

ST. JAMES HOUSE OF PRAYER  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
TAMPA, FL

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 20)  
September 20, 2020

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Opening Hymn

*Singing Songs of Expectation*

Hymnal, #527



1 Sing - ing songs of ex - pec - ta - tion, on - ward  
2 One the light of God's own pres - ence, o'er his  
3 One the strain the lips of thou - sands lift as



goes the pil - grim band, through the night of  
ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the  
from the heart of one; one the con - flict,



doubt and sor - row, march - ing to the prom - ised land.  
gloom and ter - ror, bright - ening all the path we tread:  
one the per - il, one the march in God be - gun:



Clear be - fore us through the dark - ness gleams and  
one the ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the  
one the glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the



burns the guid - ing light: trust - ing God we  
faith which nev - er tires, one the ear - nest  
far e - ter - nal shore, where the one al -



march to - geth - er step - ping fear - less through the night.  
look - ing for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.  
might - y Fa - ther reigns in love for ev - er - more.

*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*

*lyrics on screen*

**The Collect of the Day**

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

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**The First Reading**

**Exodus 16:2-15**

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45** (*in unison*)

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.**
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
and speak of all his marvelous works.**
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.**
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,**
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.**
- 37 He led out his people with silver and gold; \*  
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.**
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, \*  
because they were afraid of them.**
- 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering \*  
and a fire to give light in the night season.**
- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, \*  
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.**
- 41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, \*  
so the river ran in the dry places.**
- 42. For God remembered his holy word \*  
and Abraham his servant.**
- 43 So he led forth his people with gladness, \*  
his chosen with shouts of joy.**
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, \*  
and they took the fruit of others' toil,**
- 45 That they might keep his statutes \*  
and observe his laws.  
Hallelujah!**

## The Epistle Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

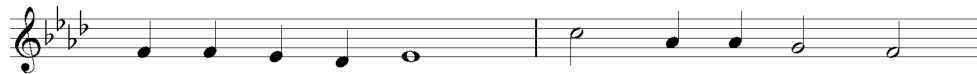
## Sequence Hymn

*Come, Labor On*

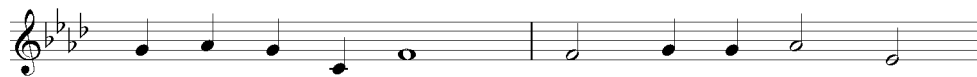
Hymnal, 541



1 Come, la - bor on. Who dares stand i - dle  
2 Come, la - bor on. The en - e - my is  
3 Come, la - bor on. A - way with gloom - y  
4 Come, la - bor on. Claim the high call - ing  
5 Come, la - bor on. No time for rest, till



1 on the har - vest plain, while all a - round us  
2 watch - ing night and day, to sow the tares, to  
3 doubts and faith - less fear! No arm so weak but  
4 an - gels can - not share— to young and old the  
5 glows the west - ern sky, till the long sha - dows



1 waves the gold - en grain? And to each ser - vant  
2 snatch the seed a - way; while we in sleep our  
3 may do ser - vice here: by feeb - lest a - gents  
4 Gos - pel glad - ness bear: re - deem the time; its  
5 o'er our path - way lie, and a glad sound comes



1 does the Mas - ter say, "Go work to - day."  
2 du - ty have for - got, he slum - bered not.  
3 may our God ful - fill his right - eous will.  
4 hours too swift - ly fly. The night draws nigh.  
5 with the set - ting sun, "Ser - vants, well done."

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

*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)**

**BCP, 358**

**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

God is a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger and rich in mercy, generous and forgiving to all who cry for grace. With confidence, let us turn to our God in prayer, saying: "Lord, have mercy."

For the church throughout the world and for its leaders, especially 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.

; that together we may be effective agents of social transformation and reliable messengers of hope, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For people throughout the world who are suffering at this very hour from drought and famine, from economic distress and social disruption, from injustice and oppression, from violence and war, and from the ravages of the coronavirus pandemic, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our own country, that its wealth and power might become a force for peace, rather than conflict; a source of hope, rather than discontent; an agent of friendship, rather than enmity, and for its leaders, especially Donald our President, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our own community, and especially for those among us who are dispirited and broken-hearted, who find no hope or meaning or purpose in life, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For ourselves, that we may have the grace to rejoice with those who rejoice, to weep with those who weep, to grieve for others' losses rather than our own, to be quick to forgive and slow to take offense, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all our needs and thanksgivings:

For those celebrating special days or special blessings, for Pat & Karla Edwards and Ernest & Norma Reese celebrating anniversaries this week.

For the sick and all who suffer, especially

Fr. Al Chapman	Camden Agboglo	Betsy Chapman
Bernice Hodgins	Lydia Williams	Anna Valdez
Mitch Leggett	Vernescia Williams	Michelle Mentis
Wayne Kennedy	Lucia Frett	Denise Andretta
Maria & Kiah	Ann-Marie Greenlee	Julius James

For all who have died especially Jason Canion (John & Sandra Thomas' nephew).

Lord God, in your presence none of us can boast, and all must ask for mercy; yet your Son has embraced us and called us to share in his labors for the salvation of every man, woman and child. Grant us the grace to see what needs to be done and the wisdom and resources to do it, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP, 360

*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.**

*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.**

### **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, [sjhoptpa.org](http://sjhoptpa.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***

### **Offertory Anthem**

*Taste and See*

by James E. Moore, Jr.

Performed by Catherine Clifton  
and Steve Clifton

### **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.*)

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;  
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
 fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,  
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,  
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -  
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.  
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.



## 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  
Bernice Hodgins  
Mitch Leggett  
Wayne Kennedy  
Maria & Kiah

Camden Agboglo  
Lydia Williams  
Vernescia Williams  
Lucia Frett  
Ann-Marie Greenlee

Betsy Chapman  
Anna Valdez  
Michelle Mentis  
Denise Andretta  
Julius James

### Please give thanks for:

The anniversary of Pat & Karla Edwards and Ernest & Norma Reese

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Title: Come, labor on  
Words: Jane Laurie Borthwick (1813-1897), alt.  
Music: *Ora Labora*, Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953)

Title: Taste and see  
Words: James E. Moore, Jr., para. of Psalm 34  
Music: James E. Moore, Jr.  
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Title: Guide me, O thou great Jehovah  
Words: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt.  
Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932)