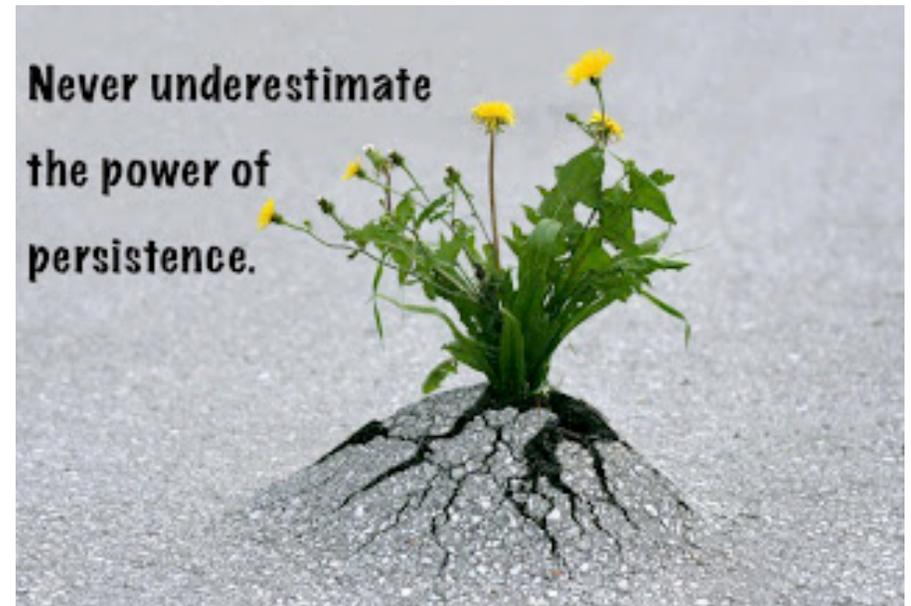


A Celtic Style

Eucharist, 22nd Sunday

after Pentecost



Grace Episcopal Church, Traverse City
October 19, 2013, 5 p.m.
The Rev. Walter Draeger, Presider and Preacher

(the congregation stands as the ministers enter the sanctuary)

The God of love is with us

The Spirit of love is in us

Blessed are you in the heights and depths, O God.

Let the winds and all that stirs life into motion Praise You

The Lighting of the three lights

We will light a light in the name of the Maker,

God, who breathed life into all creation.

We will light a light in the name of the Son,

Jesus, who taught of the love that flows in all.

We will light a light in the name of the Spirit,

The Holy One encompassing us like the wind.

Almighty and eternal God to you our hearts are open and our inmost desires known, we cannot hide our most intimate secrets from you. Be present at all times in our thoughts and hearts and purify them with your Holy Spirit so that we may love you with the love of the Spirit, and praise your name with humility and joy; through Christ Jesus, our Lord. **AMEN.**

A Hymn of Praise

Let us join together to praise the God of all things.

Glory in all my seeing

Women: Glory in all my being

Men: Glory in all my speaking

All: Glory in all my seeking

Celebrant: Glory in all my hearing

Women: Glory in every appearing

Men: Glory in all my feeling

All: Glory in God's revealing

Celebrant: Glory of the mighty Three

The Celtic Blessing (we may stand or kneel)

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us; so be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always. **AMEN**

The Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, let us go into the world to show forth the light and love of Christ, who goes before us.

Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

now to bless them - the Holy Bread of life and the Cup of eternal blessing - and make them worthy to please you. Accept them with the sacrifice of our hearts that all who share in this Bread and this Cup may be blessed in your love. We pray this in the name of Jesus, your Son. **AMEN.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Bread of life, nourish our souls,
Light of the world, shine in our hearts.

(the congregation approaches the altar to receive their communion)

(after receiving, the altar is put in order and we stand or kneel to offer our thanks for Christ's gift of His presence to us)

Let us pray.

O God, you have lovingly called us to be your people and have given us this bread and this wine as a reminder of your love. Help us to feel the flame of your love. Rekindled in our hearts by this holy meal and to follow the light that leads us home to you, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. AMEN.

(at the extinguishing of the lights)

Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish the lights that here represent the Presence of the Holy in our midst,

But we will carry the light in our hearts, and we pray that as we go about our work in the world, we will shine with the love of God always. AMEN

Women: Glory entwining round me

Men: Glory in the opening of day

All: Glory in the rocky way

Celebrant: Glory in the morning light

Women: Glory in the darkest night

Men: Glory there for beholding

All: Glory ever me enfolding, Glory of God, hand above

Glory of Christ, heart of love, Glory of Spirit, covering dove.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession 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**

(all may be seated for the readings and the psalm)

A reading from the book of Genesis

Jacob got up at night and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have

prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121 (*read responsively by half verse*)

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *

from where is my help to come?

2 My help comes from the Lord, *

the maker of heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved *

and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *

shall neither slumber nor sleep;

5 The Lord himself watches over you; *

the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *

nor the moon by night.

7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *

it is he who shall keep you safe.

8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, * **from this time forth for evermore.**

A reading from Paul's 2nd letter to Timothy

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so

May it become for us the cup of blessing.

Receive these gifts, dear God, and accept in them the sacrifice of ourselves.

In life and in death may we be an offering to you for ever.

Great Creator Spirit, from whom all life comes forth, here we gather again with bread and with wine, seeking your presence, longing once more to be nourished.

We hunger for wholeness in our lives, for unity on earth and for peace among the nations, and we know that only in your love can such peace and unity be found. And so with all that we are and all that we can give, we join with all of creation as we say your praises;

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of all power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,

Hosanna in the highest.

The earth is full of your glory, O Lord, and for the earth we give you thanks and ask your blessing. We now also ask you to bless this offering of bread and wine, to accept it fully, to make it perfect and worthy that it may become for us the Bread of Life and the Cup of Blessing. We remember Jesus, who on the night before he suffered, took bread and, lifting it up and giving thanks to you, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his friends saying; **"TAKE, AND EAT THIS, FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU."** Then he took the cup, blessed the wine and gave it to them saying; **"TAKE AND DRINK THIS, FOR THIS CUP IS MY BLOOD, WHICH SHALL BE SHED FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF ALL. WHENEVER YOU DO THESE THINGS, YOU SHALL REMEMBER ME."**

And so, Lord, in memory of Jesus, we your sons and daughters offer you these gifts. We call on your Holy Spirit

Celebrant: O loving Christ, hanged on a tree yet risen in the morning, scatter the sin from our souls as the mist from the hills; begin what we do, inform what we say, redeem who we are.

In you we place our hope, our great hope, our living hope, this day and evermore. AMEN

(the congregation stands for the Peace)

Celebrant: God make peace within us

People: **Let us claim it.**

Celebrant: God make peace between us

People: **Let us share it.**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you

People: **and also with you** *(exchange the peace)*

(any necessary announcements are now given)

(The Liturgy of the Table begins with the offering of our gifts, the bread, the wine, and the money, and when the table is prepared we stand and lift our hearts to Christ's presence)

The God of love be with you. **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

All things are yours, O God of all creation,
and so we return our gifts to you.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation, through whose goodness we have this bread to offer which the earth has given and human hands have made;

May it become for us the bread of life.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation, through whose goodness we have this wine to offer. Fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(the congregation stands for the reading of the Gospel)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Christ!

Jesus told the disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ!**

(the congregation may be seated for the sermon)

A short homily by The Rev. Walter Draeger

(the congregation stands for the Affirmation of Faith)

Let us say together an Affirmation of our Faith

You, O God, are supreme and holy. You created our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measures.

You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.

(the congregation may stand or kneel for the Prayers of the People)

Celebrant: We pray now for the needs of the church, the world and all those in need, knowing that God is able to bring light to any darkness, and to transfigure any circumstance into a moment for blessing. Let us pray

Intercessor: Almighty God, creator of all things, maker of all people, grant that we may find a spirit of unity in you.

That we may all be joined together in a bond of peace.

Intercessor: May we also in unity share, with justice, the rich resources of the world,

That no one may suffer hunger, need, or oppression.

Intercessor: Give us courage and compassion to offer shelter to the homeless, clothing to the naked, and comfort to all the sick.

That through our hands your love may be known to the world.

Intercessor: Give rest to all who have died, especially____, and solace to those who mourn.

May your healing love surround them.

Celebrant: Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask; help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask. Grant us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

(we stand or kneel for the confession of our sins)

Celebrant: Jesus said "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

O God of life, eternity cannot hold you, nor can our little words catch the magnificence of your kindness. Yet in the space of our small hearts and in silence you can come close and heal us.

Celebrant: O God of life, grant us your forgiveness.

For our careless thoughts, for our thoughtless deeds, for our empty speech and the words with which we have wounded.

Celebrant: O God of life, grant us your forgiveness.

For our false desires, for our hateful actions, for our wastefulness and for all we have left untended.