



ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
E P I S C O P A L

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost:
Proper 24
October 18, 2020
10:30 a.m.

Daily Morning Prayer:
Rite Two

Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith,
we welcome you and invite your full participation in today's worship.

This service was previously recorded. Services are regularly streamed and recorded and you can find them:

<http://www.stpaulcathedral.org/watch> or on Facebook Live now.

The order of service can also be followed beginning on page 79 in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP).

Concerning the Service

Use of daily prayers to mark the times of the day and to express the traditions of the praying community is traditional in Judaism and in Christianity. The third, sixth, and ninth hours (9 a.m., 12 noon, and 3 p.m.) were times of private prayer in Judaism. The congregational or cathedral form of office developed in Christianity under Constantine (274 or 288-337) with the principal morning and evening services of lauds and vespers. The people participated in the cathedral form of office. The monastic form of office also developed at this time. By the late middle ages, the Daily Office was seen as the responsibility of the monks and clergy rather than an occasion for participation by all in the prayers of the community throughout the day.

After the Anglican Reformation, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556) reduced the eight monastic offices to the two services of Morning and Evening Prayer. These services were printed in vernacular English and intended for use by all members of the church. Participation in the Daily Office is at the heart of Anglican spirituality. It is the proper form of daily public worship in the church.

– adapted from: episcopalchurch.org/library/glossary/daily-office

Organ Voluntary (video from October 22, 2017)
Cantabile

César Franck (1822-1890)

Welcome and announcements

The tolling of the bell.

Hymn 594 (video from October 22, 2017)

CWM RHONDDA

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;

crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.

Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour,
 days,
 goal,
 dore,

for the fac - ing
 for the liv - ing
 lest we miss thy
 serv - ing thee whom

of this hour.
 of these days.
 king - dom's goal.
 we a - dore.

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt.
 Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932)

The Officiant begins the service with the opening sentence of Scripture.

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me,
 and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

- *Psalm 43:3*

Confession of Sin

The Deacon says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People 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.**

The Priest alone 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.

The Invitatory and Psalter

BCP 80

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

**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. Alleluia.**

The following Antiphon is said with the Invitatory Psalm

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

The Psalm

Psalm 96:1-9 *Cantate Domino (Precentor)*

BCP 725
chant: plainsong

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
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.

The Lessons

The First Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 45:1-7

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him--
and the gates shall not be closed:
I will go before you and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.
I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians. Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer

Thanks be to God.

Canticle: *Gloria in Excelsis* (Video from October 22, 2017)

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)
from *Missa Brevis* "Trottier"

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris. Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu solus sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

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 Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

Gospeller A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you

hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Answer The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Homily

Christian Gillette,
Canon for Evangelism and Discipleship, Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Silence may be kept.

The Apostles’ Creed

BCP 96

Officiant and People together

**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 Prayers

BCP 97

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People (recorded July, 2019)

chant: plainsong

**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.**

Then follows the Suffrages

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.**

The Officiant then says the following Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Offertory Anthem (video from October 22, 2017)

O God, thou art my God
Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee. My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee, in a barren and dry land where no water is. Thus have I looked for thee in the sanctuary, that I might behold thy power and glory. For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself: my lips shall praise thee. As long as I live will I magnify thee in this manner, and lift up my hands in thy Name. Because thou hast been my helper; therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. Hallelujah!

[Text: Psalm 63:1-5,8.]

Stewardship Witness

Canon Lisa Churchill,
Head Verger

Intercessions and thanksgivings follow.

The Prayers of the People

The Deacon and People pray responsively.

Deacon

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy”.

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Susan our Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city and for every city and community, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the right use of the riches of creation, especially in this critical time of climate change, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, the unsheltered, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our families, friends, and neighbors; that, being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have been commended to our prayers, especially _____, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died, especially _____, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In thanksgiving for _____, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Paul and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People: **To you, O Lord our God.**

The Officiant adds a concluding Collect.

Most gracious God, we give you thanks for this good land in which our heritage is cast: for freedom to worship you, for liberty of speech and peaceful association, for a government in which we share. Keep us ever mindful and careful of these responsibilities laid upon us, and faithful to our trust to guard and protect them for all our people; through him who is the truth that alone can make us free, your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Officiant and People

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.**

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

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

**I embrace you as if you were already there
and unite myself wholly to you.**

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

Officiant and People

**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.

The Blessing

Officiant

The peace of God, that 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.**

Hymn 665 (video from October 22, 2017)

MICHAEL



1 All my hope on God is found - ed; he doth still my
 2 Mor - tal pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown be -
 3 God's great good - ness e'er en - dur - eth, deep his wis - dom
 *4 Dai - ly doth the al - mighty - y Giv - er boun - teous gifts on
 5 Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of



1 trust re - new, me through change and chance he
 2 tray our trust; though with care and toil we
 3 pass - ing thought: splen - dor, light, and life at -
 4 us be - stow; his de - sire our soul de -
 5 praise be done, high a - bove all prais - es



1 guid - eth, on - ly good and on - ly true. God un -
 2 build them, tower and tem - ple fall to dust. But God's
 3 tend him, beau - ty spring - eth out of nought. Ev - e -
 4 ligh - teth, plea - sure leads us where we go. Love doth
 5 prais - ing for the gift of Christ, his Son. Christ doth



1 known, he a - lone calls my heart to be his own.
 2 power, hour by hour, is my tem - ple and my tower.
 3 rmore from his store new-born worlds rise and a - dore.
 4 stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his com - mand.
 5 call one and all: ye who fol - low shall not fall.

Words: Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt.; after Joachim Neander (1650-1680)
 Music: Michael, Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

The Dismissal

Deacon

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Piano Voluntary

English Suite in g minor, BWV 808 – Prélude

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

§ *Join our 11:30 am Virtual Coffee Hour!*

[Join the Zoom Meeting HERE](#)

Ministers of the Liturgy

Officiant: The Rev. Cn. Jeff Martinhauk

Homilist: Christian Gillette, *Canon for Evangelism and Discipleship, Episcopal Diocese of San Diego*

Deacon: The Rev. Cn. Brooks Mason

Dean: The Very Rev. Penny Bridges

Readers: Rockette Ewell, Thomas Barb

Director of Music: Cn. Martin Green

Piano: Gabriel Arregui

Audio/Visual Technicians: Alex Kajokeji, Jim Langston, Liam Semple, Mike Thornburgh, Paul Young

The building is closed but we are still the church! Our staff is still hard at work facilitating the ministry of the church in this challenging time. Your continued financial support as we move through this crisis helps us pay our staff and other expenses of the church which do not stop. A few notes about giving in this time:

1. Even though the office is closed, you may continue to mail donations. Mail them to 2728 Sixth Ave, San Diego, CA 92103. Staff will continue to process mail donations.
2. We encourage you to consider moving to online giving at stpaulcathedral.org/donate. There you may schedule automatic donations that do not require the staff to handle postal mail, allowing staff to focus on other tasks and reducing contact with paper.
3. Consider making an additional donation to the Bishop's "For Such a Time as This" fund to help those in need across our diocesan communities. This is a time for all of us to come together to ensure that every family has what they need to survive during this current crisis. Thank you for your contribution.

Donation link with the option to donate to "For Such a Time as This" fund:

<https://public.serviceu.com/DonationForm/26692?orgkey=6983060e-be9e-45f6-b9b5-72a8f022f9a0&SGUID=18F8C598-8EB2-43B1-912C-61CD492DBC6F&RN=839534543>

or online link: <https://edsd.org/make-a-gift/>

or by mail to:

The Episcopal Diocese of San Diego
2083 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92107

Thank you!

A Litany for the Sins of Racism*

1) Oh God, in whose image the whole human family was created, we pray for all whose lives have been forever altered by racial violence.

While those whose lives have been altered are too many to name, we remember by name, *Breonna Taylor, Ahmad Arbery, and George Floyd*, beloved children of God, whose killings have yet again exposed the pervasive poison of racial injustice, inflamed rhetoric and division, and actions that perpetuate inequality.

Swaddle them in your boundless love.

Cradle them all in your peace.

2) We remember their families and friends, beloved children of God each one. Swaddle them in your boundless love.

Cradle them in your peace.

3) We remember the residents of too many of our cities, beloved children of God, who have seen their communities disrupted by horrific violence.

Swaddle them in your boundless love.

Cradle them in your peace.

4) We remember the protestors, beloved children of God, and those still gathering across cities, states, and the country to demand justice and change.

Swaddle them in your boundless love.

Cradle them in your peace.

5) We remember the residents of too many of our cities, beloved children of God, who have seen their neighborhood erupt in violence and destruction, especially by those whose aim is to further division and hatred. We remember those who have watched their livelihoods and places of work go up in flames.

Swaddle them in your boundless love.

Cradle them in your peace.

6) We remember those killed during the riots of this past week, beloved children of God.

Swaddle them in your boundless love.

Cradle them in your peace.

7) We remember the Black community throughout this country, beloved children of God, who have for decades cried out against injustice and brutality at the hands of police, and who have not been heard by those with the power to make change. We remember our Black brothers and sisters, groaning under the weight of redlining, segregation, underfunded schools, unequal economic opportunity, indignity, and ever-present fear.

Swaddle them in your boundless love.

Cradle them in your peace.

8) We remember our public officials, beloved children of God, managing a global pandemic, city-wide protests, violence, and profound public distrust at the same time.

Swaddle them in your boundless love.

Cradle them in your peace.

9) We pray for courage and integrity of all police officers who find themselves working within a system that has a fraught history of racial violence and injustice. We pray for courage and integrity as individuals, in this country, that we would stand for justice and work for systematic change in all our institutions.

Swaddle us in your boundless love.

Cradle them in your peace.

10) We remember all citizens of this country, beloved children of God. We have been traumatized, grief-stricken, enraged, and heart-sickened by the video of one neighbor slowly snuffing the life out of another, by riots and looting, by the sounds of flash- bang grenades, the sting of tear gas, the scent of smoke, and by our own helplessness.

Swaddle us in your boundless love.

Cradle us in your peace.

11) We remember those who have pledged their lives to racist ideologies, beloved children of God. We acknowledge the pain they have caused to victims of violence, to their communities, to their families, and to their own souls. We acknowledge that each of us carries racist ideology within us, and we beg your mercy to free all your people from it.

Swaddle us in your boundless love.

Cradle us in your peace.

12) We know that the sickness of racism is in this nation's very bedrock. Today we acknowledge and repent of the twin original sins of this nation: the genocide of the indigenous people of this land and the institution of chattel slavery. We know that the shockwaves from these sins still reverberate today, that the trauma from these sins live in our bodies, and that the pain we suffer now has its origin in those first treacheries.

Help us turn away from the sin of division

And toward your all-encompassing love.

13) We repent of laws that codify or allow unequal treatment based on race, ethnicity, religion, or skin tone. We repent of promises broken again and again. We repent of foreign policy that sees more value in some human lives than in others.

Help us turn away from the sin of division

And toward your all-encompassing love.

14) We repent of the role of the church, historically and presently, in supporting and emboldening these policies. We repent of the ways that we have made your church a home to oppression, exclusion, or indignity for any child of God.

Help us turn away from the sin of division

And toward your all-encompassing love.

15) We acknowledge and repent of the fact that this country has never shared its abundance equally. We acknowledge and repent of the fact of disparities based on race, that are born out in scholastic achievement, employment, household wealth, homeownership.

Help us turn away from the sin of division

And toward your all-encompassing love.

16) We repent of the ill-use of your bounty: we hoard land and wealth, manipulate plants and animals, abuse your creation, and your most vulnerable people suffer the consequences.

Help us turn away from the sin of division

And toward your all-encompassing love.

17) We who benefit from white supremacy acknowledge that we have been given unearned privilege at the expense of our Indigenous, Black, Asian, Latine, brown-skinned, immigrant, and non-Christian siblings. We repent of the ways in which we have allowed our own fear, complacency, and incuriosity to blind us to the belovedness of your children, each, like us, fearfully and wonderfully made.

Help us turn away from the sin of division

And toward your all-encompassing love.

18) Oh God of infinite affection, you looked at all that you had made and called it good. By your grace, help us to look upon your creation and to see, with your mothering eyes of love, how good, how good, how good it is.

Lord, in your mercy.
Christ, in your mercy.
Lord, in your mercy.
Amen.

Closing Words (from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry)

“What America has seen in the past several days may leave us wondering what we can possibly do in this moment to be good Samaritans—to help heal our country, even the parts we don’t know or like. But we have the answer. Now is the time for a national renewal of the ideals of human equality, liberty, and justice for all. Now is the time to commit to cherishing and respecting all lives, and to honoring the dignity and infinite worth of every child of God. Now is the time for all of us to show—in our words, our actions, and our lives—what love really looks like.”

- Adapted from “A Litany for Minnesota’s Sins of Racism” by Emilia Allen

October 18, 2020 – Pentecost 20(A)

Meet Our Religious Communities: The Community of St. John Baptist

Meet the Community of St. John Baptist (CSJB), a religious order for women in The Episcopal Church:

How have CSJB sisters experienced their call to monastic life?

Our Sisters come from diverse backgrounds, denominations, and faiths. One of us grew up in a secular Jewish family, one spent many years as a nun in the Vedanta community, and others come from Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Quaker, and agnostic backgrounds. All of us felt called, at different times in our lives, to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church and enter religious life. The most common factor in our sense of call is that it was persistent and did not fade away over time.

What do sisters do all day?

We spend many hours a day in prayer, study, and worship, and we also do work and ministry. You may see our full daily schedule on our website at csjb.org/becoming-a-sister.html.

What are your ministries?

We run a 27-bedroom retreat house and serve as spiritual directors and retreat leaders. In addition, we each have individual ministries working in parishes, food pantries, interfaith programs, pilgrimages to holy places, the Good Shepherd Home for children in Cameroon, and many others.

Do you take vows?

We take vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience for life.

How can I get involved with the Community of St. John Baptist?

We welcome volunteers to help with our ministries, to pitch in with buildings and grounds projects, to work in our garden which provides produce for local food pantries, and to assist us with our guest ministry and fundraising events. We also welcome anyone who is interested in becoming an Associate or Oblate.

For more information, check out our website at www.csjb.org, or email Sister Monica Clare, our Sister Superior, at superior@csjb.org.

