Pentecost
in a
Time of
Quarantine

Praying

Worshipping

Connecting

Church of the Holy Comforter Montgomery, AL

What we have to offer

We have now entered what we call "ordinary time" or the Season after Pentecost, when the liturgical color is green. This is the growing season when, once again, we stop each Sunday to consider what it means to be both disciples, that is, followers of Christ, and also apostles commissioned to carry the Good News to the ends of the earth. The life we are called to is not easy, and often, it seems like Matthew's words are uncompromising, almost strident, as he describes what the work of ministry and mission is like. It helps to remember that Matthew tells the Good News in the shadow of the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple. In a time more harsh than many of us have ever known, we can find relief and hope in a version of the Gospel that makes very little effort to white-wash or minimize the cost of discipleship, but also assures us, as Jesus assured his friends at the very end of the Matthew, "remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." May this be a season when we grow strong, sure and confident in God's love as we answer the call, by saying, "Here I am. Send me."

Today, here's what this eService Leaflet includes:

- 1. The readings from Jeremiah, Romans, the Psalm and the Gospel.
- 2. Links to live-streamed worship services for the Sundays after Pentecost. We will also include links you can turn to during the week for refreshment and prayer.
- 3. As always, at 8 tomorrow morning we will post a short video on Facebook and our webpage.

I miss and love you!

Rosa+

The Readings

The Collect

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 28:5-9

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

Psalm 89:1-4,15-18

- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; * from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; * you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
 I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever, * and preserve your throne for all generations."
- 15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout! * they walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.
- 16 They rejoice daily in your Name; * they are jubilant in your righteousness.

17 For you are the glory of their strength, * and by your favor our might is exalted.

18 Truly, the LORD is our ruler; * the Holy One of Israel is our King.

The Epistle

Romans 6:12-23

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Gospel

Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet



will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a discipletruly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."



Links

Each year, we hear Jesus speak to the fear, distrust and grief with the kind of clarity and kindness that helps a shattered community begin to heal. What the post-resurrection visits from Jesus mean may be clearer if you read all the readings appointed for this Sunday in this eService Leaflet

Click <u>here</u> for Washington National Cathedral's Sunday Holy Eucharist online, June 28 at 10:15 AM (cdt),

For Rosa's Sunday morning video, visit our Facebook page <u>here</u>. Also available on our website, <u>here</u>.

For daily meditations from Forward Day by Day, <u>click here</u>. Or to listen to a prayer, <u>here</u>.



Activities

Please be sure to join our Zoom gathering Sunday, June 28, at 11:30. The link to our gathering is:

Rosa Lindahl is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84762612605?pwd=ZXBEYXZDY2Z VMHhaL1piMmhvVnZIdz09

Meeting ID: 847 6261 2605

Password: 846329

You can also call in to join the gathering by dialing 1 312 626 6799 and providing the above meeting ID and Password.