

VERITAS REFORMED CHURCH

*Allen Powers,
Leading Elder*

*Sunday Liturgy
August 6
Anno Domini 2023*

*The Tenth Sunday
After Pentecost*



For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

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Reflections

The prophet promises that one day YHWH will restore the fortunes of Israel by bringing about a new covenant, ... a new marriage of God and God's people. ... Jeremiah spoke of this in terms of God putting his law into people's hearts, and that is very close to what Paul envisages here. But **the** central thing he has to say, the central contrast between the old covenant and the new one, is that now God will give his own spirit to his people.

N.T. Wright

God, who as at this time did teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Savior, who lives and reigns with thee, in the unity of that same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Pentecost Collect
from the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer*

Every time we say, "I believe in the Holy Spirit," we mean that we believe that there is a living God able and willing to enter human personality and change it.

J. B. Phillips

When troubles surround us, when evils come.
The body grows weak, the spirit grows numb.
When these things beset us, he doesn't forget us,
he sends down his love,
on the wings of a dove.

On the wings of a snow white dove,
he sends his pure sweet love.
A sign from above,
on the wings of a dove.

Ferlin Husky
On the Wings of a Dove

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Call to Worship: from Psalm 13

Leader: How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

People: **How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

Leader: Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death,

People: **Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.**

Leader: But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

People: **I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.**

Leader: Come and Worship!

Hymn of Praise: God All Nature Sings Thy Glory

1. God, all na - ture sings thy glo - ry, and thy works pro - claim thy might;
2. Clear - er still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast made for thee;
3. But our sins have spoiled thine im - age; na - ture, con - science on - ly serve
4. God of glo - ry, pow - er, mer - cy, all cre - a - tion prais - es thee;

or - dered vast - ness in the heav - ens, or - dered course of day and night;
rul - er of cre - a - tion's glo - ry, im - age of thy maj - es - ty.
as un - ceas - ing, grim re - mind - ers of the wrath which we de - serve.
we, thy crea - tures, would a - dore thee now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

beau - ty in the chang - ing sea - sons, beau - ty in the storm - ing sea;
Mu - sic, art, the fruit - ful gar - den, all the la - bor of his days,
Yet thy grace and sav - ing mer - cy in thy Word of truth re - vealed
Saved to mag - ni - fy thy good - ness, grant us strength to do thy will;

all the chang - ing moods of na - ture praise the change - less Trin - i - ty.
are the call - ing of his Mak - er to the har - vest feast of praise.
claim the praise of all who know thee, in the blood of Je - sus sealed.
with our acts as with our voic - es thy com - mand - ments to ful - fill.

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Prayer of Praise and the Lord's Prayer

Confession of Sin

Scripture Reading: Psalm 19:7-14

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Corporate Confession of Sin

Father, we know how we should live. You have written your law both in Your word and on our hearts. You have instilled in us an awareness when we sin against your law. We know your might, your power, your holiness, your great love for your people, and yet, despite this, we sin against you. At this time we come to You in confession, thinking of our sin, and the many ways we have transgressed against You. And yet, we can never confess all our sin because we are unable to even know them. Help us now, Lord, to confess, and we pray as did the Psalmist to declare us innocent from hidden faults. Deliver us from impulsive and presumptuous sins. Cleanse us again, we pray, through the sacrifice of Jesus, our savior and only hope. In His name we pray, Amen.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Assurance of Pardon and the Peace of God: Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Leader: People of God, we are at peace with God. Jesus has redeemed us, and we can stand before God, not because of anything we have done but only because of His

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work. Our sins have been totally and completely forgiven and removed as far as the east is from the west.

People: Blessed is the name of Jesus, our Savior!

Leader: May the peace of God always be with you.

People: And also with you.

Collection of Tithes & Offerings

And Hymn of Response: In Christ Alone

Keith Getty, 2001

IN CHRIST ALONE

Stuart Townend, 2001

Confidently ♩ = 58-64

1. In Christ al - one, my hope is found, He is my
2. In Christ al - one, Who took on flesh, ful - ness of
3. There in the ground, His bo - dy lay; Light of the
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the

Light, my Strength, my Song; This Cor - ner - stone, this Sol - id
God in help - less Babe. This Gift of Right - eous -
world by dark - ness in slain; me; From burst - ing forth in as
pow'r of Christ in me; From life's first cry to glor - ious fi - nal

Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought an storm. What heights of
ness, Scorned by the ones He came to save. 'Til on that
day, from the grave He rose ag - ain! And as He
breath, Je - sus com - mands my dest - in - y! No pow'r of

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings
cross, as Je - sus died, The wrath of God was sat - is -
stands in vic - tor - y, sin's curse has lost its grip on
hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His

cease! My Com - for - ter, my All - in - all, Here in the love of Christ I
fied, For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid, Here in the death of Christ I
me, For I am His, and He is mine, Bought with the pre - cious blood of
hand. 'Til He re - turns, or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll

stand.
live.
Christ.
stand.

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Presentation of Tithes and Offertory Prayer

Hymn: Doxology

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come 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.

Hymn of Response: Gloria Patri

Prayer of Intercession

Hymn of Preparation: Arise, O God

(Music on next page.)

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August 6

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The Tenth Sunday
After Pentecost

Arise, O God

442

The LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Is. 60:2

1. A - rise, O God, and shine in all thy sav - ing might,
2. Bring dis - tant na - tions near to sing thy glo - rious praise;
3. Send forth thy glo - rious pow'r, that Gen - tiles all may see,
4. To God, the on - ly wise, the one im - mor - tal King,

and pros - per each de - sign to spread thy glo - rious light:
let ev - 'ry peo - ple hear and learn thy ho - ly ways:
and earth pre - sent her store in con - verts born to thee:
let hal - le - lu - jahs rise from ev - 'ry liv - ing thing:

let heal - ing streams of mer - cy flow, that all the earth thy
reign, might - y God, as - sert thy cause, and gov - ern by thy
God, our own God, thy church O bless, and fill the world with
let all that breathe, on ev - 'ry coast, praise Fa - ther, Son, and

truth may know, that all the earth thy truth may know.
righ - teous laws, and gov - ern by thy righ - teous laws.
righ - teous - ness, and fill the world with righ - teous - ness.
Ho - ly Ghost, praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

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The Preaching of the Word

Scripture: Acts 1:4-11

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades,
People: **But the Word of our God will stand forever!**

Sermon: **Are You Restoring Your Kingdom to Israel Now?** Rev. Tim Lien

Closing Hymn: All Authority and Power

(Music on Next Page.)

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All Authority and Power

453

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Matt. 28:18

1. All au - thor - i - ty and pow - er, ev - 'ry sta - tus
2. All the na - tions owe him wor - ship, ev - 'ry tongue shall
3. All the clear com - mands of Je - sus must be heed - ed
4. All the time he will be with us, al - ways, to the

and do - main, now be - longs to him who suf - fered
call him Lord; how are men to call up - on him
and o - beyed; full pro - vi - sion for our weak - ness
end of days, with his own be - liev - ing peo - ple,

our re - demp - tion to ob - tain; an - gels, de - mons,
if his name they have not heard? There - fore go and
in his teach - ing he has made; in the Gos - pel
who keep stead - fast in his ways; God the Fa - ther,

kings and rul - ers, o - ver all shall Je - sus reign!
make dis - ci - ples, preach his gos - pel, spread his word.
words and sym - bols, sav - ing truth to us con - veyed.
Son, and Spir - it, bless us, and to him the praise!

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Benediction: Jude 24-25

Leader: Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever.

And God's people said:

All: Amen