Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 18th, 2020

Theme: Hannah was barren—a terrible state of unworthiness in her time. But her plea to God was answered. God gave her a child worthy of growing up in God's house. Her song of deliverance offered a word of hope to the hopeless.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our hearts delight in you, O God,

For you do amazing things!

Your wisdom far outweighs our own.

Your ways evade our reason.

You lift up what was lowly

And bring the dead to life.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

OPENING SONG On Eagle's Wings #787

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in this shadow for life, say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

CHORUS: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear; under God's wings your refuge, with faithfulness your shield. CHORUS

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. CHORUS

For to the angels God's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. CHORUS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: God of justice, you love exalting the humble and showing mercy to sinners. Give us that same heart for the oppressed, that we might work for the betterment of all and the coming of your kingdom on earth, in Jesus' name. Amen

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

TEMPLE TALK

GOSPEL Luke 1:46-55

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** The reading concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

For all the faithful women who served in days of old, to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told. They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave. To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your pow'r to save.

To Hannah praying childless before the throne of grace, you gave a son and called him to serve before your face. Grant us her perseverance; Lord, teach us how to pray And trust in your deliverance when darkness hides our way.

All praise to God the Father! All praise to Christ the Son! All praise to God the Spirit, who binds the church as one! With saints who went before us, with saints who witness still, we sing glad alleluias and strive to do your will.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 CHURCH

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. Steadfast God, Hear our prayer

We place these prayers into your hands and trust that you will be merciful to your children, for the sake of Jesus our Lord, who taught us to pray...

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, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Mothering God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

On Our Way Rejoicing

#537

On our way rejoicing gladly let us go. Christ our Lord has conquered; vanquished is the foe. Christ without, our safety; Christ within, our joy; who, if we be faithful, can our hope destroy?

CHORUS: On our way rejoicing; as we forward move, hearken to our praises, O blest God of love!

Unto God the Father joyful songs we sing; unto God the Savior thankful hearts we bring; Unto God the Spirit bow we and adore, on our way rejoicing now and evermore. CHORUS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, stay safe and be safe. God is with you. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE