



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: [Proper 19A]

September 13, 2020

9:00 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two



Moses at the Red Sea [Hollywood, 1958]

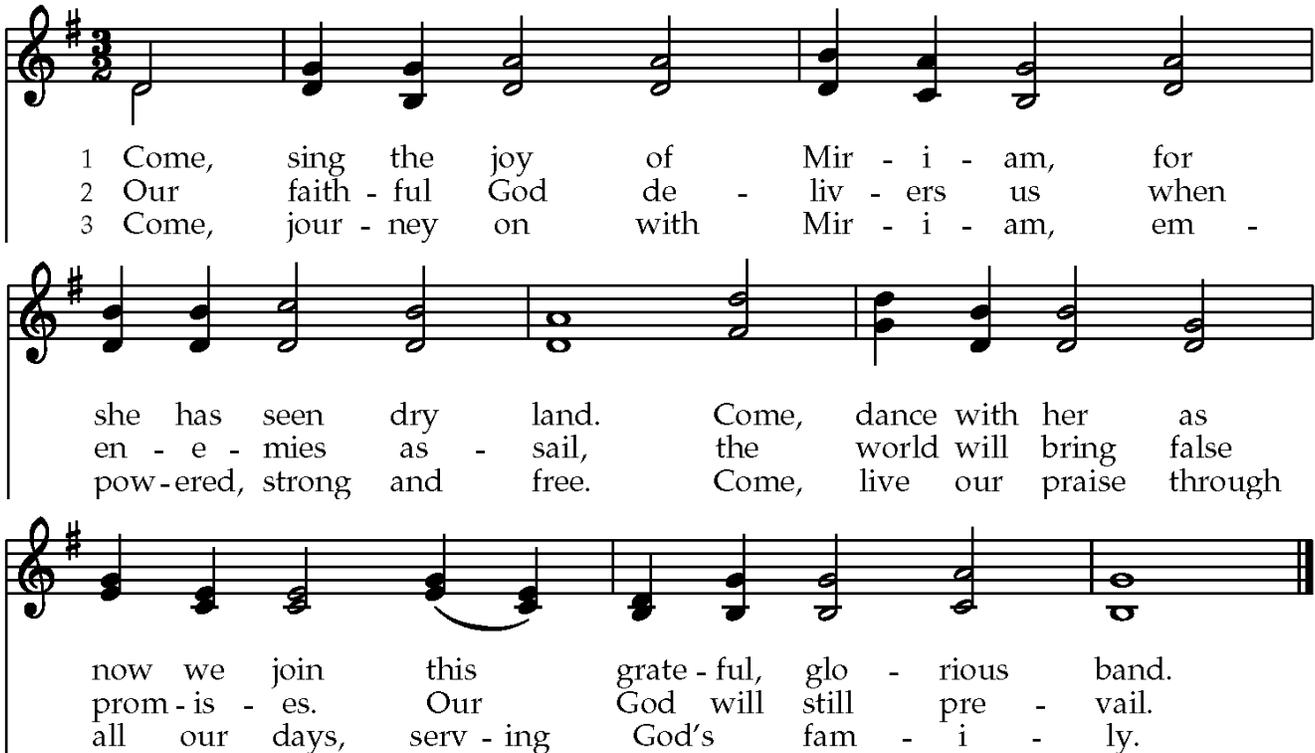
Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Hymn of Praise

Voices Found, Hymn 121



1 Come, sing the joy of Mir - i - am, for
2 Our faith - ful God de - liv - ers us when
3 Come, jour - ney on with Mir - i - am, em -

she has seen dry land. Come, dance with her as
en - e - mies as - sail, the world will bring false
pow - ered, strong and free. Come, live our praise through

now we join this grate - ful, glo - rious band.
prom - is - es. Our God will still pre - vail.
all our days, serv - ing God's fam - i - ly.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All: 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.**

The Lessons

The congregation sits.

First Lesson: Exodus: 14:19-31

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It

came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Canticle: The Songs of Moses and Miriam

[Exodus 15:1b-11,20-21]

**God is my strength and my song *
and has become my salvation.
Let me glorify this God of mine! *
Let me magnify this God of my ancestors!
For valiant in battle is the God *
whose holy name is The LORD.
The chariots and troops of Pharaoh *
were thrown into the sea;
even the handpicked commanders *
went down in the Red Sea waves.
The flood covered them over, *
and they sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, so glorious in battle, *
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the foe.
In triumph you tumbled your adversaries; *
your fire consumed them like stubble.
The blast of your breath piled up the waters: *
the floods stood up like a towering wall;**

in the very heart of the sea, *
the murky depths congealed.
“I will chase and catch them!” crowed the enemy; *
“I will plunder and fulfill my lust;
I will unsheath my sharpened sword *
and destroy them by my own hand.”
Then you blew forth a mighty tempest *
and the sea swallowed them up
so that they plummeted like lead *
in the billows that brought you glory.
Who among the gods is mighty like you, O LORD? *
Who is sovereign and awesome like you,
a powerful worker of wonders?
Then Miriam the prophet, the sister of Aaron, *
raised a tambourine in her hand,
and all the women danced after her with their tambourines *
while Miriam led the song:
“Sing to the LORD, the Exalted One, *
who hurled horse and rider into the sea.”

Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

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 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.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Priest: The Holy Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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 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."

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

All sit to hear

The Sermon

The Rev. Tom Wand

All stand to say

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.

All remain standing for the
Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Our gracious and loving God, you are generous and merciful to forgive our sins and to lead us into freedom: Accept our prayers for all your creation and let your Holy Spirit direct and rule our hearts as we say: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God, at the presence of the God of Jacob.

People: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Leader: Loving God, look upon your church with patience and grant us your divine forbearance, that we may forgive and be forgiven within the abundance of your grace.

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop and Primate; Daniel, our Bishop; Tom, our Priest; for all the baptized in this parish, ministering here and in the world; and for all lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons. We give thanks for the parish mission and goals we have discerned and ask that they may guide our congregation as we more fully carry out God's call to service and build up our life together as Resurrection parish.

People: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Leader: Enlighten this nation and our leaders, O Holy One, that we may be a generous people, extending your justice and becoming instruments of your reconciliation.

We pray for the leaders of the nations of the world, especially Donald, our President, along with members of Congress and the judges of our courts; Tom, our Governor, along with the General Assembly and the Courts in our Commonwealth; the leaders of this Township of Aston, and the leaders of all the townships and boroughs in which we live.

People: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Leader: Visit the earth with your pity and love to relieve all who live with violence, poverty, injustice or oppression, that they may be delivered from their distress.

People: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Leader: Inspire this community with your generosity of Spirit, that we may forgive the debts of others even as we have been forgiven, and may act with the generosity you have shown to us.

People: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Leader: Hear our prayer for those whom we bring to your steadfast love, especially Jacob Blake; those who are near and far, those sickened, endangered, or quarantined because of the COVID-19 virus; those unemployed, or whose businesses are in distress because of this pandemic; those who face the terrifying choice of entering work environments that jeopardize their health; those imperiled by harsh weather, both in our country and elsewhere; those grieving or menaced by violent acts of hate in our country and around the world, especially those whose lack of resources and whose suffering under the inequalities of our society cries out to us for justice, redress, and support; children and families separated or interned at our nation's borders; those mentioned in our parish's prayer list, and those we name before You now:

Silence is kept.

The People may offer their own prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

People: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Leader: Let every tongue praise you for your goodness, especially for Rebecca Burrell, Betty Schimansky, Diane Mundell, and Brody Allison as they celebrate their birthdays this week; for Lew Byrne, David Haley, and Evelyn Chiapetta, as we commemorate their baptisms; for Ralph Painter, as we commemorate his confirmation; for the first responders and health care

workers who strive to protect us from dangers to our health, including the COVID-19 virus; for the essential workers who put their health at risk for us; this parish's fellowship and its ministry; for the mission you have given us to accomplish, and to which we have dedicated ourselves; and for those other blessings we remember before You now:

Silence is kept.

The People may offer their own prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

People: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Leader: If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. We remember those who are the Lord's possession through death, especially Joseph Dreyer, Mark "Beaster" Bireley, Louise Davis Crist, Robert Wand, Timothy Dunlap, Jean Latch, Ellie Evans, Edward Kurt Rappold, Jr., Dorothy Laxton, Estherine Craig, John Lewis, Aaron Danielson, George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, and Joe Ritchie-Bennett; those who have died in the Coronavirus pandemic, including John Davis; among these we give special thanks for those who gave their life for others by serving as health care workers, first responders, and essential workers; all those killed by unlawful violent acts, both by and against law enforcement officers; and those we remember before you now:

Silence is kept.

The People may offer their own prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

People: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God,
at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Celebrant: Gracious and Loving God, you liberate us from all bondage and you call us to generosity and grace: Bring your merciful forgiveness into our lives and free us from all division and pride, that we may become your instruments of pardon and peace, in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

People: Amen.

All kneel as they are able or sit for the

Confession and Absolution

The Celebrant says Let us confess our sins to God.

All **God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us**

**through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Priest alone stands and says

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

People: Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

After the gifts of bread and wine are offered at the Altar, all say the following

Doxology

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the victory, and the majesty.
For everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom,
and you are exalted as head over all.

At the conclusion of the Doxology, the Celebrant begins the Eucharistic Prayer.

Eucharistic Prayer D (Expansive Language)

Celebrant: God 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.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Holy One, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness,
you made all things and fill them with your blessing;
you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you
to serve you night and day;
and, beholding the glory of your presence,
they offer you unceasing praise.

Joining with them,
and giving voice to every creature under heaven,
we acclaim you, and glorify your Name:

Sanctus

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy God, glorious in power.
Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love.
You formed us in your own image,
giving the whole world into our care,
so that, in obedience to you, our Creator,
we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you,
you did not abandon us to the power of death.
In your mercy you came to our help,
so that in seeking you we might find you.
Again and again you called us into covenant with you,
and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Holy God, you loved the world so much
that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior.
Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
Jesus lived as one of us, yet without sin.
To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation;
to prisoners, freedom;
to the sorrowful, joy.
To fulfill your purpose Jesus gave himself up to death;
and, rising from the grave, destroyed death,
and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves,
but for Christ who died and rose for us,
you sent the Holy Spirit,
your own first gift for those who believe,
to complete your work in the world,
and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for Jesus to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them Jesus 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 Jesus 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.”

Almighty God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ’s death and descent among the dead, proclaiming Christ’s resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting Christ’s coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

God our Creator, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon ✠ us, and upon ✠ these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, with matriarchs, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. Peter, St. Paul, and all the apostles, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

People: AMEN!!

The Lord's Prayer (Traditional Translation) *The Book of Common Prayer, page 364*

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

All **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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. This anthem is said.

Leader God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

People **Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**

The Invitation

The Celebrant raises the elements and says

 The Gifts of God for the People of God.

“If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but...is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth.” [The Book of Common Prayer, p. 457]

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

All: **Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people.**

**We call to remembrance the many times
we have been fed at your table
and we lament our distance now.**

**Be present, Lord Jesus,
as you were present with your disciples,
be known to us in the breaking of the bread,
and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church
until we can gather together again.**

We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant: Forgive one another as you have been forgiven by our infinitely merciful God.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Welcome those of different opinions, honoring your own conscience and theirs.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Live with generous joy, for whether you live or whether you die, you are God's beloved possession.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: And the blessing of our merciful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and encourage you, now and for ever

People: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

The Hymnal 1982, Hymn 674 [Tune: New Britain (671)]



1) Forgive our sins as we forgive”
you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.

2) How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart?

3) In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew,
how small the debts men owe to us,
how great our debt to you.

4) Lord, cleanse the depths within our
souls,
and bid resentment cease;
then, reconciled to God and man,
our lives will spread your peace.

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



Your contributions are the main funding source for our parish.

We thank you for your continued support!

WEEK #36	09/06/2020	ACTUAL	BUDGET 52 WEEKS
Pledge	\$2,649.00	\$86,923.50	\$86,179.15
Contribution	\$0	\$2,128.55	\$5,192.31
TOTAL	\$2,649.00	\$89,052.05	\$91,371.46

**Please remember in your prayers
those for whom our prayers have been requested, especially:**



Jacob Blake; those sickened, endangered, or quarantined because of the COVID-19 virus; for those unemployed, or whose businesses are in distress because of this pandemic; those who face the terrifying choice of work environments that jeopardize their health; those imperiled by harsh weather, both in our country and elsewhere; those grieving or menaced by violent acts of hate in our country and around the world, especially those whose lack of resources and whose suffering under the inequalities of our society cries out to us for justice, redress, and support; children and families separated or interned at our nation's borders; Wendy A, Billie Jean Adams, Gene Adamuski, Bruce, Hilda Bunting, Dolly Boyd, Fr. Arthur Brunner, Merry Buffington, Carol Cannon, Bruce Coffin, Jim and Barbara Dickson, Irene Doniger, Annis Dunlap, Stephanie Eckenrode, David Evans, Jennifer Finley, Charlie Gaeto, Paul Hagy, Maggie Hancock, Susan Harbison and Family, Dawn Hess, George Kolodi, Debbie Mazingo, Wayne Mazingo, The Osborn Family, Cathy Pannabaker, Mike Pelegrino, George Rigby, Ruby, John Ryan, The Schiller Family, Bill Scott, Keith Scott, Doug and Ruth Soule, Gale Spencer, Bernice Strohl, Glenda Tate, Marie Taylor, Dale Tibbetts, Paula Trudell, Bruce Warren, Carolyn Watson, Kevin Widrig, Hazel and Henry Will, and Lora Lee Wright.

Those blessings for which we offer thanks, especially:

for Rebecca Burrell, Betty Schimansky, Diane Mundell, and Brody Allison as they celebrate their birthdays this week; for Lew Byrne, David Haley, Evenlyn Chiapetta, as we commemorate their baptisms; for Ralph Painter, as we commemorate his confirmation; for the first responders and health care workers who strive to protect us from dangers to our health, including the COVID-19 virus; for this parish's fellowship and its ministry; for the mission you have given us to accomplish, and to which we have dedicated ourselves.

Those who have died, especially: Joseph Dreyer, Mark "Beaster" Bireley, Louise Davis Crist, Robert Wand, Timothy Dunlap, Jean Latch, Ellie Evans, Edward Kurt Rappold, Jr., Dorothy Laxton, Estherine Craig, John Lewis, George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, Aaron Danielson, and Joe Ritchie-Bennett; those who have died in the Coronavirus pandemic, including John Davis.



Resurrection Pre-School

9am till 12noon / 5-day classes for 4's / 3-day classes (M/W/F) for 3's

Reasonable rates—Financial Aid Available

Children need to be toilet-trained

Please call the office 610-459-2013 for more information and pricing

Dawn Viscusi, Pre-School Administrator

REMEMBER:

***IT'S YOUR WORD OF MOUTH PROMOTION OF OUR PARISH'S PRESCHOOL
THAT KEEPS THIS OUTREACH PROGRAM OF OUR PARISH ALIVE AND DOING
ITS GOOD WORK!***



The Mission and Goals of Resurrection Church

The mission of Resurrection Episcopal Church is to nourish the spiritual lives of our diverse parish family and to follow the example of Jesus through service to our community.

The Internal goal for Resurrection Episcopal Church is to grow stronger in faith, care for those who cannot be present, and unify as a family sharing in faith based activities.

The Resurrection Episcopal Church outreach goal is to become more visible and listen to the needs of the community by doing God's work through service to others.



Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale

2131 Mount Road, Aston, PA 19014

(610) 459-2013

The Rev. Thomas C. Wand, Priest-in-Charge

Racial Justice and Reconciliation in Our Country—How Do We Actively Help?

A Statement by the Priest-in-Charge, Wardens, and Vestry of Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale

Our Church, our Diocese, indeed all of us are committed by our Baptism into the Christian faith to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.” [BCP, p. 305] This means that we must actively oppose and seek to dismantle systems, structures, and beliefs which promote and sustain the privileges of one group or race over another.

Based in the resurrection, our work is not to blame, not to single out individuals or groups to pronounce guilty or sinful [most notably, because we know everyone has sinned, including us]. Jesus calls us not to judge and condemn *others*, but to bring the righteousness of the Reign of God into visible reality. This righteousness comes from right relationships among all people, among all structures of our society, and among us as human beings relating to God and all Creation.

This will be, in our society (and for our parish community), long and hard work. This did not start recently; its repair will not be done soon. We have many broken and distorted relationships in our society and its structures [The Bible calls this “sin.”]. We cannot stand by and refuse the work to transform that because of its difficulty or pain to us. The Cross will not allow that. The time to start is now.

Our parish will be examining the work to which we are called and the ways we can move forward. Your help in the discernment and in the work is essential. Please pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and support for you, for our parish, and for our country as we seek to:

“Let the whole world know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by [the One] through whom all things were made, ..Jesus Christ.” [BCP, p. 280]



(From top left:) Janet Russello, Jill Graham, Fr. Wand, Phyllis Russell, Barbara Krisack
(From bottom left:) Helen Dunlap, Jim Geiger, Rosemary Bezuidenhout, Marsha Litwin



Vestry of Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale

Phyllis Russell, Rector's Warden	610-358-0258
Barbara Krisack, People's Warden	610-497-1603
Marsha Litwin, Secretary	610-299-0967
Rosemary Bezuidenhout, Treasurer	541-246-0780
Helen Dunlap	610-485-5623
Jim Geiger	610-506-1085
Jill Graham	610-459-5854
Janet Russello	610-800-2377
The Rev. Thomas C. Wand	610-291-4362

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