

St. John's Episcopal Church

8 Sunnyside Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector

Walking on Water
Ivan Aivazovsky



TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: PROPER 14

MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO 9:30AM

August 9, 2020

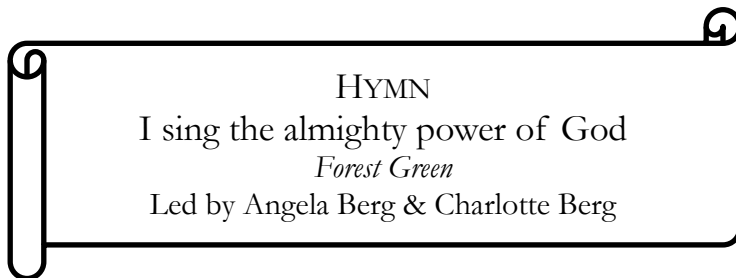
Our mission is to restore all people to unity with God and each other, in Christ. (BCP 855)

This morning we celebrate with an abridged service of Morning Prayer. This service is taken from the *1979 Book of Common Prayer*. **Words printed in bold are spoken by the congregation.**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Warren Blyden



THE OPENING SENTENCE

Officiant: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
Psalm 122:1

CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

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

All: **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.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your 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.

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

People: **Come let us adore our God.**

PSALM 85:8-13

- 8 I will listen to what you, Lord God, are saying, * for you are speaking peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.
- 9 Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, * that your glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; * righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, * and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 Lord, you will indeed grant prosperity, * and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before you, * and peace shall be a pathway for your feet.

A READING FROM THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No

one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 16: A Song of Zechariah

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; * he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, * born of the house of his servant David. Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, * from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers * and to remember his holy covenant. This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, * to set us free from the hands of our enemies, Free to worship him without fear, * holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, * for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, To give his people knowledge of salvation * by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God * the dawn from on high shall break upon us, To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, * and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 14:22-33

Reader: The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered

by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

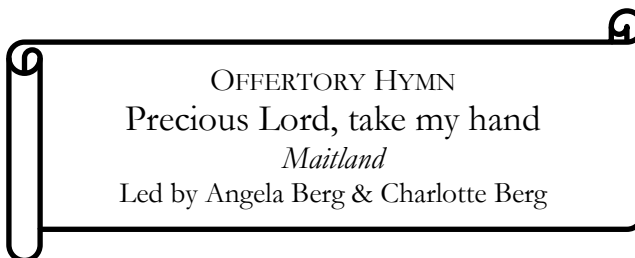
Deacon: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal

THE PEACE



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.

THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.

SUFFRAGES: SET A

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

PRAYER LIST

We pray for all those suffering with COVID-19, those who are quarantined and those anxious in the uncertainty of this constantly evolving pandemic. We pray for all those struggling to overcome violence in their community, for peacemakers, peacekeepers, and peace seekers. We pray for all Police Officers who would never abuse their authority, may they be filled with hope and be kept safely in God's care. We pray for all those who have suffered, been injured or died from the violence overwhelming our Nation. We pray for peace and unity among us as we seek a new way forward as people of faith. We pray for those who are in the hospital or home recuperating, especially: **Yumi, Esmerilda, Ronald Garvey, Max, Anne, Cathy, Barbara, Ellie Ruvo, Steven Schubert, and Shlomo Teladano.** We pray for those who are homebound: **Margaret Vaccaro, John & Lee Williams, Dorothy Dushin, Ronald Acheson, Jim, Marge, and Bill & Dorothy D'amato.** We pray for those struggling with chronic illness, especially: **Liz Daniele, Andrew Tom, Rena Kaplan, Rebecca, Vince Servio, Sarah Paruolo, Annaliese Haag, Martha, Gerald, Marilyn Griffin, Joyce, Jeff Daniele, Paul Ruvo, Helene, Jason, and Jeff.** We pray for **Edwin Sanchez and the students at El Hogar School, and the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.** We pray for those in our hearts whom we now name, either silently or aloud.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues.

Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF OUR COUNTRY

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Warren Blyden

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✦ Please join Deacon Lynn and Mother Mary+ for St. John's virtual **Coffee Hour** today at 10:15am!

- ✦ **Offering:** During this time when we are not meeting together the church still incurs expenses. Please continue to support the church. You can mail your offering to the church office. If you would like to make an online pledge you can do so by going to our website stjohnspleasantville.org and clicking on the "Donate" button. Thank you for your continued generosity during this anxious time. You may also support the church by shopping with AmazonSmile, the link is also found on our website.

- ✦ **St. John's Thrift Shop** is closed during this pandemic.

- ✦ **Tuesday Noon Zoom Prayers & Chat:** We will be reading the Psalm for the day, talking about our concerns, people we want to pray for especially, a little catch-up chat and a prayer to close our gathering. Keep an eye on your inbox, the Zoom link will be emailed Tuesday morning at 11AM.

- ✦ **Wednesday Bible Study Group Discussion at 11am:** The Epistle to the Ephesians has a lot to say about unity. We, too, are in a time that requires coming together to wrestle with what it means to be free and living in Truth. Keep an eye on your inbox, the Zoom link will be emailed Wednesday morning at 10AM.

- ✦ **The Pleasantville Interfaith Emergency Food Pantry NEEDS YOUR HELP**
Please donate food: Cases of sterilized milk, soups, tuna, chicken, beans, peanut butter, coffee, etc. can be drop shipped to St. John's if that is easiest for you.
OR
Pick up ShopRite Gift Cards for distribution
OR
[Make a monetary donation through the Pantry's website](#)

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