

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

The First Reading

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Psalm

Psalms 145:1-8

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great
goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Second 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.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

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."

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Margot Lindsey
 2nd: Michael Buckner
 3rd: Ruby Hahne
 3rd: Tasha Root
 4th: Gloria Richards
 11th: David Brown
 11th: Terisa Kirschke
 17th: Diane Buffington
 19th: Robyn Murphy
 19th: Roxanne Brink
 21st: Grace Richardson
 21st: Mary Lynn Dawes
 23rd: Kyle Glave
 24th: Caroline Tucker
 26th: Lillian Tucker
 27th: Helen Daniel
 27th: Ava Rook

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, September 27, 2023
 6:00 pm Dinner & fellowship

Sunday, October 1, 2023

9:00 am Bible Study
 10:00am Holy Eucharist
 1:00pm Blessing of the Animals

Event for children

All ages are welcome to join with Trinity Episcopal Church and their new Youth minister, Rachel White. The event will be at the soccer fields at Trinity School of Texas on **TODAY Sunday, September 24th at 3:30 PM**. All ages are welcome to this event. Mtr Tracey plans to attend and needs a parent or two to help her chaperone.

The Feast of Michalmas

Join us **THIS Friday, September 29th, 6:30 PM** at Trinity Episcopal Church. This is a joint service and fellowship with the people of Trinity and St Michael. A grand reception will follow in the Parish Hall of Trinity.

Blessing of the Animals

Join us **NEXT Sunday, October 1st at 1:00 PM** for the Annual Blessing of the Animals. Dogs, Cats, and other pets-small and large, furry, and non-furry are all welcome. Kids are welcome to bring a stuffed animal to bless. We will be taking offerings of pet food for the local animal shelter.

Trunk or Treat

Join us on **Sunday, October 29th, 5-7 PM** at First Christian Church. We need kids, parents, and adults to give out candy and bring candy for the event. If you would like to donate candy for this event, you may bring your candy to church. You can place it in Mother's Tracey's office.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to donate the flowers for the service, the Flower Dedication forms for 2022 are in the narthex.

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Connie Lawrence
- The Akinson & Brown Families
- Lorraine, Pete and Margie Litterski

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
08/27/23	\$1,838	\$2,939	-\$1,101
09/03/23	\$2,616	\$2,939	-\$323
09/10/23	\$3,135	\$2,939	\$196
09/17/23	\$3,651	\$2,939	\$712
YTD TOTALS	\$126,270	\$111,677	\$14,593

Next Sunday's Servers (10/01)

Acolytes: Jonathan Roberts
Cameras & Streaming: Robert Brown
Danny's Team: Mary Lynn Dawes
Eucharistic Ministers: Frank Supercinski
Greeter: Catherine White
Lector: Susan Brown
Nursery Helper: Ruby Hahne
Ushers: Donna Richardson
Vestry People: Susan Kuhlman, Tommy Smith
Worship Tech: Melinda Smith

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Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Lynn Dawes
Greeter: Roxanne Brink
Lector: Ruby Hahne
Nursery Helper: Becky Supercinski
Ushers: Joe Frank Brown
Vestry People: Bryan White, Susan Brown
Worship Tech: Amy Brown

St. Michael & All Angels' Episcopal Church

The Rev. Tracey F. Carroll

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