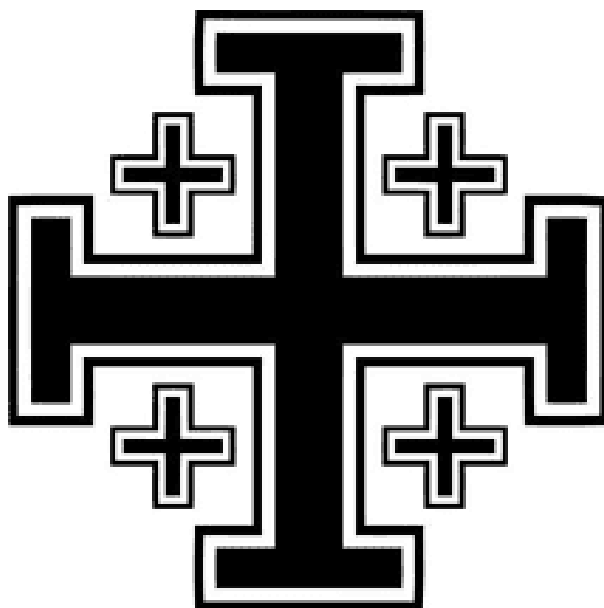


The 25th Sunday After Pentecost



Sunday, November 19, 2023

SUNDAY NIGHT ALIVE

CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

806 THOMPSON ROAD

RICHMOND, TX 77469

281.342.2147

WWW.CALVARYRICHMOND.ORG

THE REV. RALPH B. MORGAN, RECTOR

THE REV. JEREMY BRADLEY, CURATE

THE REV. NANCY WILKES, DEACON

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING SONG - Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1. *What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*Chorus:
Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.*
2. *Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.*
3. *What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.*

WELCOME AND ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

GLORIA

***Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.***

THE COLLECT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Together, let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JUDGES

Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

A READING FROM ST. PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE THESSALONIANS

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For

God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE SONG - No Not One

1. *There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus
No not one, no not one
No one else could heal all our souls' diseases
No not one, no not one*

2. *No friend like Him is so high and holy
No not one, no not one
And yet no friend is so meek and lowly
No not one, no not one*

Chorus:
*Jesus knows all about our troubles
He will guide till the day is done
There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus
No not one, no not one.*

3. *There's not an hour that He is not near us
No not one, no not one
No night so dark that His love can't cheer us
No not one, no not one*

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they

will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON - Fr. Ralph

RESPONSE TO THE WORD - You Are Wisdom

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. You are the God of the plans of man | (Chorus) |
| <i>Place your desires within us</i> | <i>You are Wisdom</i> |
| <i>Give us your wisdom, your vision, your dreams</i> | <i>Speak on the corners</i> |
| <i>Fill us with grace from above.</i> | <i>Vision</i> |
| 2. Bless and unite us on this holy trail | <i>In faith we will ride</i> |
| <i>In Jesus' Name we pray</i> | <i>You are dreaming</i> |
| <i>And when we're finished our praises will rise</i> | <i>Of when we will finish</i> |
| <i>To the Truth, and the Life, and the Way</i> | <i>The plans you have laid in our hearts.</i> |
| | <i>Bless and unite us on this holy trail</i> |
| | <i>In Jesus' Name we pray</i> |

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

Silence

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.

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

We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone in Jesus Christ. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble. Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them, especially _____. Hear us, Lord.

That they may be delivered from their distress.

We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of our nation. 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.

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

We pray for your Church throughout the world, thanking you for all who serve Christ and his 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.

For all who serve God in his Church.

We remember with thanksgiving all who have died in Christ, and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may enter with them into the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom, especially _____. Hear us, Lord.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

The following prayers are for our Curate, The Reverend Jeremy Bradley, whose final service with us is today, Sunday, November 19, 2023. He takes up a new post beginning December 1 as Rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fort Bend. Today's service is also a celebration of our time with Rev. Jeremy, Lauren, and Jonah as we send them with our love and blessings on their journey to a new church.

Prayers for a Priest:

Eternal God, endings can be hard, and it hurts to say goodbye to those that we have grown to love and whom we have embraced as part of our Calvary family. But we thank you for the time and the life that they shared with us, for how they changed us and how we changed them.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Father God, we thank you for Jeremy. For his sense of humor and his compassionate heart of service. The fun young adult gatherings, the school chapel services, the listening ear. His heart for outreach and his energy. His gifts of caring for others, teaching, and preaching. The gift of his family. For the spirituality and humanity inextricably bound up together in one person. We see the Christ in him as he sees the Christ in us. And we thank you.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We ask for your blessing as Jeremy moves from here to there, from this challenge to the next. Bless his wit and his wisdom. Give him insight and patience. Help him to know when to speak and when to listen. When to lead and when to be led. May he recognize his strengths and realize when he needs help. Guide him to fulfil his calling and help him to enable others to see and fulfil theirs. May he encourage others and yet be gracious enough to take guidance. To know when to laugh and when to cry.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Help Jeremy to know when to be the starting point, when to inform, and when to motivate. But help him, too, to see what you have already set in motion at St. Mark's, to discern traces of your grace and the history of love, to appreciate what you are in the process of doing there, where you have taken the initiative and been decisive. You have long beforehand been with the souls whom he will now care for as his flock. Above all, help Jeremy to understand your heart and your passion for all those whom he has now been called to serve.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We wrap Jeremy, Lauren, and Jonah in prayer, spinning a deep softness of gratitude to God around all our thoughts.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you. Hear the prayers of your people.

***Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.***

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

ABSOLUTION

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY - The Seeker

*I am a seeker
A poor sinful creature
There is no weaker than I am
I am a seeker
And you are a teacher
You are a teacher
So reach down

Reach out and lead me
Guide me and keep me
In the shelter of your care each day
'Cause I am a seeker
And you are a keeper
You are the leader
Won't you show me the way
I am a vessel that's empty and useless
I am a bad seed that fell by the way
I am a loser that wants to be a winner
You are my last hope
Don't turn me away*

*I am a seeker
A poor sinful creature
There is no weaker than I am
I am a seeker
And you are a teacher
You are a teacher
So reach down
Reach out and lead me
Guide me and keep me
In the shelter of your care each day
'Cause I am a seeker
And you are a keeper
You are the leader
Won't you show me the way

Oh, you are a mountain
From which there flows a fountain
So let its water wash my sins away
'Cause I am a seeker
And you are a keeper
You are a teacher
Won't you teach me the way
Reach out and lead me
Guide me and keep me
In the shelter of your care each day*

THE DOXOLOGY

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Proper Preface is added*]

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power, of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory (repeat)
Hosanna in the highest,
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord (repeat)***

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.***

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

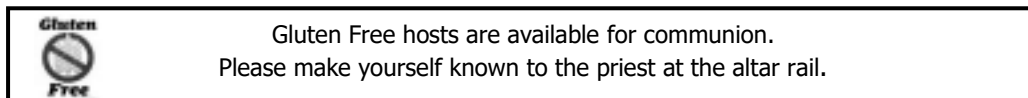
***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.***

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

These are the Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.



COMMUNION SONG - We Fall Down

***We fall down, we lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus
The greatness of your mercy and love
At the feet of Jesus***

***We cry, Holy, Holy, Holy
We cry, Holy, Holy, Holy
We cry, Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lamb***

***No more fears, you've dried our tears
At the feet of Jesus
Grace abounds to all who've found
The feet of Jesus***

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** (these words may differ from time to time)

CLOSING SONG - Shine Jesus Shine

- | | |
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| <p><i>1. Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the World shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me</i></p> <p><i>Shine Jesus shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow, flood the nations
With grace and mercy
Send forth Your Word, Lord
And let there be light</i></p> | <p><i>2. Lord I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me</i></p> <p><i>3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me, shine on me</i></p> |
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THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. (these words may differ from time to time)
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Jeremy, Lauren, and Jonah Bradley in thanksgiving for our Calvary Family

Please Sign Up To Donate Flowers
Enhance Our Worship + Thank God + Remember A Loved One
The notebook to sign up for flower offerings is in the Narthex.
Please stop by and sign up or contact the church office. The cost is \$50, to be paid in advance.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

8:00 AM Sunday - Traditional Service
10:30 AM Sunday - Contemporary Service
5:00 PM Sunday – Sunday Night Alive Informal Service

Calvary Staff

The Rev. Ralph B. Morgan, Rector
The Rev. Jeremy Bradley, Curate
The Rev. Nancy Wilkes, Deacon

John Brun, Parish Administrator
Suzette Hillis, Communications
Anne Scarborough, Newcomer Coordinator
Holly Bradshaw, Children's Minister

Kathy Haley, Finance Administrator
John Brun, Organist/Choir Director
Will Mason, Worship Coordinator
Ross Elkins, SNL Worship Leader
Jose Portillo, Campus Operations

IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY AND NEED TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE, PLEASE CONTACT:

The Rev. Nancy Wilkes, Deacon
713-818-6323
nwilkes@ces-richmond.org