

The Church of the Annunciation

A Parish of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Newark



July 17, 2011—*Proper 11*

Healing Service and Liturgy of Leavetaking, 10 a.m.

Welcome! *If you are visiting or new, we are glad you joined us today. By filling out the visitor's card you will find near the door to the church, you will allow us to stay in touch with you. Please know that you are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us at God's table. You are encouraged to participate fully in our worship, engaging your mind, body, and soul in the praise of God. Children are also welcome, either in the play space near the rear of the church or for nursery care downstairs.*

Welcome, Announcements, and Special Blessings

If you wish to make an announcement, please come sit in the pew by the lectern during the prelude

Entrance Hymn 377 *If you are able, please stand to sing* “All people that on earth do dwell”

Priest ✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

The priest then says the Collect for Purity:

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.*

Addressing the people, the priest then gives the Summary of the Law:

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Confession and Absolution

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

All kneel and say together

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.

Priest 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.*

Gloria in excelsis *Said by all, standing*

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated

A Reading from Genesis

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

(Genesis 28:10-19a)

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Remaining seated, all say together

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?

- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
 if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning *
 and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me *
 and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
 and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you;
 the night is as bright as the day; *
 darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; *
 try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me *
 and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

(Psalm 139:1-11,22-23)

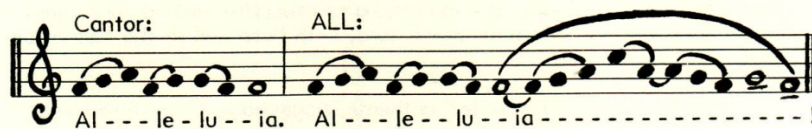
A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

(Romans 8:12-25)

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
People Thanks be to God.

Alleluia



Cantor Worship the Lord, O Jeru/salem;* praise your / God, Q Zion. *(Psalm 147:13)*
All then repeat the second Alleluia

The Gospel

Reader ✠ ✠ ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Another parable Jesus put before the crowds: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered,

‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

(Matthew 13:24-30,36-43)

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon *Please be seated*

A Litany for Healing

Priest Let us offer our prayers for God’s healing, saying, “Hear and have mercy.”

Please kneel. The leader and people pray responsively.

Holy God, source of health and salvation,
Hear and have mercy.

Grant your grace to heal those who are sick,
we pray to you, O God, *Hear and have mercy.*

Holy and Mighty, wellspring of abundant life,
Hear and have mercy.

Give courage and faith to all who are disabled
through injury or illness, we pray to you, O
God, *Hear and have mercy.*

Holy Immortal One, protector of the faithful,
Hear and have mercy.

Comfort, relieve, and heal all sick children, we
pray to you, O God, *Hear and have mercy.*

Holy Trinity, the source of all wholeness, *Hear
and have mercy.*

Give courage to all who await surgery, we
pray to you, O God, *Hear and have mercy.*

Blessed Jesus, your Holy Name is medicine
for healing and a promise of eternal life, *Hear
and have mercy.*

Support and encourage those who live with
chronic illness, we pray to you, O God, *Hear
and have mercy.*

Jesus, descendant of David, you healed all
who came to you in faith, *Hear and have mercy.*

Strengthen those who endure continual pain,
and give them hope, we pray to you, O God,
Hear and have mercy.

Jesus, child of Mary, you embraced the world
with your love, *Hear and have mercy.*

Grant the refreshment of peaceful sleep to all
who suffer, we pray to you, O God, *Hear and
have mercy.*

Jesus, divine physician, you sent your disciples
to preach the Gospel and heal in your name,
Hear and have mercy.

Jesus our true mother, you feed us the milk of
your compassion, *Hear and have mercy.*

Befriend all who are anxious, lonely,
despondent, or afraid, we pray to you, O God,
Hear and have mercy.

Jesus, Son of God, you take away our sin and
make us whole, *Hear and have mercy.*

Restore those with mental illness to clarity of
mind and hopefulness of heart, we pray to
you, O God, *Hear and have mercy.*

Jesus, eternal Christ, your promised Spirit
renews our hearts and minds, *Hear and have
mercy.*

Give rest to the weary, and hold the dying in your loving arms, we pray to you, O God, *Hear and have mercy.*

Help us to prepare for death with confident expectation and hope of Easter joy, we pray to you, O God, *Hear and have mercy.*

Give your wisdom and compassion to health care workers, that they may minister to the sick and dying with knowledge, skill, and kindness, we pray to you, O God, *Hear and have mercy.*

Priest Compassionate God: You so loved the world that you sent us Jesus to bear our infirmities and afflictions. Through acts of healing, he revealed you as the true source of health and salvation. For the sake of your Christ who suffered and died for us, conquered death, and now reigns with you in glory, hear the cry of your people. Have mercy on us, make us whole, and bring us at last into the fullness of your eternal life. *Amen.*

Laying on of Hands and Anointing

Priest The Almighty Lord, who is a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and obey: Be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only Name under heaven given for health and salvation is the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

All are invited to come forward for healing prayers at the communion rail

The priest prays for each person, laying-on hands and anointing the forehead with oil

At the end of these prayers, all stand, and the priest says

As you are outwardly anointed with this holy oil, so may our loving God give you the inward anointing of the Holy Spirit. Of God's bounty, may your suffering be relieved, and your spirit, mind, and body restored to grace and peace. May all of us in the frailty of our flesh know God's healing and resurrecting power. *Amen.*

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the people may greet one another, exchanging peace in the name of God.

Offertory Hymn 388

“O worship the king”

Liturgy for the Ending of a Pastoral Relationship

A Warden comes forward, and the departing priest addresses the congregation:

In July of 2007 I began my service as priest of the Church of the Annunciation, and in October of that year I was instituted as your Rector. I have with God's help and to the best of my abilities, exercised this trust, accepting its privileges and responsibilities. After prayer and careful consideration, it now seems that I should leave this charge, and I publicly state that my tenure as rector of this parish ends this day. Mindful that the call to serve God is a call that comes in prayer, I now pray:

O Lord my God, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; yet you called me to stand in your house and serve at this altar. To you and your service Jamie and I have devoted ourselves, body, soul, and spirit. In this ministry, you have filled my memory with the record of your mighty works; enlightened my understanding with the Holy Spirit; asking that I center my heart and will on

what you would have me do, even as you have entrusted these people to my care. As I leave this place, be always with me in carrying out the duties of my ministry. In prayer, quicken my devotion; in praises, heighten my love and gratitude; in preaching, give me readiness of thought and expression; that together we might fulfill the duties of a ministry of service, to you, to each other and to the whole creation of which we are stewards. All this I ask through the power of your most gracious Spirit. *Amen.*

Warden Barrie, the work of ministry is rooted in the gifts of ministry. The people of this parish and have been generous in their gifts to you. I invite you to share expression of some of these gifts with them.

Rector Receive these keys and let the doors of this parish continue to be open to all people.

People Amen.

Rector Receive this Gospel book that the Word of God may be heard by these people of God.

People Amen.

Warden Having witnessed the exchange of gifts between Barrie and this congregation, with whom he has shared the honor of ministry, do you, the people of this parish church, recognize and accept the conclusion of this pastoral relationship?

People We do.

Warden Let us pray. O God, you have bound us together for a time as priest and people to work for the advancement of your reign on earth in this place: We give you humble and hearty thanks for the ministry which we have shared.

Silence

We thank you for your patience with us despite our blindness and slowness of heart. We thank you for your forgiveness and mercy.

Silence

Especially we thank you for your never-failing presence with us through these years, and for the deeper knowledge of you, each other and the world we serve.

Silence

We thank you for those who have been joined to this part of Christ's family through baptism, confirmation, and marriage. We thank you for opening the hearts and minds of children and young people, that together with them, we might be fed by your sacraments.

Silence

And we pray for those whom we have loved whose lives we have celebrated and whose spirits live with you in eternity.

Silence

Now, we pray, be with those who leave and with us who stay; and grant that all of us, drawing ever nearer to you, may always be close to each other in the communion of your saints. All this we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

Priest As now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All say together

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.

Blessing ✠

Hymn 383

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Dismissal

Leader Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

About Today's Lessons & Liturgy

Welcome to our parish. As we continue to read the Gospel according to Matthew each Sunday, we are in a section of Jesus' parables concerning the Kingdom of God. This parable of the wheat and the weeds reaffirms God's patience with the Church. While we are often impatient with its failures, God is merciful and waits until the end before separating the good from the bad. Jesus urges us to grow into fruitful members of God's family.

The story of God's ancient people continues today. Jacob, the wily grandson of Abraham, is fleeing because he has cheated his brother out of the family inheritance. God gives him a dream in which God renews the promise to Abraham, whose heir Jacob is. This story illustrates that God does not choose people because they are worthy but out of the love and grace God has toward all people.

In the second reading, Paul assures us that the whole creation is moving toward redemption. Through our redemption will come the redemption of the whole creation. Therefore, the whole creation waits with longing for our redemption to be complete.

We share in the Eucharistic action in order that God's redemptive power may lead us toward the Kingdom. We share also in order that we may be the means by which redemption comes to the whole creation. That is our vocation as the people of God and as members of the Body of Christ.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*. Copyright © 2007 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

Who Knew?

“When things start going really well, watch out.”

—Edwin H. Friedman

Announcements

Your Questions Answered: Your Questions Answered: *Q.* Why can't we divorce ourselves from the Diocese of Newark? After all, we could use the money we send them each year! *A.* As a member parish of the Episcopal Church, we are “at one” with our bishop, who is the chief pastor of our diocese. To divorce ourselves from him would be to separate us from the one holy catholic and apostolic church. While we might seem financially better off, we would be spiritually poorer. —JBB

In Our Prayers

Special Intentions: Dotti Zebrowski, Marilyn Noll, Chloe Devine, Dorothy Craig, Marie Papp, Agnes Dockendorff, Deanna Miller, Sandra Carida, Carolyn Bensen, Gary Hoag, Theodore Stell, Linda Christensen, Christina Zisa, Leslie Granville, Soffie Minassian, Lisa Emelo, Gloria Brower, John Gibbons, Patt Seitz, Neha Dass, Harold Graf, Charles Kochka, Sara Sarnicki, Addison Ridden, Angela Kaufmann, Stu Kaufmann, Jon Spinnanger, Catherine O'Dougherty, the Cutty family, Rita Huber.

The Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of William Munson Sr., and Enid Munson McKeon by the Munson Family.

Absent Guest Plate (a second offering at the altar steps each week and given away for charitable purposes): **Center for Food Action** (Provides emergency food, rental and utility assistance, counseling, and advocacy to our neighbors in need in Bergen County and in the Upper Passaic Valley circumstances).

Those Serving in the Military: Jason McGillivray, Ryan E. Bartholf, Salvatore Petruso, Geoff Zann, Thomas Gill, Justin Kelly.

Parish Leadership

Senior Warden (finance & personnel): Ted Gustenhoven (tedgustenhoven@yahoo.com)

Junior Warden (buildings & grounds): Brian Demay (bcdemay2@optonline.net)

Vestry: Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Greg Kouletsis (2012), and Eric Olsen, Clerk (2013), Dave Dziemian, Treasurer (nonvoting). To address e-mail to the entire vestry: annunciationleadership@googlegroups.com

Newsletter Editor: Mrs. Lynna Demay (l_demay@yahoo.com), *e-News* deadline: 15th of the month

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Gayle Stoute (201-262-7222, administrator@annunciationoradell.org), normal office hours: Mondays through Thursdays, 9 – 11:30 a.m.

Today's Lay Leadership

Altar Guild: Marie Mitchell, Phyllis Thurlow, Muriel Depken

Lay Eucharistic Minister:

Financial Steward: Fred Gwynne

Cantor:

Lector:

Ushers:

The Church of the Annunciation

A Parish of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Newark

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