**Zoom Best Practices**

To make the service run more smoothly and to cut down on distortion and dissonance caused by the response of multiple voices, please leave your computer mic or phone on mute at all times with the exception of the Peace, the Intercessions, and the Lord’s Prayer. We will assign and / or ask for volunteers to represent the congregation as one voice for the remainder of the responsorial portions of the service.  However, while muted, please do say the words that are written for your response. Even in the muted state, this remains an interactive service.

**Order of Service**

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 17, Year A**

August 30th, 2020

**Prelude**

**Hymn 707**  *Take my life, and let it be Hollingside*

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Officiant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Collect**

Passionate Lord, walking to Golgotha in the midst of our confusion: free us from our images of you which keep you enthroned in idle power, apart from the pain and sin of the world; lead us to embrace the scandal of the cross and let our violence die that greater life might rise; through Jesus Christ, who took the form of a slave. **Amen.**

**First Reading Exodus 3:1-15**

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.” When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.” But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’“ God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading Romans 12:9-21**

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Third Reading Matthew 16:21-28**

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Homily The Rev. Tami Burks**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe that Jesus took the form of a slave,**

**so we commit ourselves to serve others.**

**We believe that God is love,**

**so we commit ourselves to reconciliation.**

**We believe that Jesus gives us his Spirit,**

**so we commit ourselves to his work in the world.**

**We believe that God is the light of life,**

**so we commit ourselves to bearing God’s light in our world.**

**We believe that the Spirit speaks through us,**

**so we commit ourselves to proclaim the good news of abundant life**

**in the world God loves. Amen.**

**Prayers**

God is the great “I AM” in whose Name we pray, responding, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Intercessor:

That we may open our ears to the cries of those who suffer, freeing them from enslavement to poverty, abuse, and lack of opportunity, taking our share in the saving acts of God; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the leaders of the nations may lead their people with integrity, honoring all that is past and moving into the challenges that define a new life; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the courage to lift up our crosses to the light of day, carrying them on our journey of faith, uniting ourselves with the Christ of the passion, so as to share in the glory of his resurrection; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we be given the strength to leave behind the fruits of temptation, turning our gaze upon that which is nourishing and sound, living a life of love, honor, and respect for others, full of rejoicing and thanksgiving; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all laborers, that they may receive a fare wage, a safe working environment, the companionship of fellow workers, and the respect of those who exercise authority over them; let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who are sick and all who minister to them.

*Silence*

*Please add the names of those for whom you wish prayers, either silently or aloud.*

Let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who have died surrounded by family and friends, and for those who were unloved and unmourned, that all may have a place in God’s kingdom;

*Silence*

*At this time please add the names of those you wish remembered this day.*

Let us pray.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Officiant:

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Confession**

Officiant:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*A brief moment of silence is kept*

**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.**

**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 Peace**

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**Welcome; Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**A Prayer For The Time In Which We Are Living**

Gracious and merciful God: It is a challenging time for us, your people. Some of us are afraid: afraid of becoming ill, afraid of losing our jobs, afraid we will not be able to feed our families or pay our bills. Others of us are angry at what we view as inconvenience to, and disruption of, our schedules. We are uncomfortable with uncertainty and impatient with what is happening around us. We pray for your continued presence and peace. Remind us that you are the one who loves us, steadies us, so that we may become secure in and with the insecurity of life. Surround those who fear with your calming presence. Embrace those who are ill with your healing power. Envelop those who are dying in your loving arms and lead them to eternal life. For you are our guide and our grounding, this day and always. **Amen.**

**The Blessing**

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships so that you may live deep within your heart. May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace. May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done, to bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor. **Amen.**

*A Franciscan Benediction*

**Hymn 439**  *What wondrous love is this Wondrous love*

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Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**.

**Postlude**