**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 18th, 2019 at 9:00 am**

**Combined Rite Service: Morning Prayer with Hymns**

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*Gospel illustration courtesy of Cerezo Barredo (servicioskoinonia.org)*

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**INFORMATION FOR NEWCOMERS: WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH!**



Our motto is true whether you're here for the very first time

or you've been a member for decades –

**There is a place for you at God's Table!**

The worship service is a combined Rite service morning prayer with hymns. You will notice moments in the service when people stand, kneel, bow, and make the sign of the cross -- all of these are completely optional. You are encouraged to participate in every aspect of worship, according to your comfort level.

Children of all ages are welcome to stay in worship. There is Nursery care available for babies and toddlers downstairs, and Children's Chapel during the first part of the service for preschoolers through 4th graders.

Most Sundays, Myra Dean Banion provides personal prayers at the station to the right of the communion rail during the distribution of the Sacrament. All prayer concerns are confidential. The clergy are also available for prayer following the worship service, if desired.

If you have not been baptized, or if you have questions about Holy Baptism, please talk to Rev. Maggie and/or Deacon Rick after the service -- the people of Christ Church would love to walk with you to your baptism and beyond!

**THE WORD OF GOD**

(\*please rise as you are comfortable)

PRELUDE: “Ornamented Chorale on “Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus” - Werde Munter/arr. Callahan

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: “Morning has broken” Hymnal 8

\*OPENING SENTENCES

Deacon: O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me, and bring me unto holy hill, and to thy dwelling. (psalm 43:3)

God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

#### *(Any children who wish to attend Children’s Chapel may follow the crucifer out.)*

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

People: **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Deacon:The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Deacon: O Lord, open thou our lips.

**People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

**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.**

**INVITATORY PSALM 67:1-5 *DEUS MISEREATUR***

Deacon: O God, be merciful to us and bless us, \*  
**All: show us the light of your countenance and come to us.**

Deacon: Let your ways be known upon earth, \*

**All: your saving health among all nations.**

Deacon: Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*

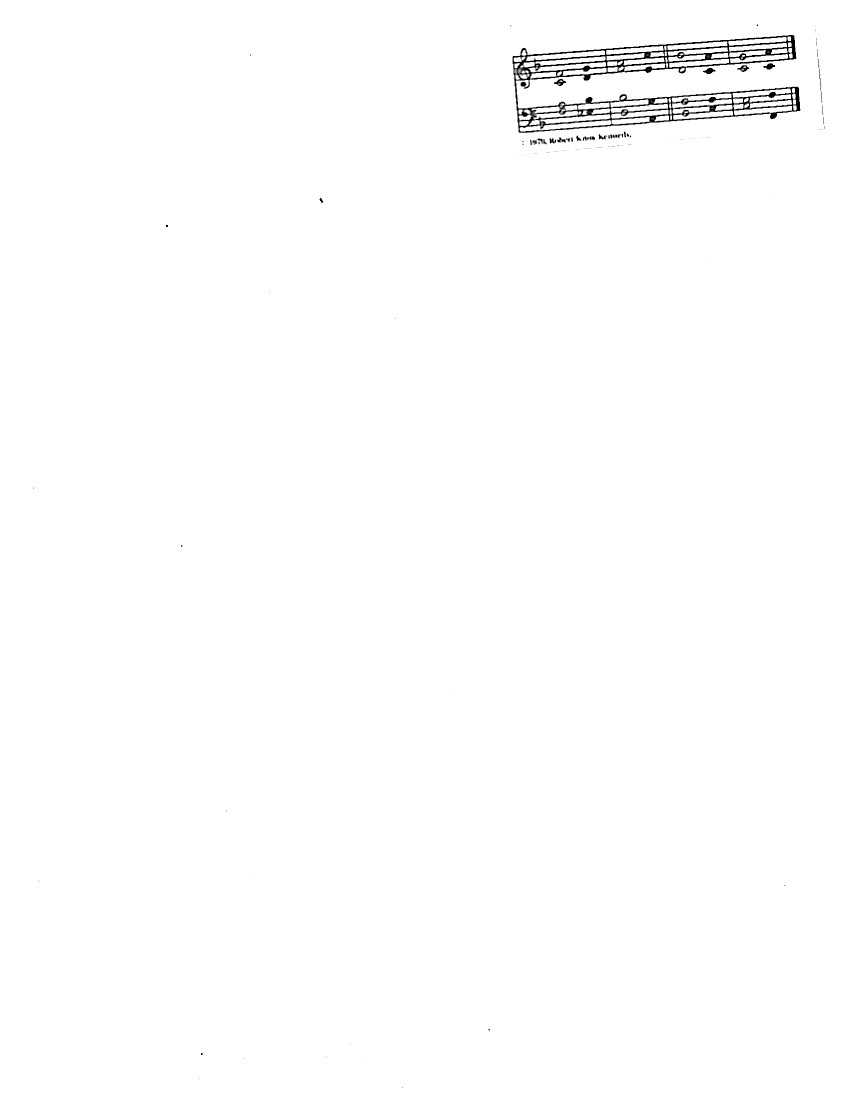
**All: let all the peoples praise you.**

Deacon: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*

**All: for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.**

Deacon: Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*

**All: let all the peoples praise you.**

\*THE RESPONSE Psalm 82

1 God takes his stand in the council of **heaven; \***  
he gives judgment in the midst of the **gods:**

2 "How long will you judge un**justly, \***  
and show favor to the **wicked?**

3 Save the weak and the **orphan; \***  
defend the humble and **needy;**

4 Rescue the weak and the **poor; \***deliver them from the power of the **wicked.**

5 They do not know, neither do they under**stand;**  
they go about in **darkness; \***  
all the foundations of the earth are **shaken.**

6 Now I say to you, 'You are **gods, \***  
and all of you children of the Most **High;**

7 Nevertheless, you shall die like **mortals, \***  
and fall like any **prince.'"**

8 Arise, O God, and rule the **earth, \***  
for you shall take all nations for your **own.**

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. A**men.**

THE FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 23:23-29

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long?

Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal.

Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

CANTICLE 13: A song of Praise (Benedictus es Domine) Hymnal S236

(front section of Hymnal)

THE SECOND LESSON Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

THE RESPONSE “Surely it is God who saves me” Hymnal 679

\*THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 12:49-56

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son  
 and son against father,

mother against daughter  
 and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law  
 and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, `It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, `There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON: “The Cost of True Peace” by Rev. Canon Frank Logue

(See attached copy in the back of this bulletin)

\*THE 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 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.**

\*SHARING OF THE PEACE

*Deacon*: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY: “Sarabande“ from *English Suite No. 1* - J.S. Bach

\*PRESENTATION HYMN: “O Master let me walk with thee” Hymnal 660

THE LORD’S PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Deacon:* The Lord be with you.

***All:*** **And with thy spirit.**

Deacon: Let us pray.

**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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. In the Ministry Cycle of Prayer, we pray for …

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for those celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially…

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially…Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

A Collect for Sundays

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.

*A Collect for Mission*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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.**

\*CLOSING HYMN: “Lead on, O King eternal” Hymnal 555

\*THE CONCLUDING SENTENCE: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. ***Amen.*** *(Ephesians 3:20,21)*

*Please join us for Coffee Hour fellowship downstairs following the service!*

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**Ministers for August 18th, 2019**

**Altar Guild:** Anita Beardsell and Sally Schwartz

**Acolyte:** Bill Yeazell

**Lector:** Ann Chitkara

**Prayers:** Judy Johnson

**Ushers:** Alan Ladd, Sally Schwartz, and Dar Brooks Hedstrom

**Greeters:** Ron Dowling and Dawn Ivy

**Coffee Hour:** Ron Dowling, John Richardson, Dawn Ivy, and Jack Ivy

**Security:** Jack Ivy

**Children’s Chapel:** Cathy Waggoner and Kelly Zeller

**Tellers:** Marilyn Howat and Martha Chaney

**General Information**

**Rector:** The Rev.Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard

**Deacon**: The Rev. Rick Incorvati

**Senior Warden**: Dawn Ivy

**Junior Warden**: John Richardson

**Treasurer**: Ken Bladh

**Vestry at Large**: Bonnie Bingman, Chris Oldstone-Moore, Cathy Hasecke,

Brian Shelburne, Joyce Spangler, Denise Sharp, and Chris Wells

**Parish Administrator & Program Coordinator**: Kelly Zeller

**Director of Music**: Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Nursery Attendant**: Jerushia Knox

**Facility Manager**: Paul McAfee

**Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox

*Thank you for worshipping at Christ Church today, and may the Lord be with you!*



**Christ Episcopal Church**

**409 East High Street**

**Springfield, Ohio 45505**

**937-323-8651**

[**www.christspringfield.org**](http://www.christspringfield.org)



**Pentecost 10 – Proper 15**

**Year C**

**The Cost of True Peace (Luke 12:49-56)**

“Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth?” Jesus asks and then answers, “No, I tell you, but rather division!”

The cost of following Jesus comes into focus as Jesus, the Prince of Peace, says, “From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father… mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.”

Jesus experienced this separation himself as his own family was torn by his ministry. Though Jesus’ mother Mary would be with him at the cross, the Gospels tell us that there was a time when his family wanted to bring him home as they wondered if Jesus hadn’t gone crazy. And he is well aware that this is just the beginning of the ways that the path he offers will divide many, even as a new community comes into being.

Six chapters further into Luke’s Gospel, Peter will say, “Look, we have left our homes and followed you.” And Jesus will respond, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, who will not get back very much more in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.” Jesus wants those who follow him to understand not just the rewards of this new life, but also the cost they will pay. This is the price of true peace.

The word for peace in Hebrew is “shalom.” Not just the absence of war, shalom means wholeness, well-being, and health, as well as what we think of as peace. All of those meanings are present in shalom. This is God’s peace which passes our understanding. Shalom is a truer, deeper peace. That promise of God’s peace was part of Jesus’ life and message all along.

Jesus often sent those he healed on their way by saying, “Go in peace.” Jesus makes them whole, healthy, peaceful, gives them well-being, and then sends them away in that deeper peace, called shalom. In his final word of peace in this Gospel, Jesus appears to his disciples after the crucifixion. It was the first time they saw Jesus after they had betrayed him and run in fear to avoid arrest. Jesus avoids any talk of all that has happened between them and says, “Peace be with you.” Jesus, God’s own son, was a man of peace who brought shalom, God’s peace, to broken hearts and lives. And yet, this Sunday he says that he came to bring division.

Jesus longs to bring a deeper health and wholeness to our world and the cost of that process will be division. The greater peace will come at the cost of lesser peace. The peace of God brings an end to the false peace and, as Jesus says, pits family members against each other.

Lesser peace looks like a family distorting their lives to enable an abusive father’s rages to inflict emotional and physical abuse while never letting those around them know that life at home is anything but ideal. Lesser peace is an eldest child falling into a prescription drug addiction, moving to heroin that consumes the child and then the family as the denial continues until it is far too late and the deadly addiction is unstoppable. The signs of an affair are everywhere, but it is easier to pretend not to see them than to face the fracture already present in the marriage. The examples go on and on. We see problems. We say nothing and so try to keep the peace.

This is just in the family, but the same problem is also writ large. Across much of the history of our nation, the lesser peace treated formerly enslaved persons and their descendants as less than fully human. The Civil Rights Movement divided families precisely because the lesser peace came with no cost to those in power. It can seem tempting to want to return to the simple life with Andy and Opie Taylor in the fictional televised world of Mayberry without recalling that in that same time, if not in that fictional place, not all shared the same opportunities, the same rights. And we still have a long way to go before all of God’s children experience the wholeness and well-being that are the shalom found in the Reign of God.

Jesus wants no lesser peace to take the place of true and lasting peace. Until the abuse stops and the drug use is addressed compassionately and firmly, how can there be peace in the family? Unless the affairs stop, how can there be peace in the marriage? But all too often we grab hold of a lesser peace as tightly a security blanket. Rather than having the courage to speak the truth in love, we remain silent, preventing the possibility of real peace.

Jesus continually reached out to the outcast in his own society. Jesus upset the status quo and eventually was killed for rocking the societal boat a little too much. Jesus did bring God’s peace to the earth, a true and lasting peace, but the price was division. Throughout history, there are thousands of examples of people settling for a lesser peace when God was calling them to something more. The peace of God brings an end to the false peace and so can easily pit even family members against each other.

Living into the new life in Jesus which is promised in baptism can and will change your behavior and your attitude over time if you take it seriously. Taking the promises made in baptism should change our lives. Yet, this is in tension with a desire to avoid conflict and so to preserve a lesser peace. The cost of accepting these accommodations and compromises is that this prevents our breaking through to the deeper peace waiting for us. Shalom, God’s true and lasting peace, calls us to stand against injustice. Any time we preserve the peace at someone or some group’s expense, we trade God’s shalom for a poor imitation.

Where have we become accommodated to peace for ourselves at the price of peace for someone else? What would it look like to speak out against a lesser peace in your family, our community, and our world? When you do so, it may divide a household two against three or mother against daughter. But if the Holy Spirit is speaking truth to your heart, the Spirit is leading you from a lesser peace to true and lasting peace. The cost will be high, so high that most of us shrink back and become lesser men and women. We let coworkers steal from the company, friends cheat on their spouses, brothers fall deeper into drug use. We fail to stand with those being bullied, with neighbors being denied human rights. We do all of this in the hope of keeping the peace and instead fall short of the deep peace Jesus wants for us, our families, our friends and our places of work.

The real question is not why did Jesus teach that following him could be divisive, but why does our faith never disturb anyone? In what ways are we holding back? How should we be bolder instead of remaining silent? The gift of speaking the truth in love is not the division we fear, but the deep peace for which we long.

*The Rev. Canon Frank Logue is Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of Georgia and a member of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church. Frank blogs on church development topics at loosecanon.georgiaepiscopal.org.*