

**A Service of Morning Prayer
for July 11, 2021
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**



Salome with the Head of John the Baptist
Artist: Strozzi, Bernardo (1581-1644)

Found in the collection of the Staatliche Museen, Berlin.

The word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.
Deuteronomy 30:14

CP 317 Praise The Lord, Sing Hallelujah

1 Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah,
from the heavens praise God's name;
praise the Lord, our great Creator;
all you angels, praise proclaim.
All you hosts, together praising,
sun and moon and stars on high;
praise the Lord, O heavens of heavens,
and the floods above the sky.

Refrain:
***Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah,
for God's name alone is high,
and God's glory is exalted,
and God's glory is exalted,
far above the earth and sky.***

2 Let them praise the Lord their Maker:
they were made at God's command,
who established them forever,
whose decree shall ever stand.
Let the earth sing hallelujah:
raging seas, you monsters all,
fire and hail and snow and vapours,
stormy winds that hear his call. ***[Refrain]***

3 All you fruitful trees and cedars,
every hill and mountain high,
creeping things and beasts and cattle,
birds that in the heavens fly,
kings of earth and all you people,
princes great, earth's judges all;
praise his name, young men and maidens,
aged men, and children small. ***[Refrain]***

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.
 Almighty God,
To you all hearts are open,
All desires known,
And from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
That we may perfectly love you,
And worthily magnify your holy name;
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord is our refuge and strength: O come, let us worship.

Psalm 24

Refrain The Lord will dwell in Zion for ever.

24:1 The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

24:2 for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

24:3 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

24:4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

24:5 They will receive blessing from the LORD, and vindication from the God of their salvation.

24:6 Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

24:7 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

24:8 Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle.

24:9 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

24:10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.

A Reading from 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

6:1 David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand.

6:2 David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim.

6:3 They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart

6:4 with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark.

6:5 David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

6:12b So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing;

6:13 and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling.

6:14 David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen

6:15 So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

6:16 As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

6:17 They brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the LORD.

6:18 When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts,

6:19 and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 307 When Long Before Time

1 When long before time and the worlds were begun,
When there was no earth and no sky and no sun,
And all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,
And even our Maker had only a dream...

2...the silence was broken when God sang the Song,
And light pierced the darkness and rhythm began,
And with its first birth-cries creation was born,
And creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.

3 The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's,
Their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;
The Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song,
The choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.

4 Though, down through the ages, the song disappeared
Its harmonies broken and almost unheard-
The singer comes to us to sing it again:
Our God is with us in the world now as then.

5 The Light has returned as it came once before,
The Song of the Lord is our own song once more;
So let us all sing with one heart and one voice
The Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.

6 To you, God, the Singer, our voices we raise;
To you, Song incarnate, we give all our praise;
To you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,
Be glory, forever, through life and through death.

A Reading from Ephesians 1:3-14

1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

1:4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

1:5 He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will,

1:6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace

1:8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight

1:9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ,

1:10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

1:11 In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,

1:12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

1:13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit;

1:14 this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 390 Womb of Life and Source of Being

1 Womb of life and source of being,
home of every restless heart,
in your arms the worlds awakened;
you have loved us from the start.
We, your children, gather 'round you
At the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears and laughter,
We are nurtured by your care.

2 Word in flesh, our brother Jesus,
born to bring us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us,
knowing weakness, knowing earth
Priest who shares our human struggles,
Life of Life, and Death of Death,
Risen Christ, come stand among us,
Send the Spirit by your breath.

3 Brooding Spirit move among us;
Be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails, remind us
Whose we are, what we intend.
Labour with us, aid the birthing
Of the new world yet to be.
Free of servant, lord, and master,
Free for love and unity.

4 Mother, Brother, holy Partner;
Father, Spirit, only Son;
We would praise your name forever,
One in Three and Three in One.
We would share your life, your passion,
Share your word of world made new,
Ever singing, ever praising,
one with all, and one with you.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 6:14-29

6:14 King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him."

6:15 But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old."

6:16 But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

6:17 For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.

6:18 For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

6:19 And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not,

6:20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.

6:21 But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

6:22 When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it."

6:23 And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom."

6:24 She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer."

6:25 Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

6:26 The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

6:27 Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison,

6:28 brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.

6:29 When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 2582676 Free to Dance

1. This song in my heart
 This song in my soul
 This song I was born to sing
 It's Your song of freedom
 Now I'm free to dance again

2. I'll sing in the darkness
 I'll laugh in the rain
 Rejoice in Your love again
 It's Your song of freedom
 Now I'm free to dance again

Chorus

*Jesus Your love it lifts me high
 Gives me reason to run this race with
 joy
 This song within me Lord
 Will bless Your Holy Name
 Jesus I'll dance before Your throne
 Bring this heavenly sound to You alone
 This song within me Lord
 Will bless Your Holy Name*

Pre-Chorus

Your Spirit brings me liberty
 Your breath of life has set me free

(Repeat Song)**Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)**

**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.**

Prayers of the People led and compiled by Autumn Reinhardt-Simpson

Let us pray together for our parish, the wider church, and the world:

We pray for all of those in authority, that they might understand the privilege of their position and seek good counsel.

We pray for the worldwide church, especially the Episcopal Church of the Philippines

We ask God to bless our primate Linda and Steven, our bishop-elect.

We hold in prayer The Diocese of British Columbia and their bishop, the Most Rev. Anna

We pray and give thanks for the Diocese of Edmonton Archdeacons, Lee, Travis, Jordan, Haynie, and Richard

We humbly ask that God bless Ngoze parish, in the diocese of Buyé, their rector, Damascene and Deo, Deputy Rector

We pray and give thanks for the people of Treaty Six, especially the Louis Bull Tribe.

We hold in prayer our friends and members of our community, including Sandra; Merle; Mona; Nicole; Lois W; Ray and Mary; Irene and Sandy; Joyce; Jim and Par; Kathryn; Trevor; Helen; Jenifer; Judy; Tony; Luisa; Joseph, Jen and Hunter; Lois D; Stacey; Marguerite; and Evelyn and Willis.

We pray for the repose of the souls of Diane Van Leeuwen and the Rev. Richard Conrad

We are taught that God is among us whenever two or three are gathered in Her name. Even though we are not physically together at this time, we trust that we still have God's presence among us and therefore we have the confidence to ask:

Lord, hear our prayer

For the many selfless ministries at St. Peter's, especially that of our musician, Nadine. We are so blessed to be greeted each service with her beautiful voice and inspiring music. We pray that God continues to bless her and through her, us, we pray to the Lord :

Lord, hear our prayer

For the continuing success of Alberta's vaccination program, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer

For those who have tested positive for Covid and for those still living with the anxiety of this pandemic, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer

For our governments to have the courage to force corporations to mitigate their disproportionate share of the emissions that cause climate change, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer

For those who lost everything in the BC fires last week. May they know the love and comfort of God through the actions of their friends and neighbors, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer

For all the Indigenous and First Nations people who are mourning this day. May we stand with our friends and demand justice and accountability, especially from our own church which took part in the residential school system, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer

That we, as followers of Christ, not conform to this world of rampant individualism, consumerism, and apathy, but instead seek wisdom and renewal in Christ, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer

That we may find in these times small mercies, hidden beauty, revitalized communities, and rediscovered selves. We pray to the Lord,

Lord, hear our prayer

Compassionate God, it has been a long while since we have been able to gather as one body in your presence to worship you in fellowship and community. We long for the time that we can gather again in our beloved St. Peter's and experience the joy and fellowship of shared worship in a shared space. We ask for trust and for patience, not only for ourselves, but for all worshipping communities, so that when the time is right, we can open our doors and once again, carefully and with the safety of all in our minds and hearts, come together again in love and fellowship.

Until that time, we thank you for the many opportunities you have granted us to worship in different ways and we ask that you make us always mindful that the church is not the building where worship happens but that the church lives in us as you live in us, we pray,

Collect

Almighty God,
 you have made us for yourself,
 and our hearts are restless
 until they find their rest in you.
 May we find peace in your service,
 and in the world to come, see you face to face;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

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

**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.**

CP 586 Rise Up, O Saints of God

1 Rise up, O saints of God!
 From vain ambitions turn;
 Christ rose triumphant that your hearts
 with nobler zeal might burn.

2 Speak out, O saints of God!
 Despair engulfs earth's frame;
 as heirs of God's baptismal grace,
 the word of hope proclaim.

3 Rise up, O saints of God!
 The kingdom's task embrace;
 redress sin's cruel consequence;
 give justice larger place.

4 Give heed, O saints of God!
 Creation cries in pain;
 stretch forth your hand of healing now,
 with love the weak sustain.

5 Commit your hearts to seek
 the paths which Christ has trod,
 and, quickened by the Spirit's power,
 rise up, O saints of God!

The Dismissal

The word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.
Deuteronomy 30:14

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness
 working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the
 glory for ever and ever, Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.