

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost- *Trinity XIV*



"Forgiveness," by Andrey Yanev

St. Luke Episcopal Church, The Rev Chris McCann ~ Rector

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Morning Prayer

Opening Hymn *Come with us, O blessed Jesus*
1 Come with us, O blessed Jesus,
 With a faith forever new;
And in leaving now your altar,
 Let us nevermore leave you.
 O let your angel chorus
 Cease not the heav'nly strain;
But in us, your loving children,
 Bring peace, good will again.
2 You are God from everlasting.
God of God and Light of Light;
You are God, your glory veiling,
 That we all may bear the sight.
 Sustain us, Lord, and help us,
 Our daily life to bear,
That through us, your holy teaching
 May shine forth ev'rywhere

*The Officiant begins the service with sentences
and the confession: BCP p. 78 ff*

TRINITY-TIDE SUNDAY SENTENCES

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.

Forgiveness

**My heart was heavy, for its trust had been
Abused, its kindness answered with foul wrong;
So, turning gloomily from my fellow-men,
One summer Sabbath day I strolled among
The green mounds of the village burial-place;
Where, pondering how all human love and hate
Find one sad level; and how, soon or late,
Wronged and wrongdoer, each with meekened face,
And cold hands folded over a still heart,
Pass the green threshold of our common grave,
Whither all footsteps tend, whence none depart,
Awed for myself, and pitying my race,
Our common sorrow, like a mighty wave,
Swept all my pride away, and trembling I forgave!**

John Greenleaf Whittier



Gospel Reflection

Ask a child to apologize, to admit his or her wrong-doing, and you will discover the early limits of our empathy. Being corrected is painful, for it brings to mind how we have failed, especially how we have let down those we love. Asking for forgiveness is an act of humility. And yet perhaps as challenging as asking for forgiveness is the *granting* of forgiveness. After all, forgiveness heals relationships by requiring us to let go, to turn the page, to refuse the right to hold on to bitterness and anger. Forgiveness, in short, sets things right again. Forgiveness is a powerfully healing force but also an incredibly difficult thing to receive or share.

Peter here asks about the limits of the granting of forgiveness even as Jesus brings our attention back to the grace under which God has healed us. Peter wonders aloud how far our forgiveness should expand. Jesus turns Peter's question around to the deep grace God has shared.

https://www.workingpreacher.org/preaching.aspx?commentary_id=2165

Poems for reflection

Silence may be kept.

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 alone stands and 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.*

Officiant O Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to
the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be forever. *Amen.*

*Then follows the Venite and the psalm appointed for Morning Prayer.
The congregation may be seated.*

**Commemorations in the Episcopal Church for
Trinitytide/Season after Pentecost**

*Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud
of witnesses... [Hebrews 12:1]*

Week of September 13th to September 19th

- September 14 [Holy Cross Day](#)
- September 15 [Cyprian](#), Bishop and Martyr of Carthage, 258. [James Chisholm](#), Priest, 1855
- September 16 [Ninian](#), Bishop in Galloway, c. 430
- September 17 [Hildegard](#), 1179
- September 18 [Edward Bouverie Pusey](#), Priest, 1882
- September 19 [Theodore of Tarsus](#), Archbishop of Canterbury, 690

THE INVITATORY

*In Unison: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God:
Come let us adore him.*

Jubilate *Psalm 100* (read in unison) **BCP. p. 82**

BE JOYFUL in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

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

*In Unison: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God:
Come let us adore him.*

THE PSALTER



This Week's Focus on a Commemoration:

Ninian is a Christian saint first mentioned in the 8th century as being an early missionary among the Pictish peoples of what is now Scotland. For this reason he is known as the **Apostle to the Southern Picts**, and there are numerous dedications to him in those parts of Scotland with a Pictish heritage, throughout the Scottish Lowlands, and in parts of Northern England with a Northumbrian heritage. In Scotland, Ninian is also known as **Ringan**, and as **Trynnian** in Northern England. Ninian's major shrine was at Whithorn in Galloway, where he is associated with the Candida Casa (Latin for 'White House'). Nothing is known about his teachings, and there is no unchallenged authority for information about his life.

The nature of Ninian's identity is uncertain, and historians have identified the name "Ninian" with other historical figures.

MAY the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*
Romans 15:13

Blessed Assurance

HYMN *O bless the Lord, my soul*
1 O bless the Lord, my soul!
His grace to thee proclaim!
And all that is within me join
To bless his holy name!
2 O bless the Lord, my soul!
His mercies bear in mind!
Forget not all his benefits!
The Lord to thee is kind.
3 He clothes us with his love;
Upholds us with his truth;
He heals all our infirmities
And ransoms us from death.
4 Then bless his holy name,
Whose grace hath made us whole,
Whose loving kindness crowns our days!
O bless the Lord, my soul!

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BCP, P. 733

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul*
and all that is within me bless his holy name.
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul*
and forget not all his benefits;
- 3 Who forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 Who redeems your life from the Pit,*
and crowns you with faithful love and compassion;
- 5 Who satisfies you with good things,*
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgement for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses, *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, *
neither will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *

so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he set our sins from us.

13 As a father has compassion on his children, *
so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him.

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

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD IN SCRIPTURE

The First Lesson *is taken from Paul's* Letter of Paul to the Romans, the fourteenth chapter, beginning at the first verse.
[Romans 14:1–12]

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do

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

BCP p. 102

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.*

LET us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following

- For all who have asked our prayers: Jeanette, Charlie, Mary, Robert, Amber & Family, William, Neil, Cathy, Rebecca, Donald, Anna, Bob, Dorothy, Thelma, Shirley, Georgette, Joan, Barb, Donna, Pastor Tim, the May family, Johanna, Callie, Jan, Joe, Barb, Peggy, Deb, Shannon, Larry

- Faithful departed:

For All Sorts and Conditions of People

O GOD, the creator and preserver of all humankind, we humbly beseech you for people everywhere and in their circumstances that you would be pleased to make your ways known to them, your saving health to all nations. More especially we pray for your holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by your good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to your fatherly goodness all those who are in any ways afflicted or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; [especially those for whom our prayers are desired]; that it may please you to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ, his sake. Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP p. 836

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness

not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Here ends the first Lesson.

Hymn

Now thank we all our God

1 Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
to keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
of this world in the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son and Spirit blest,
who reign in highest heaven
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

The Second Lesson *is taken from the Gospel of Matthew* the eighteenth chapter, beginning at the twenty first verse.[Matthew 18:21–35]

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went

O GOD, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; 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.

Intercessions

Parish Intercession/Prayer List:

- Michael our Presiding Bishop, Mark our Bishop, Arthur and William our associate bishops;
- For the whole world for which Jesus died and rose again, that this pandemic may bring about a permanent dismantling of the dividing walls that have set us in opposition to one another, and so, wounded the love of God
- Our parish family, that God will draw us closer to God’s self and to one another, through this pandemic. For seniors who are isolated from families; for those who have lost their jobs and miss their friendships. For care givers who work in selfless dedication to others, especially the sick and the dying.

Then follows one of these sets of Suffrages

B. BCP p. 98

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.
V. Day by day we bless you;
R. We praise your name for ever.
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. For we put our trust in you.
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. And we shall never hope in vain.

The Officiant then says one or more of the following Collects

Sunday Collects

Pentecost XV

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Trinity XIV

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Here ends the second Lesson.

The following canticle is said in unison. The Apostle’s Creed follows.

TE DEUM (YOU ARE GOD) BCP. p. 95

You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you became man to set us free

you did not shun the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

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

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing

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.

HOMILY

HYMN

Instrumental

THE PRAYERS

BCP p. 97

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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.