# Ante Communion Service for September 6, 2020

# Proper 18A

# Hymn Come ye thankful people come

Concordia

Come, ye thankful people, come, / raise the song of harvest home; all is safely gathered in, / ere the winter storms begin.

God our Maker doth provide / for our wants to be supplied; come to God's own temple, come, / raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, / fruit as praise to God we yield; wheat and tares together sown / are to joy or sorrow grown; first the blade and then the ear, / then the full corn shall appear; Lord of harvest, grant that we / wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, / and shall take the harvest home; from the field shall in that day / all offenses purge away, giving angels charge at last / in the fire the tares to cast; but the fruitful ears to store / in the garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come, / bring thy final harvest home; gather thou thy people in, / free from sorrow, free from sin, there, forever purified, / in thy presence to abide; come, with all thine angels, come, / raise the glorious harvest home.

Celebrant Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water,

the rock who gave birth, our light and our salvation. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,

and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A moment of silence for self-reflection

Celebrant Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

People Gracious God, have mercy on us. 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.

Celebrant Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit+. Amen.

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit

be with you all.

People And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our holy house, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Celebrant Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

### First Reading Ezekiel 33:7-11

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them. As I live, says the

upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 119:33-40** *Legem pone* 

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, \*

and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \*

I shall keep it with all my heart.

Make me go in the path of your commandments, \*

for that is my desire.

Incline my heart to your decrees \*

and not to unjust gain.

Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \*

give me life in your ways.

Fulfill your promise to your servant, \*

which you make to those who fear you.

Turn away the reproach which I dread, \*

because your judgments are good.

Behold, I long for your commandments; \*

in your righteousness preserve my life.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

### Second Reading Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### Sermon

**Hymn** Be Thou My Vision

Acapeldridge

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; / Naught be all else to me save that Thou art, Thou my best thought, by day or by night, / Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true Word; / I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I Thy true son; / Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise; / Thou my inheritance, now and always; Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, / High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, when vict'ry is won / May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's sun! Heart of my heart, whatever befall, / Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

### **Nicene Creed**

Said by all.

We believe in one God, the Father 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 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 worshipped 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.

# **Prayers of the People**

Celebrant

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For this community, the nation, and the world;

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

For the peace and unity of the world;

That a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

For all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For all who love God and trust in Christ, that divisions may cease;

And that all may be one as you and the Father are one.

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 special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

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

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. Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them. W

Who put their trust in you.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray together:

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.

We pray together for Christ's presence:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the bread and wine.

I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Celebrant: While we long to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body,

People: We become the sacrament of Christ's Body.

*Celebrant*: Let your lives be manna to feed our hunger for communion.

*People*: The love we share becomes bread for the world.

### **Blessing and Dismissal**

The Lord Bless You and Keep You [Rutkin], Westminster Choir College