

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 20, 2019

Holy Baptism, Rite II

Processional	<i>Commit Thou All That Grieves</i>	<i>Hymn #669</i>
Opening Acclamation	<i>The Book of Common Prayer</i> – 299	
The Collect of the Day		insert
First Reading	Jeremiah 31:27–34	insert
Psalm	Psalm 119:97–104	insert
Second Reading	2 Timothy 3:14–4:5	insert
Sequence Hymn	<i>Book of Books, Our People’s Strength</i>	H#631
Gospel	Luke 18:1–8	insert
The Homily	The Rev. Eric N. Zile	
The Presentation of the Candidate		
Presentation		BCP 301–303
The Baptism Covenant		BCP 304
Prayers for the Candidate		BCP 305
Thanksgiving of the Water		BCP 306
The Baptism		BCP 307
Presentation of the Baptismal Candle		
The Peace		BCP–308

The Liturgy of the Table

In the Anglican Tradition, we draw no lines as to who may receive communion. All who wish to be spiritually fed with the Body and Blood of Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Offertory Anthem *Ancient Words* *by Lynn Deshazo*

As the offering is brought to the altar we sing the Doxology (last verse of hymn 380)

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer A (stand) BCP 361

The Sanctus (stand) S–129

The Lord's Prayer (stand) C–114

The Breaking of the Bread (stand) WLP 866

Communion Hymns

I come with joy to see my lord H# 304

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face H#318

Post Communion Prayer (stand) BCP 365

The Blessing (stand)

Retiring Hymn *Jesus Shall Reign Wher'er the Sun* H#544

Dismissal BCP 366

Following the service please join us in Benedict Hall for coffee hour

*The flowers today are given to the glory of God and
in celebration of the baptism of Cullen Suryan White*

October 20, 2019

Jeremiah 31:27-34, Psalm 119:97-104, II Timothy 3:14—4:5, Luke 18:1-8

A PRAYER-ANSWERING GOD

Years ago, when I was working in Washington, DC, I participated in an intercessory prayer group that met once a week during our lunch break. It was an ecumenical group with folks from various backgrounds, women and men, black and white. That group enabled me to be comfortable with praying in public, trusting God to give me the words to say when they are needed. As I've mentioned before in "Threads of Grace", one day a woman was thanking the Holy One for being "a prayer-answering God". That phrase got my attention and has stayed with me over the years because that has always been my experience. It seems to me that is Jesus' message to his disciples in today's gospel when he gave them that "parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart."

Throughout our spiritual journey, we discover that God's timing in responding to our prayers is not our desired timing—yet, in retrospect; it turns out to be perfect timing for all concerned. Likewise, while God's



answers may not be what we may have expected or hoped for, they are always for our benefit and for those around us and turn out to be far more beneficial than we could have desired or prayed for. Sometimes the Beloved's answers may come as teaching moments: for

example, when we pray for patience, we tend to get opportunities to develop patience rather than merely being infused with patience.

What is your experience with our prayer-answering God? As you reflect on your life, can you see times where the Holy One answered your prayer in surprising ways? Recognizing that sometimes the answer may be "No" or "Not yet", has your experience, even so, encouraged you to continue to "pray always and not to lose heart"?

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