



**St. George's**  
Episcopal  
Church

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# Celtic Evensong St. George's Episcopal Church

**July 19, 2020 -**

**The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**

**5:30 pm - Online Worship**

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You are welcome at  
St. George's Church:  
Regardless of race,  
nationality,  
sexual orientation,  
gender expression,  
or tradition.

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# The Seventh Sunday

## After Pentecost

### July 19, 2020

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**Welcome to our online service! During the prelude, we invite you to prepare for worship by observing silence or taking time for private prayer. We are glad you are here!**

#### **Welcome**

#### **Prelude**

*Silence*

#### **Opening Reading: "A Prayer"**

Robert Creeley

Bless  
something small  
but infinite  
and quiet.

There are senses  
make an object  
in their simple  
feeling for one.

#### **Prayer for the Evening**

Officiant: In Luke's gospel, Jesus called together the disciples and a great multitude to a level place. There he touched, healed, and taught. There he spoke, "Blessed are..." There he named the blessed—the saints of the faith.

**All: O God, call us together as you did those so long ago to discover your blessed people. This evening, Christ gather us.**

Officiant: Let us remember, confess, celebrate, and embody the blessed saints of God. Christ, come among us.

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1 We all are one in mission,  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission  
compels us from above  
to plan and work together  
that all may know Christ's love.

2 We all are called for service  
to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are diff'rent,  
our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others  
by God's surprising grace,  
so people of all nations may feel  
God's warm embrace.

3 We all behold one vision,  
a stark reality;  
the steward of salvation  
was nailed upon a tree.  
Yet resurrected Justice  
gives rise that we may share  
free reconciliation  
and hope amid despair.

4 Now let us be united  
and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel  
for God's redeeming Word.  
We all are one in mission,  
we all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.

### The Reading

Matthew 13:24 - 30, 36 - 43

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to

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him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Silence is observed after the reading*

### **Meditation**

The Rev. David P. Casey, O.P.

*Silence is observed after the meditation*

### **Prayers for Ourselves and Others** *Please stand.*

Leader 1: God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving.

We pray for one another, for our families and friends, through whom we learn to love and to be loved. Thank you for all who care for us. Give us grace to serve Christ by serving our neighbors and our community, loving others as he loves us.

Leader 2: We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble. We pray especially for those affected by COVID-19. Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them.

Leader 1: We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of this land. Help us and people everywhere to share with justice and peace the resources of the earth. Give wisdom to those in authority among us and to all leaders of the nations.

Leader 2: We pray for your Church throughout the world, thanking you for all who serve Christ and Christ's kingdom. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their work and witness in the world. Unite us in your truth and love, that we who confess your name may also reflect your glory.

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Leader 1: We remember those who have died and those who mourn: (*particular intercessions/thanksgiving may be offered*) We commend those who have died into your loving embrace, and pray for your comfort and healing presence for those who mourn.

Leader 2: Lord, you have called us to serve you.  
Grant that we may walk in your presence:  
your love in our hearts,  
your truth in our minds,  
your strength in our wills;  
until, at the end of our journey,  
we know the joy of our homecoming  
and the welcome of your embrace,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Additional Prayers of Intercession + Thanksgiving + Healing**

*During the instrumental music and hymn, and at any time hereafter, you are welcome to share a prayer request by submitting via the comment or chat function.*

### **Music for Meditation**

Hymn: "Nothing can trouble"

Taize

**Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.  
Those who seek God shall never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.  
God alone fills us.**

*Please rise or rise in spirit.*

Officiant: Let us pray:

**All: Eternal Spirit Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven. The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

**The Grace** (*please stand*)

Officiant: Now my friends, all that is true, all that is noble, all that is just and pure, all that is lovable and gracious, whatever is excellent and admirable; with these let us fill our hearts, and the God of heaven: Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier will be with us always. **Amen.**

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## The Peace

Officiant: Christ the Good Shepherd is risen from the dead and binds us with a bond of love that cannot be broken. My sisters and brothers, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*All now exchange a sign of peace.*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. We invite you to share your gifts in support of our ministry within and beyond our congregation, especially during this time when we cannot receive those offerings in person. Make your offering online (<http://bit.ly/stggive>) or by mail to the church.*

## Announcements

*For the latest updates and messages of encouragement, check our website ([StGeorgesEpiscopal.net](http://StGeorgesEpiscopal.net)) and subscribe to our email newsletter (<http://bit.ly/stggenews>)*

Officiant: Let us now join in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

**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 forever. Amen.**

## Collect for the Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

**BCP 231**

Officiant: Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Collect For Social Justice

Almighty God, who created us in your image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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## **Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God**

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn 508: "Breathe on me, breath of God"**

*Nova Vita*

**1 Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love,  
and do what thou wouldst do.**

**2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
until my heart is pure,  
until with thee I will one will,  
to do or to endure.**

**3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
till I am wholly thine,  
till all this earthly part of me  
glows with thy fire divine.**

**4 Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
so shall I never die;  
but live with thee the perfect life  
of thine eternity.**

**Blessing offered by the priest**

May you be held together by the love of God, clothed with the nature of Jesus our Companion, reinforced by the strength of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God, the one Holy and Undivided Trinity be with you now and always. **Amen.**

**The Dismissal offered by the priest**

Go into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thank you for joining us.

**Postlude**

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## Acknowledgments

The Opening Prayer, "A Prayer" by Robert Creeley, from The Collected Poems of Robert Creeley, 1945–1975, © 1982 by the Regents of the University of California; A Prayer for the Evening by Sidney D. Fowler in The Blessed Ones: A Celebration for All Saints Day, on the website of the United Church of Christ; Prayers and Blessings adapted from the following sources: A New Zealand Prayer Book, Harper Collins, 1977; New Hampshire Episcopal Church; St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA; The Northumbria Community; the Iona Community.

*In this time of uncertainty and dynamic change, please know that although we cannot physically gather, God is ever-present. We are here too. If you would like someone to chat and pray with you, please submit a request online ([bit.ly/stgprayer](http://bit.ly/stgprayer)) and if it is an emergency (for e.g. sudden illness, death), please contact the pastoral emergency phone (540.361.8573) where you will reach a clergy person on call. Know that we are holding you in our prayers and look forward to a time when we will be able to gather again. God's peace be with you.*

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## St. George's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr., Rector  
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