



"Blessing Cross" Jan Richardson

Grace Episcopal Church

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2020 | 9:30am

Ministers | All of Us

Rector | Wren Blessing

Curate | Stephen Crippen

Music | Ann Strickland

the calling of the disciples

some Jesus
has come on me

i throw down my nets
into the water he walks

i loose the fish
he feeds to cities

and everyone calls me
an old name

as i follow out
laughing like God's fool
behind this Jesus

~ Lucille Clifton from *Good News About the Earth*,
Random House, 1972

A bell rings. We listen to the longing in our hearts.

Gathering Song | O Christe Domine Jesu *Offered by members of the Music Circle*

Words: Psalm 23; Taizé Community | Music: Jacques Berthier

The musical score is written for voice and piano in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with 'O Chri - ste Do - mi - ne Je - su, O'. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand, both marked with a '3' and a dashed line. The second system continues with 'Chri - ste Do - mi - ne Je - su!'. The piano accompaniment also features a triplet in the right hand and a triplet in the left hand, both marked with a '3' and a dashed line. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots. The words 'Last time' with a fermata symbol are written above the final notes of both systems.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

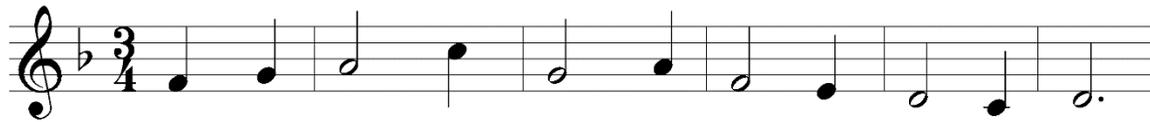
After the gathering song, the *Officiant* invites us to stand and says

- Officiant We are not alone.
People **We live in God's world.**
Officiant We are listening, Holy One.
People **Give us hope, give us courage.**
Officiant God, bless every step that we are taking.
People **And God, bless the earth beneath our feet.**

We remain standing and sing together.

Opening Song | Will You Come and Follow Me? *Led by Diane McGrew*

Text: John L. Bell & Graham Maule | Music: KELVINGROVE Scottish trad., arr. John L. Bell



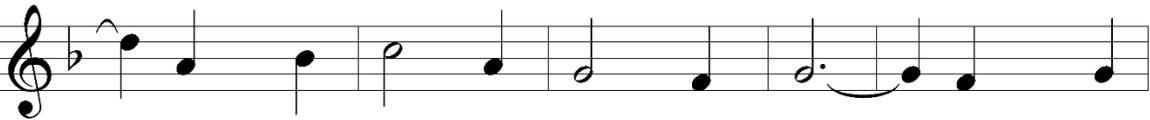
1. Will you come and fol - low me If I but call
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but call
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide If I but call



your name? Will you go where you don't know And
your name? Will you care for cruel and kind And
your name? Will you quell the fear in - side And



nev - er be the same? Will you let my love be shown,
nev - er be the same? Will you risk the hos - tile stare
nev - er be the same? Will you use the faith you've found



Will you let my name be known, Will you
Should your life at - tract or scare? Will you
To re - shape the world a - round, Through my



let my life be grown In you and you in me?
let me an - swer prayer In you and you in me?
sight and touch and sound In you and you in me?

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Merciful God, you are the author and giver of all good things. Stir in our hearts the love of you; nourish us with all goodness; and send us to proclaim the Good News to our neighbors. **Amen.**

WE TELL THE STORY

We are seated for the reading.

The First Reading | Jeremiah 15:15-21

○ Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;

for I am called by your name,
○ Lord, God of hosts.

I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;

under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the Lord:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

(The reading continues on the following page.)

And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

We stand and say the Psalm.

Psalm | 26:1-8

Give judgment for me, O Lord,
for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

**Test me, O Lord, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

For your love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

**I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

We are seated for the second reading.

The Second Reading | Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

We stand together and sing

Gospel Song | **I Have Decided to Follow Jesus** *Offered by Maggie Finley*

Indian Folk Melody; arr. Norman Johnson

I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.

I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
No turning back, no turning back.

The Officiant introduces the Gospel by saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel | Matthew 16:21-28

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

After the Gospel the Officiant will say

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

OUR RESPONSE TO THE STORY

The Homily

Affirmation of Faith

We stand and say

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth,
of all humanity.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
born of a woman's womb, servant of the poor,
he was tortured and nailed to a tree.
Knowing full passion and deep sorrow, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present,
and his Kingdom will one day be known.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church.
She is the Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of life everlasting. Amen**

We gather silently in prayer.

The Prayers of the People

Words: Taizé Community | Music: Ann Strickland

Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace.

5
Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace_

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace." The second staff starts with a measure rest labeled "5". The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace_".

Silence

Leader "O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me."
God, in these times of suffering, You know us, You call us by name.
Help us recognize You and believe in Your infinite presence.

We pause for further prayer.

Leader God of refuge,
People hear our prayer.

Leader There is so much in our world that separates us from each other. Open us to new ways to come together, to be in community. May we "Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection."

We pause for further prayer.

Leader Jesus, our Brother,
People hear our prayer.

Leader Jesus, you challenged your disciples with the hard truth of your mission, saying, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."
Remove the stumbling blocks that set our minds on human things and away from the life You have given us. Give us the strength and courage we need each day to pick up our cross and follow You.

We pause for further prayer.

Leader Jesus, our Redeemer,
People hear our prayer.

Leader "If you turn back, I will take you back."
We, as a nation are facing the evil of our oppression towards others. Continue to change our hearts, so that as we face ourselves and each other, we see You and feel your warm and loving embrace.

We pause for further prayer.

Leader God, our Comforting Mother,
People hear our prayer.

Leader “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.”
Together, we pray for each other, our families, friends, those who serve us, people throughout our country and across the world who are impacted by COVID-19, who live in poverty, in the midst of natural disasters, or violent unrest. Lord receive our prayers for those we name and hold close in our hearts.

We pause for further prayer.

Leader God, our glorious Father,
People **hear our prayer.**

Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace.

5
Give peace to ev-ery heart, give peace to ev-ery heart. Give peace. Give peace—

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the prayer, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.**

Offertory Song | Amazing Grace *Led by Krista Webb*

by John Newton

While we cannot gather in person, we make our weekly offerings online here: <https://www.gracehere.org/online-giving/>.

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

The Blessing

The Officiant offers a blessing.

The blessing of the one, holy, and undivided Trinity be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Song | Thuma Mina

Traditional South African

Leader *All*

1 Thu - ma mi - na. 1 Thu - ma mi - na, thu - ma mi - na.
2 Seng' ya vu - ma, seng' ya vu - ma,
1 Send me, Lord. 1 Send me, Je - sus, send me, Je - sus,
2 Lead me, Je - sus, lead me, Je - sus,
3 Fill me, Je - sus, fill me, Je - sus,

1-2 3

Leader

Thu - ma mi - na, So - man - dla.
2 Seng' ya vu - ma.
Seng' ya vu - ma, So - man - dla.
1 Send me, Lord.
2 Lead me, Lord.
Lead me, Je - sus, lead me, Lord.
3 Fill me, Lord.
Fill me, Je - sus, fill me, Lord.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Using the Zoom chat window, please share a milestone that we can recognize together.

We will sing, "God Grant Them Many Years."

The Peace

We conclude with the sharing of God's peace.

Officiant Now the peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please stay online to join in a small group for a coffee hour conversation

Grace Church | Bainbridge Island

..... inclusion service discovery gratitude

Newcomers

Are you new or visiting? Please email one of our clergy, Stephen Crippen (stephen@gracehere.org) or Wren Blessing (wren@gracehere.org), to get more connected.

Annual Giving – What is your story?

As we look toward the fall, our Annual Giving team wants to hear your story! How are you living into grace in your own life? How is this community inviting you to live into God's grace? Please email your reflections to Ann New (annjnew@gmail.com), Trustee for Development, or to Grace's office (office@gracehere.org).

Outreach Opportunity with La Iglesia de la Resurrección

There is still time to contribute.

Consider bringing any of the following items to be distributed through our partner ministry, La Iglesia de la Resurrección: Gift cards for Walmart, Safeway, or Fred Meyer; children's diapers in sizes 3, 4, and 5; feminine products, especially pads and deodorant; bubbles, drawing paper, coloring books. Place your contributions in the bins outside of Grace Church.

Please bring contributions before September 1 so that they can be included in our delivery.

Do you want to share your music through Zoom?

Please contact Martin Cockroft or Ann Strickland at music@gracehere.org if you'd like to offer a song during our online Sunday service.

Upcoming Events & Programs

Today | Evening Prayer Outdoors at Grace on the Patio | 5 pm

You are invited to join in our first socially distanced service of Evening Prayer! If you haven't yet signed up and would like to participate, please email Wren: wren@gracehere.org.

August 31 | Men's Group Gathering | 7:30 pm

Please contact Eric Matthews for the Zoom link: eric@gracehere.org.

September 2 | Wednesday Healing Prayer & Bible Study | 10:30 am

Please find links to the Zoom login and the worship bulletin on our website: <https://www.gracehere.org/join-us-for-online-worship-at-grace/>.