There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy

1 There’s a wideness in God’s mercy like the wideness of the sea;
   there’s a kindliness in his justice, which is more than liberty.
   There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;
   there is mercy with the Savior, there is healing in his blood.

2 There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
   there is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.
   If our love were but more faithfulness, we should take him at his word;
   there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

3 For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind;
   and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
   If our love were but more faithfulness, we should take him at his word;
   and our life would be thanks-giving for the goodness of the Lord.
Opening Acclamation

*Officiant*  Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
*People*  And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity *(in unison)*

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.

Canticle of Praise  *Gloria in excelsis*

The Collect of the Day

*Officiant*  The Lord be with you.
*People*  And also with you.
*Officiant*  Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading  *Genesis 45:1-15*

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon
his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Lector       The Word of the Lord.
People       Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133  (in unison)

1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *  
    when brethren live together in unity!
2 It is like fine oil upon the head *  
    that runs down upon the beard,
3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *  
    and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
4 It is like the dew of Hermon *  
    that falls upon the hills of Zion.
5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *  
    life for evermore.

The Epistle Reading      Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Lector       The Word of the Lord.
People       Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn       From All That Dwell Below the Skies      Hymnal, 380

Hymn continues on next page
Deacon    The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:.
People    Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

The Sermon

The Rev’d Dr. Steve Clifton

After the Sermon, we take a few moments to reflect on God’s word to us.

The Nicene Creed (in unison)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Canaanite woman pressed upon Jesus her needs and was heard. With expectant faith, let us place before God earnest petitions for ourselves and our world, saying, Lord, have mercy on us.

For our world, in need of healing, in search of a savior, yet far from Jesus, let us call out to the Lord.  Lord, have mercy on us.

For the churches and their leaders, at times narrowed by institutional concerns and blind to differing manifestations of faith, yet struggling to share the Good News, remembering particularly Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Steve, our priest; Lynn, our deacon; and all the faithful of St. James House of Prayer, let us call out to the Lord. Lord, have mercy on us.

For those celebrating special days this week, especially Loretta Dean and Shirlie James on their birthdays, let us call out to the Lord. Lord, have mercy on us.

For those who are troubled by demons of mind and body, and for those who must watch others suffer, remembering especially  
Fr. Al Chapman  
Bernice Hodgins  
Mitch Leggett  
Wayne Kennedy  
Barbara Scotland  
Ann-Marie Greenlee  
let us call out to the Lord. Lord, have mercy on us.

For those whose faith is moving them beyond the limits of society and the constraints of culture, let us call out to the Lord. Lord, have mercy on us.

For all the departed, remembering especially Steve Morse, let us call out to the Lord. Lord, have mercy on us.

For all of us here present, for those whose faith is known to God alone, and for those intentions we hold deep in our hearts, let us call out to the Lord. Lord, have mercy on us.

Infinite God, we have no claim to your mercy; yet it is your mercy we so desperately need. Turn your ear toward our supplications, and grant us your healing touch. We ask this with faith in the name of Jesus, who is savior of the world and one with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.
Deacon    Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Deacon 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.

Officiant    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

Officiant    The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People    And also with you.

The Officiant says a sentence from Scripture to begin the Offertory. An anthem or music may follow.

All are encouraged to make an offering in thanksgiving for all the blessings God has bestowed. Gifts may be made on the parish website, sjhoppta.org, or by texting sjhop to 73256, or by postal mail to: St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church 2708 N. Central Ave., Tampa FL 33602

The Offertory Anthem

One Bread, One Body

Hymn continues on next page
Hymn continues on next page
The Lord's Prayer

**Officiant**  And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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 SENDING OUT OF THE LORD’S PEOPLE

The Blessing (pronounced by the Priest; the People respond, Amen.)

Closing Hymn

O Zion, Haste

Hymnal, 539

O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling,
Proclaim to every people, tongue, and nation
Send her aids forth to bear the message glorious;
He comes again! O Zion, ere thou meet him,

to tell to all the world that God is Light;
that God, in whom they live and move, is Love;
give of thy wealth to speed them on their way;
make known to every heart his saving grace;

that he who made all nations is not willing
tell how he stooped to save his lost creation,
pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious
let none whom he hath ransomed fail to greet him,

one soul should fail to know his love and might.
and died on earth that all might live above.
till God shall bring his kingdom’s joyful day,
through thy neglect, unfit to see his face.

Hymn continues on next page
The Dismissal

Deacon    Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
People    Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Please remember in your prayers:

Fr. Al Chapman          Camden Agboglo          Betsy Chapman
Bernice Hodgins        Olive McDonald         Lydia Williams
Mitch Leggett          Vernescia Williams     Michelle Mentis
Wayne Kennedy          Lucia Frett            Denise Andretta
Barbara Scotland       Maria & Kiah           Jessica Glicksberg
Ann-Marie Greenlee

The repose of the soul of Kerin Hewitt (cousin of Maisie Reddy)
        Steve Morse (friend of Morris and Sara Kennedy)

Please give thanks for:

Birthdays:    Loretta Dean   8/17
              Shirlie James   8/19
Copyright Acknowledgements:

Section: Jesus Christ our Lord
Title: There’s a wideness in God’s mercy
Meter: 87. 87. D
Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt.
Music: Beecher, John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

Section: Praise to God
Title: From all that dwell below the skies
Meter: LM
Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)
Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes octante trois de David, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

Section: Communion
Title: One Bread, One Body
Words: 1 Corinthians 10:16, 17; 12:4; Galatians 3:28; The Didache 9
Music: John B. Foley, SJ
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Section: The Church’s Mission
Title: O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling
Meter: 11 10. 11 10 with Refrain
Words: Mary Ann Thomson (1834-1923), alt.
Music: Tidings, James Walch (1837-1901)

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