



"The Sower" by Kazakhstan Artist Nelly Bube.

*The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 16, 2023 — 9:00 am*

Christ Church

(Episcopal / Anglican)

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The Rev. Don Caron, *Priest*

The Rev. Leslie Mazzacano, *Deacon*

Peter Homan, *Organist*

Joan Sanders, *Parish Secretary*

Christ Church
Riverton, New Jersey
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
THE HOLY EUCHARIST, Rite II, Prayer A
July 16, 2023 — 9:00 A.M.

Prelude “*Suite for Organ*” *Three Movements* Tommaso Albinoni

Processional Hymn 7 “*Christ Whose Glory Fills The Skies*”

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant : Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.***

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.***

The Gloria S-280 “*Glory to God in the highest*”

The Collect of the Day --

Celebrant : The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant : Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons

A Reading (Lesson) from Isaiah 55:10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not

return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 65: (1-8), 9-14 *Te decet hymnus*

1. You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; *
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
2. To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, *
because of their transgressions.
3. Our sins are stronger than we are, *
but you will blot them out.
4. Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
***they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
by the holiness of your temple.***
5. Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation, *
***O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that
are far away.***
6. You make fast the mountains by your power; *
they are girded about with might.
7. You still the roaring of the seas, *
***the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the
peoples.***

8. Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; *
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
9. You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.
10. You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.
11. You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
*with heavy rain you soften the ground
and bless its increase.*
12. You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.
13. May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.
14. May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.

A Reading (Lesson) from Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of

God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

The Gospel Hymn LEVAS 112 *“Come Holy Ghost”*

Then, all standing, the Priest:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!” “Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word,

but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Mel Caron

The Nicene Creed (*Sung to the tune of Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing 686 or Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 657*)

We believe in God the Father, God almighty, by whose plan,
earth and heaven sprang to being, all created things began.

Jesus infant born of Mary He grew up in Galilee.

From the water with John the Baptist, He began his ministry.

Christ, who on the cross forsaken, like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, he descended to the dead.,

We believe in Jesus risen, heaven’s king to rule and reign,
to the Father’s side ascended. till as judge he comes again.

We believe in God the Spirit; in one Church, below, above;
saints of God in one communion, one in holiness and love.

So by faith, our sins forgiven,. Christ our Savior,

Lord and friend. we shall rise with him in glory.
to the life that knows no end.

Prayers of the People for the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Presider: As the Word goes forth from the mouth of God, let us turn our hearts to those in need and offer prayers for all peoples in every place.

Deacon: For this holy gathering and for the people of God in every place. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sally, our Bishop, Donald our Priest, Leslie our

Deacon. From The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, The Anti-Racism Training Team, Dcn. Charles Wesley Rubendall, III, The Urban Revitalization Task Force, Canon Leroy Lyons, Episcopal Community Services, Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and for the people of God in every place.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those chosen to govern peoples and nations, especially Joseph the President of the United States, and Phillip the Governor of NJ, and for the welfare of their people

Lord, hear our prayer.

For mercy, justice, and peace in the world.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For farmers and a good harvest, for those on vacation, and for safety from violent storms.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who thirst and hunger: the sick especially *Ruth, Ed, Sharon, Annamarie, Susan, Donna, Cheryl, Carol, Jeanette, Susan, Austin, Lynn, Tibor, Cynthia, Katie, Kelly, Eileen, Doris, Sean, Bob, Arlene, Barry, Joan, Naomi, Carol, David*, and the dying, the poor and the oppressed, travelers and prisoners, and for their families.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead. especially, *Joseph Horrell, Carolyn Kendall and William Stephens*

Lord, hear our prayer.

For ourselves, our families, our companions, and all those we love.

Lord, hear our prayer..

Lifting our voices with all creation, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord.

Presider: God who sows seeds of faith, receive our prayers and give life to our mortal bodies; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Minister 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.

The Priest, stands and says

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.***

The Peace *(All stand.)*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Offertory Music “Adagio”

Roger Nyquist

The Doxology *(Hymnal 380 Verse 3)*

All: ***Praise God of whom all blessings flow***
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above the heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Amen

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving *Rite II Form A*

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.***

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy Holy, Holy Lord (*Hymnal S-129*)

All: ***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.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ 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 forever. ***AMEN.***

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us,
we are bold to say *(spoken)*

***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.***

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Invitation

Communion Music “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

arr. Michael Burkhardt and J.S. Bach

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**
Birthday Blessings

Anniversary Blessings

Announcements

Final Blessing

Recessional 416 “For the beauty of the earth”

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Alleluia, Alleluia

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia**

Organ Postlude “Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing”

J. Wayne Kerr

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THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR TODAY

are given to the glory of God and in memory of *Joseph Horrell*,
by Susan & Bob Engel.

THE CHAPEL SANCTUARY LIGHT is lit in memory of
Carolyn Kendall and William Stephens by Hope Wormley.

Participating in the 9am. Service

Guest Organist: Mary Johnson

Lector: Fred Hill *Acolyte:* Sally Barnes, Fred Hill

Ushers: Bill Wilson *Videographer:* Joe & Linda Yansick

Altar Guild: Debbie Sigler, Susan Stevens, Mary Shea

Counters: Don Dietz & Bob Engle

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MID-WEEK SERVICE A celebration of the Eucharist is held every Wednesday at 10:00. It includes special mention of the persons on the parish prayer list and asks for God's healing for the world. The Service lasts about 20 minutes.

THURSDAY STUDY GROUP's focus this week, July 20, will be a YouTube Video by Thich Nhat Hanh called "Freedom from Being Caught in the Past or the Future." Thich Nhat Hanh was a Buddhist who fled his home country of VietNam in the late 1960's. He was a renowned teacher and proponent of peace until his death last year. We meet at 10 a.m. in the Parish House Parlor.

MEN'S GROUP. We will meet for about an hour every first and third Saturday of each month @ 9:00 am (so you can still have your day), and we will talk about the things that are important for a man's spiritual life. It's an opportunity to deepen relationships with other men of the parish, too. All men are invited!

MINISTRY TO RIVERVIEW ESTATES On the first and third Sunday of each month, at 3:00 pm Christ Church leads a Communion service for the residents. Members of the parish are welcome to help the participants.

CAMP FAITH BACKPACKS We will be collecting donations of and school supplies throughout the month of July. Please leave your donations in the tower entrance. Thank you, Deacon Leslie.

CHRIST CHURCH SENIOR LUNCHEON

On **Tuesday, July 18, @ noon** the second of our monthly Senior Luncheons will be held in the assembly hall of the Parish House. There is no charge for this meal, though a gift offering is appreciated. These luncheons are intended to be a time for food, fun, fellowship and eventually information (in the future we will have speakers talking about topics of interest to Senior Citizens). There will be games to play, in the hope that you will linger after the meal is over. If you know anyone who might enjoy getting out for food and time with other people, be sure to invite them, and come yourself.