



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020

Thank you for choosing to worship with St. Margaret's today. Your virtual presence blesses all those who join this worship. The Morning Prayer Service you will experience has deep roots in Christian history. This gives a sense of being surrounded by all the faithful through time. May you find food for your soul here as we celebrate that all things are possible with God!

Morning Prayer

Prelude Trumpet Tune and March
John Wright, Organist

Purcell

Opening Hymn

Hymn 535 Ye servants of God

Revae Reynolds, soprano; Craig Gahnz-Kuhar, baritone; John Wright, organ

Paderborn

1 Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful Name;
the Name all-victorious of Jesus extol:
his kingdom is glorious; he rules over all.

2 God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
and still he is nigh: his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

4 Then let us adore, and give him his right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
and honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never-ceasing and infinite love.

Greeting

Officiant: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Confession and Absolution:

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Together: **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.**

Officiant: 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.**

Invitatory

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting: Come let us adore him.

Venite

Psalm 95:1-7

Plainsong, Tone 4

Nicole Vazquez Benvenuti, Cantor

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Exodus 14:19-31

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: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114

1 Hallelujah!
When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

The Second Lesson

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 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: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 530 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

Gott sei Dank

Revae Reynolds, soprano; Lindsay Karg, tenor; John Wright, organist

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word,
spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound
all may heed the joyful sound;

word of how the Father's will
made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave,
earth from sin and death to save;

word of how the Savior's love
earth's sore burden doth remove;
how forever, in its need,
through his death the world is freed;

word of how the Spirit came
bringing peace in Jesus' name;
how his never-failing love
guides us on to heaven above.

Word of life, most pure and strong,
word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night
all the world awakes to light.

The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

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.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Andrew Butler

Solo Bright and Beautiful (A Children’s Suite)

Mark Hayes, arr.

Praise Him, All Ye Little Children, All Things Bright and Beautiful, *and* Jesus Loves Me
Rick Schaffner, bass; John Wright, piano

Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love;
Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love.
Love Him, love Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love;
Love Him, love Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.
Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings:
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.
All things

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one.
Jesus love me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Oh, yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.
God loves us, one and all!

Apostle’s Creed

Officiant: Please join in proclaiming our faith in the words of the Apostle’s Creed, followed by the Lord’s Prayer.

People:

**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.

The Lord's Prayer

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 Suffrages *All join in the bold letter responses*

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collects and Prayers

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.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all beings. Help us become a community that vulnerably shares each other's burdens and the weight of glory. Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our world. Please add your petitions for the world and for those suffering who are close to you: [Pause] We pray for those who have died, grieving losses from Covid-19, from acts of violence, and from all the perils of this life, including those we now name: [Pause] We offer these prayers trusting that you are seeing our needs beyond what we know to express. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

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

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant offers a Blessing.

Postlude Fanfare on the “Agincourt Hymn” (Deo Gracias)

Fred Swann, organist

Fred Swann

Worship Ministers

The Rev. Andrew Butler, *Preacher*

The Rev. Deborah Seles, *Officiant*

The Rev. Susan Green, *Gospeler*

Jim Duke, *Licensed Worship Leader*

Robin Nugent, *Licensed Worship Leader*

Samantha Hirsch, *Licensed Worship Leader*

John Wright, *Organist and Director of Music*

Fred Swann, *Organist*

Craig Gahnz-Kuhar, *Music Associate*

Nicole Vazquez-Benvenuti, *cantor*

Rick Schaffner, *soloist*

Tenny Mickey, Julie Christian, *Lectors*

Dave and Diane Mueh, *voices of the people for Confession*

Judy Burton, Mary McKenzie, Cash Baxter and Betty Baxter, *voices of the people*

Emily Vogt, Debby Jansma and Chet Hecht, *Technical assistance*

Hymn texts used in this morning's worship are reprinted by permission of onelicense.net #714167-A. Hymn 535 Ye servants of God, Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788); Hymn 530 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word, Words: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier (1774-1841); tr. Arthur William Farlander (1898-1952)

Readings for Next Sunday, 9/20/20

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

The First Lesson Exodus 16:2-15

The Second Lesson Jonah 3:10-4:11

The Holy Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

For a direct link to the readings for next week, click [here](#)

Meditation Group: Still Time to Join in!!



There is one more Meditation Lab schedule for this round: Thursday, September 17, from 11-12. This series incorporates a 15 minute pre-meditation presentation on the range of pandemic-related changes in the brain, mood and memory along with simple ways we can continue to build our resilience for creatively adapting to ongoing change. Resilience is largely learned behaviors which help us to bounce back from life stressors and to grow from these challenging experiences. We will explore components of building resilience with awareness and intentionality and then practice through our meditation enhancing our connection with others and our inner

selves. All are welcome to the circle of the center. To participate, use this Zoom info: Join Zoom Meeting with this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91746182356?pwd=YTIMNStQUi9hcjhMNWk5Mkxidno1UT09> Or by using this login info:

Meeting ID: 917 4618 2356 Passcode: Meditate

Kathleen Dale, LMFT, Director of the Counseling Center (760) 861-5545

Additional On-Line Worship Opportunities for September

Join us weekly on our Facebook page

(<https://www.facebook.com/St.MargaretsEpiscopalChurch>) for Morning or Evening Prayer on Wednesdays and Compline on Sunday evenings:

September 13 - Compline

September 16 - Evening Prayer

September 20 - Compline

September 23 - Morning Prayer

September 27 - Compline

September 30 - Evening Prayer

The Quest for Union With God: Mysticism Demystified

When thou saidst, Seek ye my face: my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.

—Psalm 27

The Church has an ancient and vibrant thread of men and women who sought a direct intimacy with God. Teresa of Avila, St. Francis, John of The Cross and others wrote passionately and poetically about their prayerful and powerful quest for unity with the Spirit. They are called Mystics. A new Connection group is forming to explore this less-understood yet deeply rewarding part of our tradition. If this journey sparks your curiosity, email Mother Deb at deborahs@stmargaets.org for details.



Parents and Grandparents Connections Group Forming

Are you a parent or grandparent with home-schoolers? Interested in forming a Connections Group to debrief, share ideas and support one another? Email Mother Deb with your interest at deborahs@stmargarets.org. We'll see about the interest level and discuss best days/times.



Children's (and the Young-At-Heart!) Worship Resources

We have begun an additional offering for the young and the young-at-heart: Mother Deb reading a selection from *The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name*. The link will be on the Children's Resources on our website (www.stmargarets.org).

Update on Sacred Ground Series

We are excited to report that six Sacred Ground groups have been formed and will be launching at the end of this month or early October. If you have signed up for going on this adventure, you no doubt have heard from your facilitators already about your launch date. We have nine facilitators (Judy Burton, George Lynch, Lorraine Becker, Meredith Hardy, Mary Pons, Jane Hodnik, Susan Rigley, Marlynn May, and myself, Ellie Millam). We are busily finding three more facilitators who can handle the remaining 20 participants who are still on the sign-up list. Once those people are formed into groups, which will be soon, those signing up after September will be invited to either join a Book Study Group or wait until the New Year to join in the complete Series. We are rejoicing over the response thus far and hope to have 100 people enrolled by December.



Right now, a Newsletter is in the process of development called “Becoming a Beloved Community.” We hope to have it delivered to your doorsteps sometime later this month. It will provide a spirited piece by Father Andrew Butler on what it means to begin this journey, and will focus on more details about Sacred Ground and it’s happenings. We intend to share stories from peoples’ experiences and keep everyone informed about what is next in the process.

Stay tuned for announcements about Book Studies and other happenings as we proceed.
Dr. Ellie Millam

Sacred/ Visual Journaling

Tuesdays, September 29, October 6 & 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Sacred or Visual Journaling is an alternative to the traditional way of journaling. This type of journaling offers the journaler the opportunity to explore and engage new ways to combine personal reflection and prayer. Anyone can use this tool to expand their ways of meditating and employing mindfulness to process the joys, sorrows, and chaos in their lives. You do not have to be an artist but you need to be open and curious about different art mediums, textures, and colors which trigger deep personal responses to life events. Sacred/Visual Journaling does not require any particular equipment or supplies in order to get started. I start with a blank, unlined journal in order to have the least restrained place in which to begin. Most people who enjoy this type of journaling tune into the minutia of their lives to collect items which will aid in their reflections, such as postage stamps, bits of ribbon, feathers, prayers you like, or postcards.

I began this process after discovering the book “Praying in Color: Drawing a New Path to God” by Sylvia MacBeth. We will not be using this book as the basis of my workshop. I will draw on some ideas from Praying in Color but it is not crucial that you purchase it for the workshop.

I had a spiritual director who once assured me we do not pray in color. Come decide for yourself how color plays a part in your prayer life.

The workshop will be once a week for 3-4 weeks. If you have questions, please contact The Rev. Susan Green at bluejayfive@gmail.com

Parishioner Directory is Updated!

The Directory is complete! If you would like a pdf of it emailed to you, contact Debby: debbyj@stmargarets.org. Remember: we continue to update the Directory so be sure to email Debby with changes or new photos!



Neighbors-4-Neighbors UPDATE!

Miracles continue to happen every Tuesday at St. Margaret's through Neighbors 4 Neighbors. We desperately want to keep the doors open and the carts moving, knowing that many of our clients have depended on the jobs hardest hit during the pandemic closures. With so many facing hardship, the number served has generally **doubled** from what was typical before. And while many regular volunteers must stay away during sheltering, new ones have appeared. God continues to provide and make the seemingly impossible possible. *Thank you Chet Hecht and all our*

volunteers and contributors!

How can you help? Do you know someone healthy enough to safely volunteer? We have strict procedures in place to protect volunteers and clients. ***Can you make a special contribution to help with this vital Outreach?*** Please respond generously by sending an offering with N4N on the memo line. Or use the easyTithe link on the homepage of www.stmargarets.org and note your purpose.

Pastoral Care Resources

1. Riverside Office on Aging – Care Pathways: “Are you helping care for a family member over the age of 60? Free Online Classes for family caregivers.” To register, please call (951) 867-3874. Classes start the week of September 21st, on Zoom. (Technical assistance will be provided for those unfamiliar with the online.)
2. Alzheimer’s Association – Health and Wellness Virtual Lecture Series Each Month: Please contact Jennifer Zuckerman at (760) 996-0006 –ext. 8410, for information and resources.
3. In-Home Care Assistance of Palm Desert – Virtual Lecture Series on Proactive Aging; What Are Financial and Medical POAs and Why are They Needed; The ABCs of End of Life Documents; and much more: Please contact Patricia Riley at (760) 345-0001, for information on these upcoming online health series.
4. Parkinson’s Foundation - Please contact their office at (877) 775-4111, or register on their website, info@parkinsonsresource.org. For information on weekly Virtual Series on Caregiving; Health and Wellness; Support Resources for those living with Parkinson; and much more.

If you have any questions, please contact The Rev. Patricia Horkey at (760) 346-2697 –ext. 147. Or (951) 522-2595 – cell.

Your 2020 Vestry

All Vestry members serve as a liaison to ministries in some topical area. Vestry liaisons will:

- Work with staff to coordinate activities and communications;
- Answer your questions about how to get involved; and
- Bring proposals from ministry groups to the Vestry.

<i>Ministry Area</i>	<i>Vestry Liaison</i>
Parish Life (with Hospitality)	Gretchen Heuring (303) 579-1634 • Gretchen@elderthink.com
Worship & Music	Gary Gleason (612) 819-4279 • garygleason17@gmail.com
Building & Grounds	Jim Hatfield (760) 413-4372 • jimhatfield@dc.rr.com
Pastoral Care	Kate Reeves (760) 902-7538 • kater.1934@gmail.com
Adult Discipleship	Appointment Pending
Youth Discipleship	Kate Pierattoni (760) 447-0553 • kathleenpierattoni@mac.com
Inclusivity/Evangelism	Tenny Mickey (310) 941-0341 • tennymickey1@gmail.com
Stewardship	Chris Davidson (323) 646-3276 • cdavidson001@gmail.com
Finance	Guin DeJarnett (619) 265-1960 • guinkerstetter@gmail.com
Social Services	Tom Williams (760) 699-7184 • TOJO1998@Comcast.net
Advocacy	Ellie Millam (612) 716-3269 • emillam@work-wise.org
Communications	Ginger Bonnar (760) 501-1742 • gingerbonnar16@gmail.com
Senior Warden	For any other ideas or concerns, Jan Romerdahl (509)-990-5651 • janromerdahl@gmail.com