

**Morning Prayer for the 12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 23rd, 2020**

Welcome/Introduction

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:2
I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1
The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him. Habakkuk 2:20*

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

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

Officiant and People

**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.**

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

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!

Psalm 138

1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.

2 I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness.

3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.

4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.

5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.

7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.

8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

At the end of the Psalms is said

**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

A Reading from Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Hear what the Spirit is saying. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

The First Song of Isaiah Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.**

**Therefore, you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.**

And on that day, you shall say, *

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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 Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.’ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Hear what the Spirit is saying. *People* **Thanks be to God**

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.

**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.**

**V. Show us your mercy, O Lord.
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness.
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world.
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care.
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

- V. Let your way be known upon earth.
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten.
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God.
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Here, special intercessions may be offered.

Let us pray for our bishops, including Michael our Presiding Bishop and Lucinda, our Bishop; for our President, Governors, County Medical Officers and Mayors and the difficult decisions they must make during this pandemic, that guided by doctors and scientists they may lead only for the good of the all the people they were elected to serve; for citizens, that they do their part in making sacrifices and choices as they also share responsibility for the common good; for all those on many front lines who are keeping essential services flowing including nearby farmworkers; for students and parents, teachers and administrators; for health care workers and first responders; for the unemployed and those fearing the loss of their jobs or businesses; for communities with special need throughout the world, including St. Andres's.

And we pray for St. Dunstan's parish as it nears the beginning of a new chapter of its life with a new rector; for all who have continued to keep the Good News flowing during this time; for those who are finding this time especially difficult for different reasons; for new opportunities to grow into a new church and reach new people.

Let us now take a moment of silence to bring to heart and mind those people and situations, thanksgivings and blessings which God has placed before us. (Silence)

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

**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 ourselves 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.**

Homily “A Story and A Song” Fr. John

Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk this way with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind.

And may God the Father bless you,

God the Son protect you,

God the Holy Spirit give you wisdom and courage and patience.

And may Jesus our Great Physician and Good Shepherd help us continue to be instruments of healing and hope, comfort and compassion for others: for our families, our St. Dunstan’s family, for our neighborhoods and communities, for our country and our world, during this challenging time and always. **Amen.**