

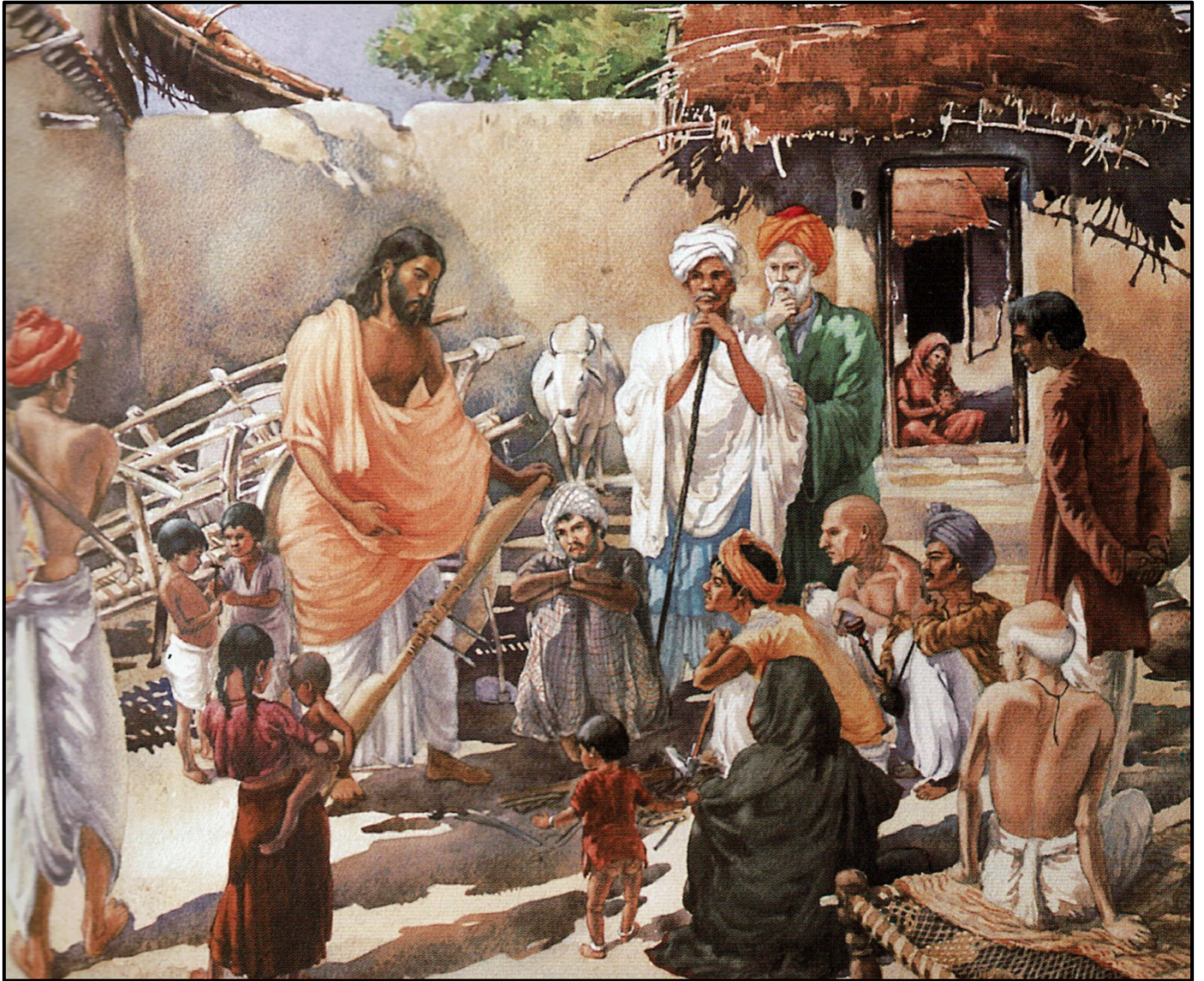


SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MORNING PRAYER: RITE II

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2023

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE PENTECOST – PROPER 9



*“Jai Krist” by Frank Wesley, ~ 20<sup>th</sup> century*

*The officiant begins with a passage of scripture*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

## **Confession of Sins**

*The Officiant says to the people*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others,

those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

***Most merciful God,***

***we confess that we have sinned against you***

***in thought, word, and deed,***

***by what we have done,***

***and by what we have left undone.***

***We have not loved you with our whole heart;***

***we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.***

***We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.***

***For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,***

***have mercy on us and forgive us;***

***that we may delight in your will,***

***and walk in your ways,***

***to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

*The Officiant alone says*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. ***Amen.***

## **The Invitatory and Psalter**

*All stand*

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* ***And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.***

*Officiant and People*

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

**Venite Psalm 95:1-7**

***Come, let us sing to the Lord;***

***let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.***

***Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving***

*and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.*  
*For the Lord is a great God,*  
*and a great King above all gods.*  
*In his hand are the caverns of the earth,*  
*and the heights of the hills are his also.*  
*The sea is his, for he made it,*  
*and his hands have molded the dry land.*  
*Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,*  
*and kneel before the Lord our Maker.*  
*For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*  
*Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!*

**Psalm 45: 11-18**

11 "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely; \*  
forget your people and your father's house.

12 The king will have pleasure in your beauty; \*  
he is your master; therefore do him honor.

13 The people of Tyre are here with a gift; \*  
the rich among the people seek your favor."

14 All glorious is the princess as she enters; \*  
her gown is cloth-of-gold.

15 In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king; \*  
after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.

16 With joy and gladness they are brought, \*  
and enter into the palace of the king.

17 "In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons; \*  
you shall make them princes over all the earth.

18 I will make your name to be remembered  
from one generation to another; \*  
therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever."

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

**[The people may be seated for the readings]**

## **The Word of God**

### **A Reading from the Genesis (24:34 – 38, 42 – 49, 58 - 67),**

The servant said to Laban, “I am Abraham’s servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.’”

“I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,” and who will say to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your camels also” —let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master’s son.’”

“Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.” Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out

in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord

*People*            ***Thanks be to God***

### **Canticle 9 - The First Song of Isaiah**

Surely, it is God who saves me;

    I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,

    and he will be my Savior.

Therefore, you shall draw water with rejoicing

    from the springs of salvation.

And on that day, you shall say,

    Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples;

    see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,

    and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,

    for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:***

***as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

### **A Reading from the Letter to the Romans (7:15 – 25a),**

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord

*People*            ***Thanks be to God***

### **Canticle 18 - A Song to the Lamb**

Splendor and honor and kingly power  
    are yours by right, O Lord our God,  
For you created everything that is,  
    and by your will they were created and have their being;  
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain,  
    for with your blood you have redeemed for God,  
From every family, language, people, and nation,  
    a kingdom of priests to serve our God.  
And so, to him who sits upon the throne,  
    and to Christ the Lamb,  
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor,  
    for ever and for evermore.

### **A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew (11:16 – 19, 25 - 30),**

Jesus said to the crowd, “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,  
    ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
    we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord

*People*        ***Thanks be to God***

**The Apostles' Creed [Please stand, as you are able]**

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.***

***He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.***

***He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.***

***He descended to the dead.***

***On the third day he rose again.***

***He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.***

***He will come again to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,***

***the holy catholic Church,***

***the communion of saints,***

***the forgiveness of sins,***

***the resurrection of the body,***

***and the life everlasting. Amen.***

## **The Prayers**

*The people stand or kneel*

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            ***And also with you.***

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

***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,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.*

**The Prayers of the People – Form VI [The people may be seated]**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;

*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;

*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Marty our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*



On the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church of Burundi.

In the Diocese of Montana, we pray for Christ Church, Kalispell and the Rev. Sadie Koppelberger, Rector. We also pray for Camp Marshall.

In our St. Stephen's community, we pray for Danielle, Jane, Jennie, Joleen, Jim, Michael, and Richard. We also pray for our adopted unit at The Billings Clinic hospital.

Hear us, Lord;  
***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
***Who put their trust in you.***

*The Officiant then concludes with the following prayer*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

*Collect of the Day*

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

*Collect for Sundays*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

*A Collect for Peace*

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

*Prayer for the Parish*

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

*Prayer for Mission*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

**The Peace**

*All stand. The Officiant says to the people [Please stand, as you are able]*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People***      ***And also with you.***

**Announcements**

## The General Thanksgiving

*Officiant and People*

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

*Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common  
supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or  
three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord,  
our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your  
truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.*

*Then may be said*

*Officiant*      Let us bless the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*The Officiant concludes with the following*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:  
Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and  
ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

## Churchy Term of the Week – Episcopal Youth Event (EYE)

A national gathering of young people and adult sponsors from throughout the Episcopal Church. The participants are to reflect the ethnic, cultural, and racial diversity of each diocese. It is sponsored by the Youth Ministries Office of the Episcopal Church. The first EYE was in 1982, with subsequent gatherings in 1984 and afterwards at three-year intervals. A design team of young people and adults from all the provinces of the church is responsible for planning the programs and worship.

Adapted from Don S. Armentrout's *An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church: A User-Friendly Reference for Episcopalians* Church Publishing Inc., 2000.

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