

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 20 — 9/20/26

Opening Hymn

Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise

1982 Hymnal #423

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.**
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**
- 3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.**
- 4 Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.**

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 Lessons

Jonah 3:10-4:11

A Reading from the Prophet Jonah.

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?”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 145:1-8

The Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 I will exalt you, O holy God, *
 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 are you, O God, and greatly to be praised; *
 there is no end to your 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 You are gracious and full of compassion, *
 slow to anger and of great kindness.

Philippians 1:21-30

A Reading from the letter 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.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Gospel Song

Lord of All Hopefulness

1982 Hymnal #482

Verses 1-2 before the Gospel.

**1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

The Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

Gospeller

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Matthew.

People

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.”

Gospeller

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Gospel Song

Forgive Us Lord As We Forgive

1982 Hymnal #674

Verse 3-4 After the Gospel.

**3 Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,**

Closing Hymn

All Things Bright and Beautiful

1982 Hymnal #405

Refrain

**All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.**

**1 Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colors,
he made their tiny wings.**

Refrain

**2 The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky,**

Refrain

**3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one.**

Refrain

**4 He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well.**

Refrain

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*If you would like our intercessors to pray for you or someone else,
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