**Season of Pentecost**

**Nativity Worships June 19, 2022**

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| Prelude | *Remembrance* | Mendelssohn |
| Opening Hymn | *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name* | H 451 |
| Sequence Hymn | *O for a thousand tongues to sing* | H 493 |
| Offertory Hymn | *Come, thou font of every blessing* | H 686 |
| Communion Hymn | *Surely it is God who saves me* | H 679 |
| Post Communion Hymn | *Praise the Spirit* | H 506 |
| Postlude | *The Shepherd* | Mendelssohn |

**The Collect**

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving­kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

We pray, O Lord, for change. Jesus you revealed God through your wise words and loving deeds, and we encounter you still today in the faces of those whom society has pushed to the margins. Guide us, through the love you revealed, to establish the justice you proclaimed, that all peoples might dwell in harmony and peace, united by that one love that binds us to each other, and to you. And most of all, Lord, change our routine worship and work into genuine encounter with you and our better selves so that our lives will be changed for the good of all. Amen. **(**<https://www.archbalt.org/a-prayer-to-celebrate-juneteenth-a-light-of-hope-for-freedom-and-justice/>

**Old Testament**: **Isaiah 65:1-9**

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,  
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"  
to a nation that did not call on my name.

I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people,

who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices;

a people who provoke me  
to my face continually,

sacrificing in gardens  
and offering incense on bricks;

who sit inside tombs,  
and spend the night in secret places;

who eat swine's flesh,  
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

who say, "Keep to yourself,  
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,  
a fire that burns all day long.

See, it is written before me:  
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their laps  
their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,

says the Lord;

because they offered incense on the mountains  
and reviled me on the hills,

I will measure into their laps  
full payment for their actions.

Thus says the Lord:

As the wine is found in the cluster,  
and they say, "Do not destroy it,   
for there is a blessing in it,"

so I will do for my servants' sake,  
and not destroy them all.

I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,  
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;

my chosen shall inherit it,  
and my servants shall settle there.

**The Psalm 22:18-27. *Deus, Deus meus***

18 Be not far away, O Lord; \*  
you are my strength; hasten to help me.

19 Save me from the sword, \*  
my life from the power of the dog.

20 Save me from the lion's mouth, \*  
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.

21 I will declare your Name to my brethren; \*  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; \*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them; \*  
but when they cry to him he hears them.

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*  
he rules over the nations.

**The Epistle: Galatians 3:23-29**

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

**The Gospel: Luke 8:26-39**

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me" -- for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

**Prayers of the People**

We pray for our parish members: Members: Jamie, Nancy, Marge, Donna, Dan, Nina A, Marian, Penny, Judy, Steve, Juliette, Rebecca and our family and friends: Mary P, John, Miles, Deidra, Layla, Brigitte, Mary Lou, Seanna, Lauren, Karen, Cris, Andrew, Thomas, Elizabeth, Kurt, Hudson, Emi, Harry and Jean.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn remembering especially those who have died in the war in Ukraine and those who died in the shooting at St. Stephen’s, Vestavia Hills, Alabama.

We pray for our fathers, godfathers and those who have parented us well as fathers and mothers, on this Father’s Day celebration.

As we enter this Juneteenth holiday celebration, we offer prayers for ourselves and the world: That those entrusted with authority in our nation may support the changes needed in order to exercise leadership and promote healing it in an authentic, responsible, and peaceful manner, that the fullness of justice and compassion may be extended to the victims and families who have been subjected to violence, abuse, discrimination, murder, and that our communities and our schools may find ways to actively participate in efforts to eliminate violence, especially violence against black and brown people, so that this country may take the lead in fostering conditions for healing racial division.

We pray for all of our graduates, celebrating their accomplishments and praying that they may continue to grow in wisdom and grace, fulfilling the gifts that God has given them and discerning their unique calling to serve God and the neighbors in the world.

**Announcements**

We celebrate today our 2022 graduates. If we missed a grad or you have not yet designated a charity for donation we honor all grads by making a donation in their name. Take a look at the grad gallery on our website. Join us for cake after the service to celebrate them.

We will with thanksgiving receive offerings of Nativity pledges and plate today. You can contribute by sending a check to the church or by using the “Give” button on our website,[www.nativityonthehill.org](http://www.nativityonthehill.org).

All who participate in this Holy Eucharist virtually receive the full benefits of the sacrament by coming with the intention of being united with Christ and one another. (BCP 457)