exile

away from his land.'"

And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches

Thanks be to God

Psalm 85:8-13 *Benedixisti, Domine*

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *

for he is speaking peace to his faithful people

and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *

that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; *

righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *

and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Epistle A reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches
Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn 535 Ye Servants of God, *Paderborn*

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark. 6:14-29
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

King Herod heard of Jesus and his disciples, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Closing Music Recorded Performance of Aretha Franklin *God Will Take Care of You*

Participants in Today's Service

The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, DMin, Rector
Lynn Robinson, Minister of Music
Lin Novak, Usher • Lynn Robinson & Sandy Winger, Altar Guild
Patricia Broida, Reader • Faye Pritchard, Prayers of the People
Barbara Olivera, Lay Eucharistic Minister
Bill Pritchard, Teller • Lisa Pope, Fellowship
Peter Olivera & Sandy Winger, Sound and Live-stream Coordinators

Announcements

Welcome: We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors and newcomers. **Please join us for coffee hour** downstairs after the service.

AFAC Bulk Food Packing On the second Friday evening of every other month, a group from St. John's spends an hour at the Arlington Food Assistance Center bagging food. We will be working at AFAC again in July, so mark your calendar for September and plan to join us. Contact Faye Pritchard on 703-931-2168 if you would like to join in this ministry to help our neighbors in need of food.

School Supplies Drive has begun! A list of most-needed items and information about collection sites is now available; start watching for bargain prices on supplies! We'll bless the collected items on Sunday, August 18 in order to make delivery before the first day of school.

Christmas in July - Next Week at St Patrick's

Let's get an early start on Christmas with a bit of planning and crafting. The bamboo-and-tissue stars that have hung at St Patrick's for decades need repair, and it's time to design this year's beeswax ornaments. Bring additional ideas you may have about refreshing our decorations for Advent and Christmas, and plan to join in a simple lunch then work alongside one another to get these projects off the ground. St Patrick's worship begins at 11, so lunch will be ready about 12:15, with time to work following.

The Path Ahead - 6 Week Course on Spirituality and Purpose in Later Life, Sunday afternoons at St John's 2:30 - 4, August 18 - September 22. (No Meeting on Labor Day weekend.) "Participants grapple with ageism, identify changing spiritual needs, equip themselves with new prayer practices, and engage in discernment about God's continuing call." Please contact Julie+ with questions and to confirm your participation.

Celebration of Life Planning Please save Wednesday, September 25th to gather for what is a loving, but sometimes difficult, task - planning for a funeral or memorial service. Leaving a record of your preferred readings, music, and people you'd like to participate is a gift to those mourning your death. They will want to do their best to include your favorites.

Emergency Pastoral Care -- For pastoral emergencies please call or text the Reverend Julie D. Bryant at 703-336-2256. Her email address is juliediane Bryant@gmail.com.

Rev. Bryant also serves as Rector of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church (3241 Brush Drive, 22042) in Falls Church. They celebrate their Sunday service at 11 am where you are welcome to attend.