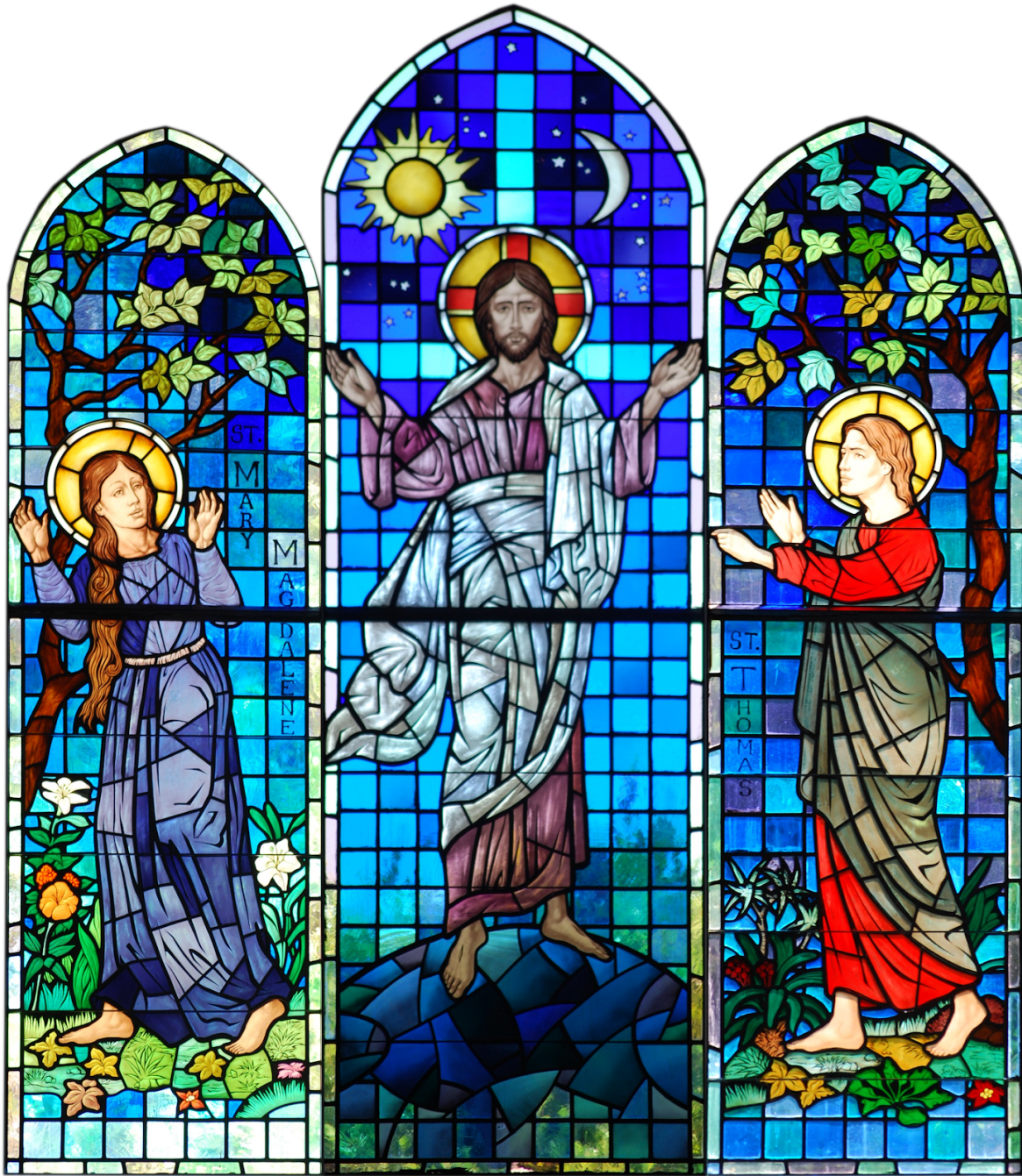


*St. Alban's Episcopal Church
15th Sunday In Pentecost*



September 13th, 2020

Our Mission: *We are called by the Spirit to be transformed by God in heart and mind, to serve our community, UCLA, and the world as the Body of Christ. We will grow in faith, hope and love through the practices of worship, formation, compassion and hospitality.*

Prelude Prelude on “Foundation”

Sam Batt Owens

Opening Hymn *Joyful. Joyful, we adore thee*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

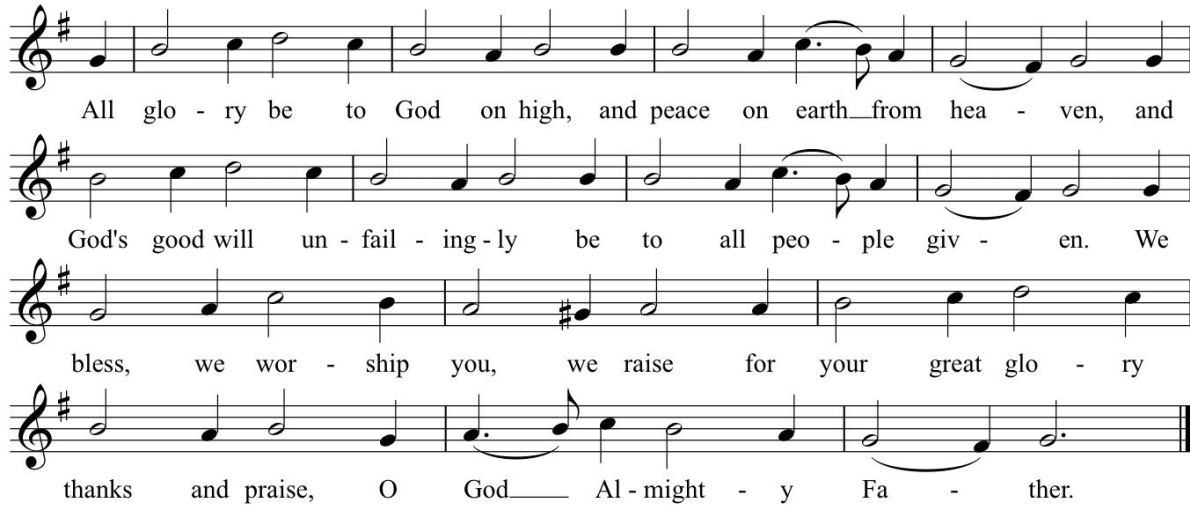
giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

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

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Gloria



All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace on earth from hea - ven, and
God's good will un - fail - ing - ly be to all peo - ple giv - en. We
bless, we wor - ship you, we raise for your great glo - ry
thanks and praise, O God Al - might - y Fa - ther.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army

into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

The Second Reading *Romans 14: 1-12*

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Gospel

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (18:21-35).
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Gospel Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**



The Sermon

Dr. Chiseche Mibenge

The Nicene Creed

Reader: Let us join in affirming our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

People: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he

came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Adapted from *Intercessions for Christian People*

- Reader:* In the power of God's new life, revealed in the Risen Lord, we pray to the Lord.
O God, you have blessed with faith those who see your presence in the wounded hands and feet of Jesus. You have also blessed with faith those who have not seen, yet believe your Gospel. We give you thanks for the faith you have given us, and we pray that we may share with---and be---the good news for people everywhere. Lord in your mercy,
- People:* **Hear our prayer.**
- Reader:* Turn the eyes of the leaders of the nations to envision a new world in which swords are turned into plowshares, and where justice reigns.
- People:* **Hear our prayer.**
- Reader:* As the earliest Christians held all things in common, and shared their abundance with the needy, give us the spirit of generosity in all things. Help us to overcome hunger and homelessness among the human family. Lord in your mercy,
- People:* **Hear our prayer.**
- Reader:* For prisoners and hostages, for those seeking justice, for those in mental anguish, for the sick and suffering, especially for all victims of the coronavirus pandemic, for their families, and for all front line care givers. Lord in your mercy,
- People:* **Hear our prayer.**
- Reader:* For the leaders of the Church; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for John and Diane, our Bishops; for Yein, our Rector; for the vestry, staff, and leaders of our congregation. Lord in your mercy,
- People:* **Hear our prayer.**
- Reader:* For all who have died and for all who grieve, that in Christ who has triumphed over death, they may find light perpetual and eternal love. Lord in your mercy,
- People:* **Hear our prayer.**
- Reader:* God of all power and love,
we give thanks for your unfailing presence
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.

Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn,
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.
Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

The Anthem

I Then Shall Live

Gaither/Sibelius

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven.
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am His child and I am not afraid.
So, greatly pardoned, I'll forgive my brother;
The law of love I gladly will obey.

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion.
I've been so loved, that I'll risk loving too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I'll dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
Then I'll be there to care and follow through.

Your Kingdom come around and through and in me;
Your power and glory, let them shine through me.
Your Hallowed Name, O may I bear with honor,
And may Your living Kingdom come in me.
The Bread of Life, O may I share with honor,
And may You feed a hungry world through me.
A men, a men.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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.**

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn

No saint on earth lives to self alone

1. No saint on earth lives life to self a - lone
2. For to this end our Lord by death was slain,

or dies a - lone, for we with Christ are one.
that to new life he might a - rise a - gain.

So if we live, for Christ a - lone we live,
Through sor - row on, to tri - umph Christ has led,

and if we die, to Christ our dy - ing give.
and reigns o'er all: the liv - ing and the dead.

In liv - ing and in dy - ing this con - fess:
In liv - ing and in dy - ing, him we bless.

we are the Lord's, safe in God's faith - ful - ness.
We are the Lord's, safe in God's faith - ful - ness.

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**