THE TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020
9:00 A.M.
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

WELCOME

PRELUDE

HYMN

Not here for high and holy things (vs. 1-4)

Morning Song

1 Not here for high and holy things we render thanks to thee, but for the common things of earth, the purple panegyry of dawning and of dying days, the splendor of the sea,

2 the royal robes of autumn moors, the golden gates of silver gleaming of all the million stars, the silent song they sing, 

3 of faith and hope and love undimmed, undying still through time there comes the breath of dawn that rustles through the trees, and that clear voice that saith:

4 A-wake, a-wake to love and work! The lark is in the sky, the fields are wet with dawning dew, the Lord of life, as he goes meekly by.
OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant  Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant  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.

KYRIE ELEISON

Celebrant  Lord, have mercy.
People  Christ, have mercy
Celebrant  Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant  The Lord be with you.
People  And also with you.
Celebrant  Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read,
mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of
everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON  Judges 4:1-7

A lesson from the book of Judges.

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the
hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in
Haroseth-ha-goim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron,
and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of
Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for
judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, “The
Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, ‘Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the
tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you by
the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.’”

Reader  The Word of the Lord.
People  Thanks be to God.

PSALM 123
1 To you I lift up my eyes, * 
to you enthroned in the heavens.

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, * 
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the LORD our God, * 
until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, * 
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, * 
and of the derision of the proud.

Hymn

God, whose giving knows no ending

Rustington

Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

Priest 
The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Peter W. Mayer

NICENE CREED

Celebrant and 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER
Creator God, life is your gift to us. Through Baptism you invite each of us to share the gift of life in service to others. Hear our prayers as we strive to be good stewards. Open the minds and hearts of the people of our parish so that we may accept your challenge to use all our gifts in service to You and in communion with one another to build your Kingdom on earth. Make us keenly aware of all the blessings of our rich lives. Help us to be good stewards of our time by putting prayer first in our lives. Help us to be good stewards of our talent by putting ourselves at the service of each other. Help us to be good stewards of our treasure by sharing our financial means to build up our Church and aid those in need. Make your love the foundation of our lives. May our love for you express itself through our eagerness to use our time, our talent and our treasure to serve You, your Church and one another. Amen.

CONFESSION

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may give to St. Margaret’s by texting GIVESMC to 73256.

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY MUSIC Take my life, and let it be John Bacchus Dykes

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.  
Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.  
Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

**Great Thanksgiving**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.  
People And also with you.  
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.  
People We lift them to the Lord.  
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of 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.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, Margaret, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

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

Celebrant and 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

People Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived and died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

My Jesus,
    I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
    I love You above all things,
    and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

BLESSING
The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

HYMN

Not here for high and holy things (vs. 5-6)  

Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise; see how the giant sun soars up, great lord of years and days! So let the love of Jesus come and set thy soul ablaze, serve right gloriously the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.

DISMISSAL
Celebrant  Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People  Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE
Helen Adams Keller, an American author, political activist, and lecturer and the first deaf-blind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree once said "I would rather walk with a friend in the dark, than alone in the light".

Our 2020 Stewardship Campaign’s theme is centered on Connection, Compassion, and Community. Like Helen, we choose to “walk” with each other, even through dark times and experiences through our sharing of time, talent and treasure, rather than being alone.

So much of what have done already, and what we will be doing in the future as a parish is centered in our walks together and in the way that our hearts reach out to others through the missions we support and the loving welcome that is always present at St. Margaret’s.

The Stewardship Campaign is well underway with strong support and participation by all at this point. We have some distance yet to go in both pledging and the number of those doing so. Helen’s words about companionship continues to point us in the right direction as we make our commitments to pledge the financial support that is needed to carry out the wonderful work of St. Margaret’s Church.

-Dan Tootle, Stewardship Team Member

Pledge today:
*in your Realm account (watch instructions on our website stewardship page)
*on a pledge card (in the narthex or in the mail).

It's so easy to make a pledge on Realm!
(1) Log into your Realm account at onrealm.org
   (look for the Realm logo at the bottom of our website)
(2) Check your giving for this year.
(3) Check your pledge for 2020.
(4) Enter your pledge for 2021.

Please check to make sure your new pledge is correct.
Did you pledge by week, by month, or by year?

From the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland – Nov. 9, 2020

Yesterday, the State of Maryland recorded over 1500 new cases of COVID-19 (only two other times have we reached this many cases, both in May). As of today, the positivity rate throughout our diocese is ranging from 3.3 to 7.7 percent.* The 7-day case rate of new infections per 100,000 people ranges from 10.1 to 52.1 percent.* The statewide case rate has increased 28.6 percent and the acute care and ICU hospitalization rate has increased 25.2 percent in the last week alone (a case rate over 10 is of concern; anything over 20 is worrisome). Case rates in surrounding states are 15-44. Given the trends, there is no indication that these rates are going to decrease any time soon; they are expected to continue to climb. As such, the diocese is returning to greater restrictions for at least the next two weeks. So until further notice:

- All indoor public worship is suspended beginning immediately and through at least Saturday, November 28. The decision to return to indoor worship as early as Sunday, November 29 will be made and communicated no later than Monday, November 23;
- Worship leadership teams (of no more than 10 persons) may continue to gather indoors to broadcast worship;
- Outdoor worship may continue, but with a capacity limit of no more than 50 persons present (including leaders). Some jurisdictions (such as Baltimore City) are advising gatherings of no more than 10 outdoors as well;
- Masked singers (up to four) may continue to rehearse and perform. Rehearsal and pre-recording may continue for up to ten persons outdoors;
- Baptisms that are already scheduled may still take place via livestream with only the baptismal candidate, parents and sponsors present;
- Weddings or funerals may take place in limited numbers (no more than 25 in person). Clergy should use discretion based on rates in their area and may contact regather@EpiscopalMaryland.org for advice;
- Outreach ministries may continue within the parameters of the state and local jurisdictional guidelines and restrictions;
- Schools may remain open under the same guidelines and restrictions as the state and local jurisdiction allows, but we recommend that the risk to adult caregivers and teachers be weighed seriously (of note, a new study from Europe demonstrates that infection risk in younger children in a school setting is very low). Any school in a jurisdiction with a case positivity rate higher than 20 should seriously consider suspending in-person learning;
- Outside groups using your property (such as 12 step groups) should suspend meeting indoors. Groups meeting outdoors should be limited in size.

It is entirely possible and probable that these restrictions will continue through Christmas unless the positivity rate, case rate and hospital bed use reduce significantly and stay down for at least two weeks. Every jurisdiction in our diocese has shown an increase this past week. Given the expected travel and larger family gatherings expected for Thanksgiving, that trend is likely to continue. At whatever point restrictions may be lifted, there may be a cap placed on maximum number of people who may gather publicly in person, regardless of the capacity of the indoor or outdoor space.

*Maryland Department of Health
7-day average case rate per jurisdiction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Today</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>2 Weeks Ago</th>
<th>2-week change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>18.04</td>
<td>14.53</td>
<td>11.08</td>
<td>62.8 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel County</td>
<td>18.94</td>
<td>14.38</td>
<td>10.90</td>
<td>73.8 %</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ST. MARGARET’S CHURCH**

Staff

The Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector
The Rev. Patti Sachs, Associate Rector
Elizabeth Radley, Director of Operations
Jim Douglas, Director of Music
Laura Tayman, Director of Communications
Jeff Conover, Youth Ministries Leader
Teresa McCorkle, Bookkeeper
Jim Bowersox, Facilities and Operations Asst.
Tricia McVeigh, Director of Day School
Judy Hall, Churchyard Administrator
Christine Feldmann, Grants Administrator

Vestry Board

Paul O’Donnell, Senior Warden
Steve Brennan, Junior Warden
Charlie Lang, Treasurer
Jim Barnett, Clerk

Vestry Members

Kristen Berthelotte
Stacia Bontempo
Marti Engstrom
Barbara Friedmann
Phil Graham
Cory Greene
Elizabeth Kopack
Luke Morgan
Rex Pingle
Ella Tomko
Sarah Westcott
Brian Williams