



# Independence Day

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia  
The Holy Eucharist Rite II

July 4, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

*The liturgy follows the Book of Common Prayer, beginning at page 355.*

**OPENING VOLUNTARY:** Fanfare “Mountain Majesties” from *An American Triptych*

David Kelley

## THE ENTRANCE

**AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 569** “God the Omnipotent! King, who ordainest”

*Russia*

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Presider says the Collect for Purity*

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.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMNAL, S 280**

Robert Powell

*Sung by all.*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

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

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 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.**

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**THE FIRST LESSON** [*The people are seated.*]

Deuteronomy 10:17-21

The LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of Lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 145:1-9** *Exaltabo te, Deus*

- 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.
- 9 The LORD is loving to everyone \*  
and his compassion is over all his works.

**THE SECOND LESSON**

Hebrews 11:8-16

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has

foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 607 “O God of every nation”  
*Sung by all, standing.*

*Llangloffan*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:43-48

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON Dan Harris

*A brief period of silence is observed for reflection on the sermon. The people stand for the Creed.*

THE NICENE CREED [*Said by all.*]

**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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE [*All remain standing.*]

*Intercessor* Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

*People* **Heal us.**

*Intercessor* We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

*People* **Forgive us.**

*Intercessor* We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

*People* **Inspire us.**

*Intercessor* We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

*People*     **Enlighten us.**

*Intercessor* We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

*People*     **Renew us.**

*Intercessor* We invite the prayers offered silently or aloud that are on your hearts and minds on this day.

*Silence is kept. The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Presider adds this concluding collect.*

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*The Presider says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *[All kneel in silence.]*

**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.**

*The Presider stands and says*

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.** *[The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.]*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.*

**AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM:** "O how amiable"

Ralph Vaughan Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord: My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: They will be alway praising thee. The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handiwork. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *[The people stand.]*

*Prayer 3, Enriching Our Worship*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People*     **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People*     **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*     **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Presider proceeds*

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS, HYMNAL, S 129

Robert Powell

*Sung by all.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.*

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

*Presider* And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*People* **Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*The Presider continues*

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

*People* **Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

*People* **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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD, HYMNAL, S 154

David Hurd

*Sung by all.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**INVITATION** *[The People are seated.]*

*As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Comforter. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.*

*Those who choose not to receive communion are invited to use the following prayer.*

**Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love, you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though we cannot consume these gifts of bread and wine together, we thank you that we have received Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion and resurrection. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we embody your love, be renewed for your service, and be reflections of the awakened and risen Lord. Amen.**

**HEALING PRAYERS**

*Anyone wishing for healing prayers—whether for yourself or for another or for our hurting world—is invited to come to the prayer station in the back of the nave after receiving communion. You need only say as much as you wish, and anything said will be held in confidence.*

**AT THE DISTRIBUTION, HYMN 716** “God bless our native land”

*America*

*Sung by all.*

**THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER** *[Said by all.]*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE BLESSING**

**AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 719** “O beautiful for spacious skies”

*Materna*

*Sung by all, standing.*

**DISMISSAL** *[The people respond,]*

**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY:** Toccata “Alabaster Cities” *from An American Triptych*

David Kelley