

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 18th, 2020

THE ANGELUS

The Angelus is a traditional Christian devotion offered before Holy Eucharist and Morning and Evening Prayer in honor of the Incarnation. It is usually accompanied by the ringing of the church bell (in three sets of three for each versicle, response, and Hail Mary, followed by one set of nine for the concluding prayer). You may pray it as the bell rings, or use the silence to prepare for worship in your own way.

The first three bells



V. The angel of the Lord announced unto Mary,
R. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God
pray for us sinners, now,
and at the hour of our death.

The second three bells

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it unto me according to your word.

Hail Mary, full of grace...

The third three bells

V. And the Word was made flesh.
R. And dwelled among us.

Hail Mary, full of grace...

The nine bells



V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

PRELUDE..... Ann Klein, Music Director

OPENING HYMN.....*Immortal, invisible, God only wise*



The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music, each with four vocal parts. The lyrics are printed below the staves, aligned with the notes. The hymn is a setting of the Welsh hymn 'St. Denio'.

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

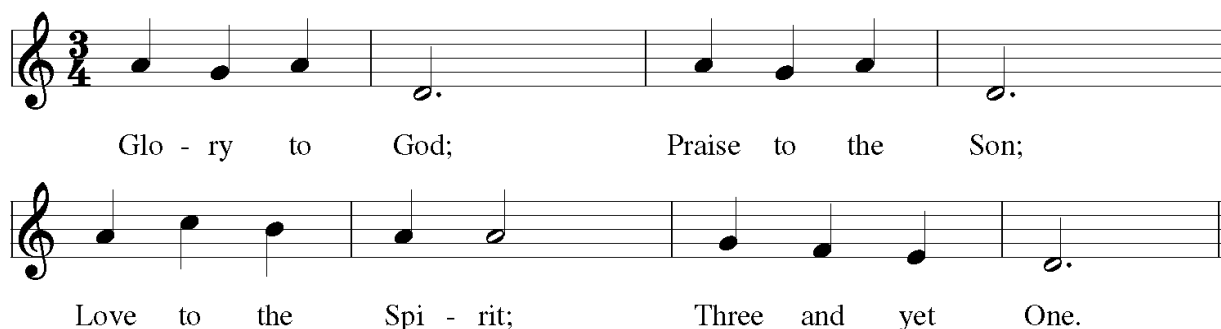
Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt.

Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Canïadau y Cyssegr* 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING.....Exodus 33:12-23

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses said to the LORD, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people’; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

The LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The LORD’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” And the LORD continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE (*chanted in unison*) *Psalm 99:4-9*

- 4 O mighty Ruler, lover of justice,
you have established | **equity**; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in | **Jacob**.
- 5 We proclaim your greatness, O Lord
and fall down before your | **footstool**; *
you are the | **Holy One**.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among your priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon your | **Name**, *
they called upon you, and you | **answered them**.
- 7 You spoke to them out of the pillar of | **cloud**; *
they kept your testimonies and the decree that you | **gave them**.
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them in|**deed**; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil | **deeds**.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship upon God's holy | **hill**; *
for the Lord our God is the | **Holy One**.

THE EPISTLE..... *1 Thessalonians 1:1-10*

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL..... *Matthew 22:15-22*



Music: *Mass of Light*, David Haas, © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

THE SERMON..... The Rev. Matthew Wright

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *All Desires Known* by Janet Morley)

O God, the source of our being
 and the goal of all our longing,
 we believe and trust in you.
 The whole earth is alive with your glory,
 and all that has life is sustained by you.
 We commit ourselves to cherish your world,
 and to seek your face.

O God, embodied in a human life
 we believe and trust in you.
 Jesus our brother, born of the woman Mary,
 you confronted the proud and the powerful,
 and welcomed as your friends
 those of no account.
 Holy Wisdom of God, firstborn of creation,
 you emptied yourself of power,
 and became foolishness for our sake.
 You laboured with us upon the cross,

and have brought us forth
to the hope of resurrection.
We commit ourselves to struggle against evil,
and to choose life.

O God, life-giving Spirit,
Spirit of healing and comfort,
of integrity and truth,
we believe and trust in you.
Warm-winged Spirit, brooding over creation,
rushing wind and Pentecostal fire,
we commit ourselves to work with you
and renew our world. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*the leader and people pray responsively*)

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. God of Love, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. God of Love, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. God of Love, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. God of Love, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list: Marcus, Eric, Barbara, Trevor, Robin, Bill, James, Theo, Charlotte, Bob, Olive, Doris, Linda, Caleb Francis, Matthew, Charles, Cara, Ford, Patty, Chris, Erica, Paul, Zachary, Heather, Ilfra, Anna & Emmett, Tress, Gini, Amy, and Chloe Rose. God of Love, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. God of Love, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. (*Prayers may be offered silently or aloud.*)

All then join in saying

**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 Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Minister and People

**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 Priest says

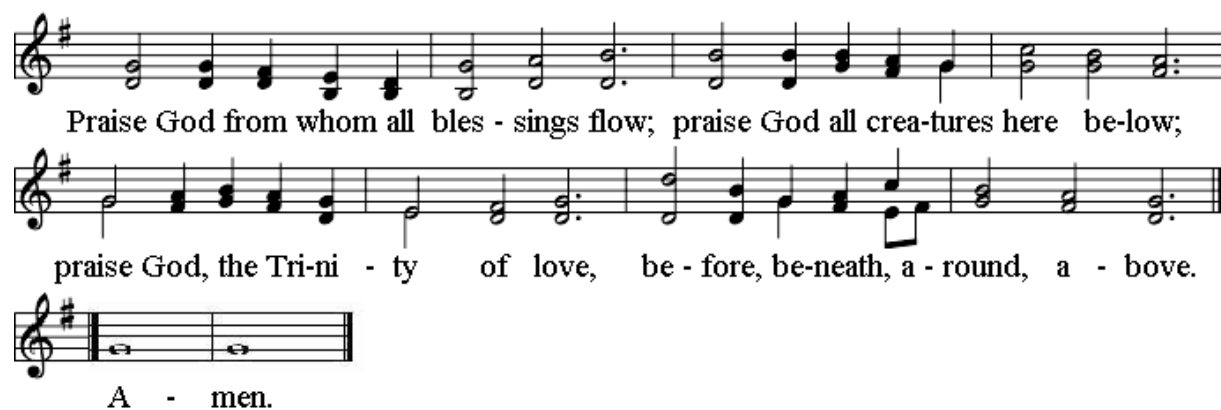
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. Parish announcements may follow.

DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all bles - sings flow; praise God all crea-tures here be-low;
praise God, the Tri-ni - ty of love, be - fore, be-neath, a - round, a - bove.
A - men.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

(see following page)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Longing now to gather again at your table and to share the meal he shared with us, we pray in union with all your Church:

All join the Celebrant in praying

O Lord, in union with your faithful people throughout the world, we offer you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

THE BLESSING.....The Rev. Susan Auchincloss

RECESSIONAL HYMN.....*Sing praise to God on mountaintops*



1. Sing praise to— God on moun-tain tops and in earth's low - est pla - ces, from
2. Sing praise to— God where grass - es grow and flowers dis - play their beau - ty, where
3. Sing praise to— God where fish - es swim and birds fly in for - ma - tion, where
4. Sing praise to— God where hu - man-kind its maj - es - ty em - bra - ces, where



blue la - goon to po - lar waste, from o - cean to o - a - sis. No
na - ture— weaves her myr - iad web through love as much as du - ty. The
an - i - mals of ev - ery kind di - ver - si - fy cre - a - tion. All
dif - ferent— ra - ces, creeds, and tongues dis - tin - guish dif - ferent fa - ces. God's



ran - dom rock pro - duced this world, but God's own— will and— won - der. Thus
sea - sons in their cy - cle speak of earth's com - plete pro - vi - sion. Let
life that finds its home on earth is meant to— be re - spec - ted. Let
im - age in each child of earth shall nev - er— pale or— per - ish. So



hills re - joice and val - leys sing and clouds con - cur with thun - der.
noth - ing— mock in - her - ent good, nor treat it with de - ri - sion.
noth - ing— threat - en, for base ends, what God through grace per - fect - ed.
treat with— love each hu - man soul, and thus God's good - ness cher - ish.

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!