

# Pohick Episcopal Church

November 8, 2020 • The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost • Morning Prayer Rite II

Facebook Live from the Pohick Church Courtyard • 9:00 am • BCPonline.org, p.78

## Opening Welcome

**Prelude** *Zion hears the watchman singing*

*Distler*

Officiant I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." *Psalm 122:1*

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

### *Officiant 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.*

Officiant 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.*

## The Invitatory and Psalter

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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 78:1-7** (in unison)

*Attendite, popule*

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, \*  
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob  
and established a law for Israel, \*  
which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know,  
and the children yet unborn; \*  
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, \*  
and not forget the deeds of God,  
but keep his commandments;

*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.*

**The Lessons**

Reader A Reading from Joshua (24:1-3a, 14-25)

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors - Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor - lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua,

“No, we will serve the LORD!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

**Canticle 19 The Song of the Redeemed** (in unison)  
*Magna et mirabilia Revelation 15:3-4*

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

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.

Reader A Reading from 1 Thessalonians (4:13-18)

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

**Hymn 68 Rejoice, rejoice believers**

*Please note that due to Covid-19 restrictions, the soloist is the only person allowed to sing during the service.  
Thank you for your cooperation.*

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;  
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.  
 Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Egbwys yng Nghymru*, 1865

Reader A Gospel Reading from Matthew (25:1-13)

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

Sermon The Reverend Alex Allain

Solo *O Light of Life!*

*Wilberg*

*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.

*Officiant 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.*

Officiant Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People *And grant us your salvation.*

Officiant Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People *Let your people sing with joy.*

Officiant Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People *For only in you can we live in safety.*

Officiant Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

Officiant Let your way be known upon earth;

People *Your saving health among all nations.*

Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

Collect for the Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Collect for Guidance in Times of Conflict

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Collect for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Election and Post-Election

O Lord our God, the fountain of all love, wisdom, and peace, lead your people to your will for our nation during these troubled times. Guide us to discern and elect a president and other leaders who will listen to Your Spirit of Love, protect our God-given freedoms, and lead us into justice and truth, for the sake of all your beloved children. Where there is division or discord, unite us in love and grace. Lord, protect our hearts, for they are the wellspring of life. Enable our nation to fulfill your purposes, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. *Amen.* (Rev. Lynn Ronaldi)

Hymn 719 *O beautiful for spacious skies*

Please note that due to Covid-19 restrictions, the soloist is the only person allowed to sing during the service.

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,  
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,  
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!  
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!  
 thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.  
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.  
 and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

Words: Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929), alt. Music: *Materna*, Samuel Augustus Ward (1848-1903)

## **Intercessions and Thanksgivings**

*Officiant* **Let us pray for all those affected by COVID-19**, by any illness or hunger, or by loss of life, job or home. For all those who are isolated, alone, or discouraged.

**We pray for Pohick Church and all churches who are learning to be community in new ways.**

**We especially pray for an end to the pandemic, and wisdom for our leaders.**

**We pray for an end to racism and all social injustice, for the courage to protest wrongs peacefully, and for an end to the civil unrest and violence in our nation.**

**We pray for those who have died, especially for Pehr Hugo Pehrsson**, father to Pehr Pehrsson, and grandfather of Erica, Kelsey, Emily and Rachel Pehrsson. Mr. Pehrsson passed away peacefully at The Fairfax on October 19.

**We pray for family and friends who are first responders, hospital personnel, and fire and rescue personnel:** Will Prados, Julie Kiefer, Karen; Laura; Jennifer; Dr. Will Edmonson; Kathe Hannis Clark RN, Michelle Alley Sherrod, RN, Alison Brown Tuttle; Sara Mulhern, Nathan Crane, Dr. Susanne Roberts, Dr. Richard Yoon, Lindsey Chapman, Taylor Bireley, Chris Johnson, Grace Agar, Lt Anthony Marsico, Jr, Dr. Laurie Mortara, Melissa, Laura, Ashley, Avery, Chase, Teddy, Elizabeth Bartkowiak, Davis Sessums, Dr. Tony Slavinski, Christian Lavenski RN, Robert Foresman, Alex Foresman, Katie Arnhart, Dr. George Smallfield III, Dr. Melissa Smallfield, Patrick Burkey, Dr. John Orona, Dr. Devon Watson, Dr. Megan Sise, Dr. Uulana Bodnar, Ashley Nicholson, Kathy Vitale, Christian Ewaskiewicz, RN, Kathy Aagesen; Justin and Nora Scot, Susan Plain, Lea Schmitt, Chris Stone, Lisa Keill, Alison Tompkins, Sheriden Floyd RN, William Low, Cameron Craig, Christina Petty, RN, Courtney Hayward, RN, Rachel Mazerolle, RN, Dr. Sunmolu Beckley, Dr. Maxwell James, Dr. Cameron Webb, Dr. Adrian Ambrose, Funmilayo Onipede, Nicole Habel, Haley Sanchez, Funmilayo Abiara, Annie Hammer, Ty Ashworth, Rose Kepnang, Alyssa Craig, Carmen Watson, Tom, Bailey, Dr. Alley Ronaldi, Melissa Villamoor, Dr. Dan Derbes III, Danielle Derbes, PA, Anna Delania and Tracy Torseth, RNs.

**We especially pray for those in our parish who are ill, hospitalized, or in need of our prayers:** Kristy Girten, the Nelson Family, Penelope Mann, Kenneth Minter, Archie Taylor and family, Erika Knudsen, George Crump, Haydee Sparks, Peter Thomas, Tom Murphy, Carole Fischer, Joan Parsons, Adrian McCabe, Henry Lowel, Willy and Christel Lowel, Suzi Scott, Diana Hinton, Sharon Michel, Bryan Tuccillo, Victoria Sackett, D'Andrea Wooten, Beth Cooke, Joan Egan, Bill Hosp, Wendy, Margery, Ethan Lee, Jack Florio, Tim Dwyer, Blaise G., William Low, Simon Delgado, Bobbie, Stan Coss, Kathy Haage, Patricia Scott, Will Prados, Mary Ott, James King, Funmi Oduolowu, Tom and Angie V., and Julie Kiefer.

**We also pray for those having birthday this week:** Harry Biggs, Vera Jones, Simon Daw, James Foster, Alek Greathouse, Isabel Hogg, Ruby Romine, Thomas Ronaldi, James Cameron, Alexander Sessums, Molly Schwoppe, Charles MacDonald, John Brownlee, Svea Krajack, Kristina Moon, and Rosser Howard.

**We pray for our members who serve our country**, particularly those overseas, and their families: John Winston, Tony Winston, Arch Wilson, Ryan Moatta, Rick Church, Katie Weber, Jesse Grimm, and Marty Wilson.

**We pray for Christians and others around the world**, especially those in Burma, China, Nigeria, and North Korea, who continue to face persecution for their faith.

**We pray for peace in the Middle East**, and for the Church in Syria, Iraq, Egypt, and Israel.

**In the Diocese of Virginia, we pray for St. Paul's, Richmond and for St. John's, Richmond.**

*Other intercessions may be typed in Facebook comments, or spoken aloud or in silence.*

## **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.*

### A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

## **Closing remarks**

**Postlude** *"Sleepers wake!" a voice astounds us* *Walther*

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Officiant: The Reverend Dr. Lynn P. Ronaldi, *Rector*  
Assisting: The Reverend Alex Allain, *Assistant Rector*  
Seminarian: Adam Lees  
Lay Eucharist Minister: Hank Foresman  
Minister of Music: Linda Wilberger Egan, SMM  
Soloist: Gloria Jackson, *soprano*  
Acolyte: Andrew Choi

## Announcements

- **Sunday school classes** for all ages and Inquirers' Class are at 11:00 am today via Zoom.
- Pick up a shoebox today after church to participate in the parish-wide service project being sponsored by the EYC. **Operation Christmas Child** helps make a difference to children around the world. Shoeboxes can be picked up in the parking lot on the west side of the Parish House anytime today from 9:00 am – 12:00 noon. Packing instructions are included inside the shoebox along with a list of suggested and prohibited items. Please contact Rusty Booth, rusty@pohick.org, if you have any questions or need to have a shoebox delivered or picked up.
- Join us next Sunday, November 15, at 9:00 am for **Morning Prayer Rite II**. The service will be in the courtyard unless the Diocesan-mandated health metric has been met in Fairfax County. Up to 50 people can worship together outside, distanced. No age restriction to attend the service. Sign-up for the worship service on our website, pohick.org. **The 9:00 am service is also streamed live on the Pohick Facebook page.**
- Don't forget to order your Thanksgiving goodies from the **Martha Guild Thanksgiving Bake Sale**. The **order deadline is Sunday, November 15**. More details and easy-to-use order form available on the Pohick website, pohick.org.
- **Stewardship Sunday is November 15**. Please watch for a letter, brochure, and pledge card! You can view all the outstanding stewardship testimonials from November 1, 8 and 15 on FB. Also, please watch the stewardship talk recorded by George and Ellie Crump; the link is on our website, pohick.org.
- The Pohick Outreach Team is asking for your help! We are preparing **Thanksgiving Food Baskets for the Lorton Community Action Center**. The list of items for the baskets is posted on our website. Bring donations to Pohick Church on Saturday, November 21, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Email Edwardene Pitcock for more information, epitcock@mindspring.com.
- **Save the Date! (details on website):** First-ever **Live Nativity** on Saturday, December 5, featuring the Christmas Story, music, a real Holy Family, and a Petting Zoo!

### Pohick Episcopal Church

*The Reverend Dr. Lynn P. Ronaldi, Rector*

9301 Richmond Highway • Lorton, VA 22079 • 703-339-6572 • pohick.org

Home Church of George Washington and George Mason

*Embracing the Past, Welcoming in the Present, Transforming for the Future*