

St. Paul's, Brunswick
Non Traditional Eucharist
June 18, 2023

Today we acknowledge Juneteenth!
Blessed Freedom Day to our African American siblings!

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We acknowledge that we stand on territory that was taken from the Abenaki people of the Wabanaki Confederacy, the people of the Dawnland. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. May we learn from our past sins and be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world. We ask for inspiration that we might be compelled to take action and support our native neighbors as they continue to seek their sovereignty here in Maine.

Opening Song: Make a Joyful Noise Art: pixabay.com

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth,
 make a joyful noise unto the Lord! (x2)

Make a loud noise, and rejoice, sing praises,
 Make a joyful noise unto the Lord! (x2)



Celebrant: God is here!

Response: God is here!

Celebrant: Let us bless God!

Response: Let us bless God!

Celebrant: Glory to you, God, for ever!

Response: Glory to you, God, for ever!

Celebrant: God be with you.

Response: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

Collect (*Collect for Juneteenth From Grace Church San Francisco*) Art: nbc

Almighty and most loving God, through your Son Jesus, who came among us choosing rather to serve his disciples than to be served by them; help us in our weakness not to seek to oppress others, nor to make peace with any form of exploitation, but in all things earnestly and of our own free will to seek to serve each other following Christ's good example; this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



First Reading, Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7 *from the Whirl Storybible*

Art: St. Paul's (Westfield, New Jersey)

Reader (Lector): A reading from the book of Genesis

Sarah looked at the wrinkles on her hands and touched Abraham's gray beard. They had waited MANY years, but still, NO baby! "We're very old and have no child," Sarah told Abraham. "Did God forget about us?" "God promised we would have a baby," said Abraham. "And God doesn't forget promises." Sarah sighed. She thought maybe God had forgotten this time.

Abraham wiped his sweaty forehead. It was HOT! He squinted across the desert. "Who are they?" Abraham wondered. Three strangers walked toward him. Abraham bowed to the three

men and invited them to stay. "Please stay to rest and eat," Abraham told them.

"Sarah! Visitors are here," Abraham called. "Make some bread!" Abraham rushed to his herd so he could prepare meat and milk for them. The visitors rested under a shady tree. Abraham gave them water to wash their feet. Sarah shuffled around inside the tent. She mixed and patted and kneaded the bread dough. She listened to Abraham and the visitors.



"Where is your wife, Sarah?" one of the visitors asked. "She's making bread to eat," said Abraham. The three visitors smiled. "Soon she will be feeding a baby!" "HA!" Sarah laughed. "I'm too old for babies!" The visitors heard Sarah laughing. "Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?" they asked her.

Finally, God DID give Sarah and Abraham a baby! Just as the visitors said! Just as God promised! Sarah and Abraham named their son Isaac.

Reader (Lector): Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God!

Song: I have Decided (#136, *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*)

1. I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.

2. Tho' none go with me, I still will
follow,
Tho' none go with me I still will follow,
Tho' none go with me, I still will follow;
No turning back, no turning back.



3. The world behind me, the cross before me,
The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
No turning back, no turning back

Gospel Reading, Matthew 9:35-10:16 *adapted from the Common English Bible Art: Jesus Mafa Collection*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus traveled among all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, announcing the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness. Now when Jesus saw

the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were troubled and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The size of the harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest.”

He called his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to throw them out and to heal every disease and every sickness. Here are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, who is called Peter; and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee; and John his brother; Philip; and Bartholomew; Thomas; and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus; and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean; and Judas, who betrayed Jesus.



Jesus sent these twelve out and commanded them, “Don’t go among the Gentiles or into a

Samaritan city. Go instead to the lost sheep, the people of Israel. As you go, make this announcement: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those with skin diseases, and throw out demons. You received without having to pay. Therefore, give without demanding payment. Workers deserve to be fed, so don’t gather gold or silver or copper coins for your money belts to take on your trips. Don’t take a backpack for the road or two shirts or sandals or a walking stick.

Whatever city or village you go into, find somebody in it who is worthy and stay there until you go on your way. When you go into a house, say, 'Peace!' If the house is worthy, give it your blessing of peace. But if the house isn't worthy, take back your blessing. If anyone refuses to welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet as you leave that house or city. I assure you that it will be more bearable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on Judgment Day than it will be for that city.

"Look, I'm sending you as sheep among wolves. Therefore, be wise as snakes and innocent as doves."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily/ Sharing Time

Prayers Let us pray for the life of the world...

Today we especially pray for our African American siblings in the celebration of Juneteenth, Freedom Day. A day that marks the liberation, or freeing, of black enslaved people in this nation. We repent for the sin of racism and ask that God inspire us to walk more closely to justice and peace for all people.

For the things we are thankful for...

For our loved ones ... (especially those who parent us like fathers)

For those who teach us...



For those who lead us...
For the sick and poor...
For ourselves...

Confession and Absolution

Is there anything you did that you are sorry for? Silently think about it in your mind.

Deacon: Lord God, we are sorry for the times we have been unkind, Lord have mercy.

ALL: Lord have mercy.

Deacon: Lord God, we are sorry for the times we have forgotten you, Christ have mercy.

ALL: Christ have mercy.

Deacon: Lord God, we ask you to forgive us, Lord have mercy.

ALL: Lord have mercy.

Prayer For Forgiveness

Celebrant: Holy God, have mercy upon you, forgive you all your sins, and bring you to eternal life.

ALL: Amen.

Special Blessings/ Prayers *(do you have a birthday/ anniversary/ something special you'd like us to pray for?)*

Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be always with you!

People: And also with you!

Announcements

- 6/25 Desert of Maine! (following 9am worship)
- Town Hall with wardens following Life Together Worship on 7/2, 8/6

Offertory Music (*the parade to bring up the elements while collection plate is passed*)

Eucharistic Prayer written by The Rev. Carolyn H. Eklund

Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant: God, you are the Creator of the heavens and the earth. You have filled the world with the beauty of oceans and rivers; mountains, granite, apple trees and lupine; moose, deer, chickadees, cats, dogs and lobsters. Thank you for this earth “our island home.” You sent Jesus your Son to be one of us. He died to redeem us and all Creation. Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life and make the world new. That’s why we shout out our praise! We shout with the throngs of angels, archangels and with all the heavenly host. We shout our praise together:

Holy, Holy, Holy LORD,

God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We bring you bread and wine as our offering. Bless them with your Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus. On the night of his last supper with his friends, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to

God for it, broke it apart, shared it with his friends, and said, "Take, eat. This bread is my Body which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

After they finished supper, he took the cup of wine. Jesus gave thanks to God and said to his friends, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood which is poured out for you. It is poured out for all to save us from our sins. Drink this to remember me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Gather us up by this bread and wine and make us the Body of Christ in God's church. Make us new people in Christ's Spirit. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

AMEN!

The Lord's Prayer

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Fraction (*break bread*)

Be known to us Jesus in the breaking of the bread. We are the communion of Christ's Body.

We share one bread together.

Invitation Holy Food for Holy People.

Administration of Sacrament The body of Christ, the bread of

life!

Welcome to our digital congregation. We invite you to connect with Christ's communion by saying the following prayer.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Thanksgiving (Post Communion Prayer) – Loving God, we are grateful for the love that we share in this community and in Your Holy Food. Send us into the world to listen to our neighbors with hearts of love, and to share the Good News of Jesus. Amen.

Blessing

May the blessing of the Holy Trinity; the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer be with you always. Amen.

Song: This Little Light of Mine

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine,

I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine,

I'm gonna let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.

2. Ev'rywhere I go,

I'm gonna let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go,

I'm gonna let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go,

I'm gonna let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.

3. Jesus gave it to me,

I'm gonna let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me,

I'm gonna let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me,

I'm gonna let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine



Dismissal

Leader: Let us go forth in peace in the love of Jesus! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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