

**St. Christopher-by-the-Sea, Gibson Island, Maryland**  
**Sixth Sunday of Pentecost, July 4, 2021 – Independence Day**

**Welcome and Introduction** – The Rev. Christopher Dreisbach

**Hymn 718, stanzas 1-2**

*God of our fathers*

**Opening Sentence:** The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

**Confession**

*Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,  
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,  
we have offended against thy holy laws,  
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,  
and have done those things which we ought not to have done.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare thou those who confess their faults,  
restore thou those who are penitent,  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind  
in Christ Jesus our Lord;  
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.*

**Absolution**

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

### **Invitation to Venite and Psalm**

O Lord, open thou our lips,

*And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

### **The Venite - seated**

*O come, let us sing unto the Lord;*

*let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.*

*Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving,*

*and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.*

*For the Lord is a great God,*

*and a great King above all gods.*

*In his hand are all the corners of the earth,*

*and the strength of the hills is his also.*

*The sea is his and he made it,*

*and his hands prepared the dry land.*

*O come, let us worship and fall down*

*and kneel before the Lord our Maker.*

*For he is the Lord our God,*

*and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*

*O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;*

*let the whole earth stand in awe of him.*

*For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth,*

*and with righteousness to judge the world and the peoples with his truth.*

**Psalm 123 – see lesson insert**

**First Lesson – Ezekiel 2:1-5 - see lesson insert**

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

**Second Reading – 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 - see lesson insert**

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God*

**Hymn 716, stanzas 1-2**

*God bless our native land*

**The Gospel - Mark 6:1-13**

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

**Sermon – The Rev. Christopher Dreisbach**

**The Apostles' Creed - standing**

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,*

*maker of heaven and earth;*

*And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;*

*who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,*

*born of the Virgin Mary,*

*suffered under Pontius Pilate,*

*was crucified, dead, and buried.*

*He descended into hell.*

*The third day he rose again from the dead.*

*He ascended into heaven,*

*and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.*

*From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Ghost,*

*the holy catholic Church,*

*the communion of saints,*

*the forgiveness of sins,*

*the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

### **The Lord's Prayer - seated**

*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.*

### **Suffrages - seated**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

*And grant us thy salvation.*

Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

*And make thy chosen people joyful.*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*For only in thee can we live in safety.*

Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

*And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

Let thy way be known upon earth;

*Thy saving health among all nations.*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.*

### **Collects for Sundays, Independence Day, and Social Justice**

O God, who makes us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the days to come may be spent in your favor, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain and expand our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants*

*do give thee most humble and hearty thanks*

*for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men.*

*We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;*

*but above all for thine inestimable love*

*in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,*

*for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*

*And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies,*

*that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;*

*and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives,*

*by giving up our selves to thy service,*

*and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days;*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord,*

*to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.*

## **Announcements and *America***

*My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;*

*Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;*

*Protect us by thy might, great God, our King.*

## **Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them. Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

## **The Grace**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

## **Hymn 719, stanzas 1-2**

*O beautiful for spacious skies*

## **Dismissal**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia.*



## Lessons for 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 4, 2021 – Independence Day

**Collect:** O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of our Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes,

*to you enthroned in the heavens.*

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,

*and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,*

So our eyes look to the Lord our God,

*until he show us his mercy.*

Have mercy upon, us, O Lord, have mercy,

*for we have had more than enough of contempt,*

Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,

*and of the derision of the proud.*

**First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5**

The Lord said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord God." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

**Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows – was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being to elated, a thorn

was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

### **Gospel: Mark 6:1-13**

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kind, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and give them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, say there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them."

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

## Hymns for 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 4, 2021

**Hymn 718, stanzas 1-2**

***God of our fathers***

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand  
leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,  
our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past,  
in this free land by thee our lot is cast;  
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay,  
thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

**Hymn 716, stanzas 1-2**

***God bless our native land***

God bless our native land; firm may she every stand  
through storm and night:  
when the wild tempests rave, ruler of wind and wave,  
do thou our country save by thy great might.

For her prayers shall rise to God, above the skies;  
on him we wait;  
thou who art ever nigh, guarding with watchful eye,  
to thee aloud we cry, God save the state!

**Hymn 719, stanzas 1 and 3**

***O beautiful for spacious skies***

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,  
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.