

15th Sunday after Pentecost
Commemoration of the Holy Cross

September 13, 2020

9/11 Memorial Cross



For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:18).

+ Order of Worship +

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Jesus said, 'When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself' (John 12.32).

C May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world (Galatians 6.14).

P Through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross (Colossians 1.20).

Kyrie Confession

P Lord Jesus, You came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Lord Jesus, You heal the wounds of sin and division: Christ, have mercy.

C Christ, have mercy.

P Lord Jesus, You intercede for us with your Father: Lord, have mercy.

C Lord, have mercy.

P God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins (Romans 5.8). Most Merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

P Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray: Almighty God, Who in the passion of Your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for His sake; Who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴ From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵ And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." ⁶ Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷ And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

The Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

P Alleluia. Alleluia. We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You,

C because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

P Alleluia, alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

John 12:20-26

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

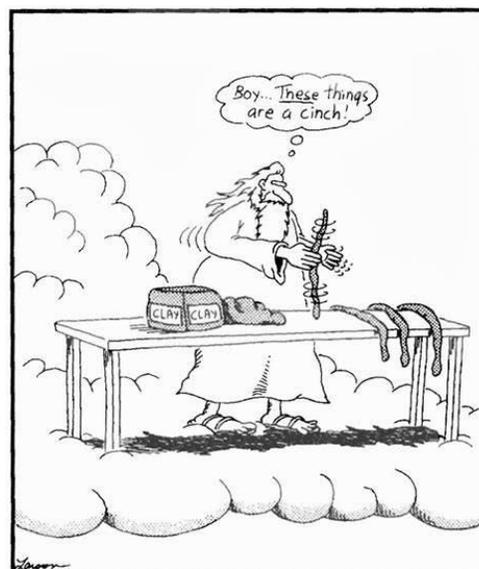
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.



God makes the snake

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P God has given us His only Son for our salvation. Therefore, we can be certain that He will likewise fulfill all our other needs. We now present those needs to Him with confidence.

Let us pray that the Church may lift high the Cross of Christ, proclaiming forgiveness and redemption in Him alone. We pray to the Lord that,

C He will grant us His peace.

P Let us pray that our leaders as well as all world leaders may look upon the Son of God, believe in Him, and take hold of the peace and justice that only He can bring, we pray to the Lord that,

C He will grant us His peace.

P Let us pray that all whose lives are marked by suffering may come to know the saving power of the cross of Christ, and be victorious in all their trials, we pray to the Lord that,

C He will grant us His peace.

P Let us pray that those who embrace the cross as they work for justice for the poor, the oppressed, and the unborn, may find strength and success in their work, we pray to the Lord that,

C He will grant us His peace.

P Let us pray that the sick may be blessed with patience during the difficult parts of their journey in life, we pray to the Lord that,

C He will grant them His peace and healing.

P Let us pray with confidence that all who have died in the faith are now experiencing the gift of eternal life won by the cross of Christ, we pray to the Lord

C that they may rest in the eternal peace our Lord has won.

Special Prayers for:

Wendy Shepherd – (recovering from hand injury):

Alexis Duffy, (Godchild of Greg and Cindy Clem suffering from cancer);
Pam Brown (Chase Larkin Center - Bowie); **Kathy** (sister of Pam Brown)
Ray Cannon, (husband of Susan Cannon, Patuxent River Health and Rehabilitation Center, Laurel) ;
Ruth Embry (White Oak Rehabilitation Center, Silver Spring);
David Shepherd; **Robin Beam**, (sister of Susan Lucero);

Birthday: Michael Walsh (9/17)

P Father, We have looked upon Your Son with assurance that He has heard our prayers and is now acting on our prayers and petitions. We look forward to seeing Your hand at work in the world and in our own lives. All these things we pray in the name of our blessed Lord Jesus, Who lives with You Father, and with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

C 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 forever and ever. Amen

Benediction

P Our Lord Jesus Christ opened the door of Eternal Life to the thief on the cross. In the same way, He has also opened the door to Paradise to all who confess Him to be Lord and Savior. Please bow you head and receive the benediction:

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

Announcements

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