



**November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

**Evening Prayer**

**All Saints Day**

**WELCOME**

to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

If you have a faith or are seeking one,  
you are always welcome here.

*Service Notes: The order of service is found in the bulletin. Congregation responses are in **bold print**.*

Officiant: If I say, “Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,” darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

**People: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**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.**  
**Alleluia.**

## O Gracious Light

*Spoken in unison.*

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed! Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

### Psalm 34:1-10, 22

*The psalm will be read responsively with the congregation reading the bold print.*

- 1 I will bless the LORD at all times; \*  
**his praise shall ever be in my mouth.**
- 2 I will glory in the LORD;  
**let the humble hear and rejoice.**
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;  
**let us exalt his Name together.**
- 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
**and delivered me out of all my terror.**
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant,  
**and let not your faces be ashamed.**
- 6 I called in my affliction and the LORD heard me  
**and saved me from all my troubles.**
- 7 The angel of the LORD encompasses those who fear him,  
**and he will deliver them.**
- 8 Taste and see that the LORD is good;  
**happy are they who trust in him!**

- 9 Fear the LORD, you that are his saints,  
**for those who fear him lack nothing.**
- 10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger,  
**but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**
- 22 The LORD ransoms the life of his servants,  
**and none will be punished who trust in him.**

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

### **A Reading from the Book of Revelation**

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated

on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader:           The Word of the Lord.

**People:           Thanks be to God.**

Officiant:        Let us say The Song of Mary in unison.

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,**

**my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;**

**for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:**

**the Almighty has done great things for me,**

**and holy is his Name.**

**He has mercy on those who fear him**

**in every generation.**

**He has shown the strength of his arm,**

**he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

**He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,**

**and has lifted up the lowly.**

**He has filled the hungry with good things,**

**and the rich he has sent away empty.**

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel,**

**for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

**The promise he made to our fathers,**

**to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**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.**

## **A Reading from the First Epistle of John**

1 John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Reader:           The Word of the Lord.

**People:           Thanks be to God.**

Officiant:        Let us say The Song of Simeon in unison.

**Lord, you now have set your servant free**

**to go in peace as you have promised;**

**For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,**

**whom you have prepared for all the world to see:**

**A Light to enlighten the nations,**

**and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.**

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Reader:           The Word of the Lord.

**People:           Thanks be to God.**

Officiant: Let us say Canticle 9 in unison.

**Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior. Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say,**

**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his Name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

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

## **Homily**

The Rev. Radha Kaminski

### **The Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

**People: I do.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship in the breaking of the bread and in prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Officiant: Together let us pray:

## The Lord's Prayer

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.

Officiant: That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

**People: We entreat you, O Lord.**

Officiant: That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

**People: We entreat you, O Lord.**

Officiant: That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

**People: We entreat you, O Lord.**

Officiant: That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

**People: We entreat you, O Lord.**

Officiant: That we may not depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ.

**People: We entreat you, O Lord.**

Officiant: That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of St. Andrew and all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ.

**People: We entreat you, O Lord.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

### **A Collect for Sundays:**

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

### **Prayer for an Election**

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States (*or of this community*) in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

For the Church of God, that we may be filled with love, generosity and truth so to transform our communities and our world;

**May your light guide us and shine through us.**

For the leaders of our nation, and the leaders of all nations;

**May your light instill in them compassion and good judgment, and guide them in the ways of justice and peace.**

For all who hold authority in your Church, that they may shine your light brightly;

**May your Spirit inspire them with creativity, renew their energy, and give them wisdom and love.**

For blessings on all of our human endeavors, and for the just and proper use of the beauty and abundance of creation;

**May each of us love and serve you in ways that shine your light in our communities and beyond to free your world from poverty, famine and oppression.**

For the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially Doug, Kevin, and Kim; Bill; Lucille; Troy; Marga; Doug, Jodi, Marty, and Rachel;; Chris; Mary; Wesley; Brook; Michael; Krystal, Mekail, and Karleigh; Melissa, Justin, and Matthew; Eileen; Sharon; Sharyn; Jim; Tina; Kevin; Mark and Kim; Jason and family; Alex and Carolyn; Jan; Matt; Schuyler "Pete;" Sherry; Helen; Bleu; Julia and family; Mary and family; Julie and family; Howie; Whayne and Dana; Kristopher; the Beattie family; Kevin; Jim and Mary; Chuck; Judy; Lilah, Aishah, Yusuf, and family; Phil and Ann; Troy; Berniece; Maurissa; Carol; Suzy; Beth; Jerry; Jack; Arnie and Isabel.; Julane; Nancy; Kason; and for those we now name in our hearts;

**May your light bring hope and healing to all who suffer.**

For all who have died+, and for those who grieve and for those we now name in our hearts;

**May your perpetual light shine on all the saints who have gone before us.**

**Oh God, in your infinite generosity you have created a world with resources to sustain all of your children with abundance of food, work and recreation. Help us to let our light shine so brightly the whole world can witness your glory. In the name of Jesus, we pray.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The Reading of the Necrology**

Officiant: Let us pray together the General Thanksgiving.

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable 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 pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

### **Announcements, Birthdays, and Anniversaries**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Officiant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all forevermore.  
**Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### **Brother, Give Us a Word: Provision**

God knows our gifts, talents, stamina, and resources. He will give us the provision and fortitude we need to accomplish his will in this life. All we have to do is say yes and trust that he will give us the necessary nourishment for the journey.

-Br. Jim Woodrum

**Prayer Partners:** Anyone who would like to be partnered with someone else in the parish is welcome to join this new ministry! As a prayer partner, you will be asked to pray for and send a note once a month to your assigned partner. These partners will be anonymous! You won't know who is praying for you, just that someone is. The monthly note will also be sent anonymously. It can be sent by snail mail, dropped off at their door, or left at the church for them. If you would like to be given a prayer partner, please call or email Megan at (231) 796-5473 or standrewsbr@gmail.com by November 15<sup>th</sup>. Megan will partner everyone up and let you know who you have been assigned as a prayer partner! We will kick off this new ministry on our Covenant Sunday on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Stewardship:** Our 2020 Stewardship Campaign has begun! Each week you will find a reflection on our theme in the bulletin. Pledge cards and a letter from the vestry will be mailed out in the coming weeks. Our campaign will conclude on November 22<sup>nd</sup> with an ingathering of our pledges. Thank you for your support of St. Andrew's!

If you have an announcement you would like printed in the bulletin, please email it to standrewsbr@gmail.com.

**Birthdays this week:** Josh Frew (November 5<sup>th</sup>), Dr. Margaret Gingrich (November 5<sup>th</sup>), Blake Lauzon (November 5<sup>th</sup>)

**Anniversaries this week:** Doug and Jodi Gabert (November 3<sup>rd</sup>)

If you or a family member have a birthday or anniversary this week that wasn't printed in the bulletin, please contact the parish office so we can add your special day to the list!

# Lives shaped by The Beatitudes

BY MARY MACGREGOR



Today's Gospel recalls Jesus' sermon on the mount, commonly referred to as The Beatitudes. In his usual manner, Jesus surprised his followers by uttering godly, countercultural truth. In essence, his teaching that day laid the foundation for what it means to live

a Christian life.

What does it mean to be merciful, pure in heart, meek, poor in spirit, mournful, to be a peacemaker, to hunger and thirst for righteousness and be willing to be persecuted for it? The Beatitudes are a guide that, when studied, reveal layers of meaning for us as believers. They challenge many of our basic human desires and behaviors. Of ultimate importance, they clearly reveal what God seeks to bless.

Aren't we fortunate that our God is forgiving and full of grace as we strive to be transformed by these teachings? Our journey of formation requires change and opening our eyes to see God in action all around us. Included in this change is seeing God's endless blessings poured out upon us and developing a posture of gratitude in return.

Being thankful changes us for the better. Being thankful changes our perspective on life and can profoundly impact our understanding of God's generosity. Being thankful can shape us to be stewards of all God has entrusted to us. Being thankful softens our fears. Being thankful turns fear of scarcity into joyful gratitude for God's abundance.

We remember the saints who have gone before us on this All Saints Day. Some were revered as saints of old. Some were modern day saints. Some were simple folks like you and me. One distinguishing characteristic of saints is that we can see how they embodied and lived Jesus' teachings, these very Beatitudes. They generously gave of their lives so much so that we remember them today. We are confident they were blessed by God for their faithfulness. May we be thankful for their witness and see in them lives shaped by The Beatitudes and be willing to do the same.

*Canon Mary MacGregor is a member of the board of The Episcopal Network for Stewardship. She has been deeply involved in congregational development for over 25 years, and served as Canon for Congregational Vitality and Mission Amplification for the Diocese of Texas.*

FAITH  
FILLED

GENEROSITY

For reflection

- How do The Beatitudes impact your understanding of God's generosity?
- How has that understanding changed you?

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**  
323 S. State St.  
Big Rapids, MI 49307  
(231) 796-5473  
standrewsbr@gmail.com

**The Rev. Radha Kaminski, Deacon-in-Charge**  
rector.cmec@gmail.com  
(352) 727-8927

**Isabel Kempton, Senior Warden**  
isabelkempton@gmail.com  
(231) 972-8518

**Janie Shepherd, Junior Warden**  
benchrest47@gmail.com  
(231) 796-5794

**The Rev. Robert Garrels**  
Director of Music

**St. Andrew's Vestry**

Beth Hamelund, 2023

Isabel Kempton, 2022

Dianne Lauzon, 2022

Chris Lisuzzo, 2023

Janie Shepherd, 2021

Marlene Shinn, 2021