



Create in me a
clean heart,
Oh, God.

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021

WELCOME

to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Big Rapids, MI

Seeking every day to love God
with our whole heart, mind, and soul,
and to love our neighbors as
ourselves.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Cadillac, MI

We strive to live out the Great
Commandment: To love the Lord
with all our heart, soul, and mind and
to love our neighbors as ourselves.

If you have a faith or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.

If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home,
we'd love to get to know you.

MORNING PRAYER, RITE II

Opening Sentence

Officiant Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Psalm 19:14*

Confession of Sin

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

All kneel as able. Silence may be kept.

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 us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand as able.

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All **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.**

Venite

Psalm 95:1-7

All **Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:
Come let us adore him.**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, *and a great King above all gods.

**In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

**The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand. ***

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:
Come let us adore him.**

The Psalm

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10

- 1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
- 2 You are the fairest of men; *
grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.
- 7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.
- 8 Therefore God, your God, has anointed you *
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- 9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and
cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.
- 10 Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; *
on your right hand is the queen,
adorned with the gold of Ophir.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

All sit as able.

First Reading

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Reader A reading from the Song of Solomon.

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping
upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved

is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

First Canticle A Song of Creation, Part I: The Cosmic Order

**Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, *
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.**

**Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, *
all winds and fire and heat.**

**Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, *
drops of dew and flakes of snow.**

Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, *
O shining light and enfolding dark.
Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Second Reading

James 1:17-27

Reader A Reading from the letter of James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the

law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act-they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader **The word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

Second Canticle

A Song of Creation, Part II: The Earth and its Creatures

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Let the earth glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,
and all that grows upon the earth, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, *
O whales and all that move in the waters.

All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, *
and all you flocks and herds.

**O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Third Reading

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human

heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Third Canticle

A Song of Creation, Part III: The People of God

**Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Let the people of God glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Reflection *The reflection may be a time of silence, a homily,
or reading of a devotional text, story, or poem.*

The Apostles' Creed *Said by all, standing as able.*

**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

The people stand or kneel as able.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant 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.

Suffrages A

Officiant	Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People	And grant us your salvation.
Officiant	Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People	Let your people sing with joy.
Officiant	Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People	For only in you can we live in safety.
Officiant	Lord, keep this nation under your care;
People	And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
Officiant	Let your way be known upon earth;
People	Your saving health among all nations.
Officiant	Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People	Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Officiant	Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People	And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor My brothers and sisters, welcome with meekness the word planted within you that has the power to save your souls. In all humility let us pray, saying, “Increase in us true religion; **nourish us with all goodness.**”

Gracious God, you have given us birth by the word of truth: speak lovingly to your beloved Church. Increase in us true religion that we may honor you in both the word and deed.

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Skip, our Assisting Bishop; the Standing Committees of Eastern and Western Michigan; Anne, our Canon Missioner; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant;

St. Paul’s, Saginaw – Judy Boli, Rector

St. Mark’s, Newaygo – BJ Heyboer, Rector

We pray for all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Alicia, Joe, Natalie, Alex, Derek, Catherine, Rebecca, Matt, Dell, Joanna, Kurt, and Anne Marie. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Joy, Trish, Mark, Jim, Michelle, and Linda. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence*

Intercessor Increase in us true religion;
People **nourish us with all goodness.**

Intercessor Righteous God, you know our hearts: deliver us from our own evil intentions and protect us from the evil intentions of others. *Silence*

Intercessor Increase in us true religion;
People **nourish us with all goodness.**

Intercessor Creating God, you are the author and giver of all good things: forgive us when we forget to sing your praises for the beauty of the earth. We thank you for the eternal blossoming of creation.

Intercessor Increase in us true religion;
People **nourish us with all goodness.**

Intercessor Gracious God, we thank you for the towns and villages that surround our city. Bless our common life and work. In our dealings may we be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger. May each community lay aside selfish interests to pursue common good.

We pray for those in positions of authority in our country and in the world, especially Joe, our president; Gretchen our governor; Carla, our mayor.
Silence

Intercessor Increase in us true religion;
People nourish us with all goodness.

Intercessor Holy Father, with you there is no variation or shadow due to change: Surround those in distress with your healing light. Remove their pain and anoint them with the oil of gladness.

We pray for those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: Dennis, Dale, Jim, Barbara, Hannah, George, Barb, Linnea, Val, Katie, Eli, Lorie & Deliah, Renee, Mike, Ruth, Erika, Pat, Lois, Tom, Mike, John;

For those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Tammy, Derrick & Ruth, Betty, Eileen, Donna, Kevin, Kris, Bob & Beth, Suzanne, Ryan, Judy, Dennis, Rosemary, Beth, Doug, Marty & Rachel;

And for our family and friends in the armed forces
and who are first responders: Richard, Corey,
Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Eli, Richard,
Tony

And for all those we name at this time.

Silence

Intercessor Increase in us true religion;
People **nourish us with all goodness.**

Intercessor Holy God, your throne endures forever and ever:
bring us, at last, with all your saints, into your
heavenly kingdom. *Silence*

Intercessor Increase in us true religion;
People **nourish us with all goodness.**

Officiant All these things we have spoken, and those which
we name in the silence of our hearts, we pray in the
name of Jesus Christ our Lord who with you and
the Holy Spirit are one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

**All 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.

Dismissal and Concluding Sentence

Officiant Let us bless the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia. Alleluia. Amen. Amen.

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

In case of an emergency need for pastoral care call:

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