



The 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Did you know?

All Hallows' Eve

October 31, the night before All Saints' Day, is All Hallows' Eve, or as it is more commonly known, Halloween. Although All Saints' Day is one of the major holy days on the church's liturgical calendar, All Hallows' Eve is not as widely celebrated in the Church as it is in secular culture.

However, for Episcopalians seeking a Halloween liturgy, *The Book of Occasional Services* (Church Publishing, 2004) does offer a service for All Hallows' Eve (pp. 108-110).

It begins with a rite taken from the *Service of Light* in the *Book of Common Prayer* (p. 109), using the *Prayer for Light* appointed for the *Festivals of Saints*: "Lord Christ, your saints have been the lights of the world in every generation: Grant that we who follow in their footsteps may be made worthy to enter with them into that heavenly country where you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen" (*Book of Common Prayer*, p. 111).

Suggested scriptural readings for All Hallows' Eve include: "The Witch of Endor," 1 Samuel 28:3-25; "The Vision of Eliphaz the Temanite," Job 4:12-21; "The Valley of Dry Bones," Ezekiel 37:1-14; and "The War in Heaven," Revelation 12:(1-6)7-12.

Prayers offered during the service include: Almighty and ever living God, you have made all things in your wisdom and established the boundaries of life and death: Grant that we may obey your voice in this world, and in the world to come may enjoy that rest and peace which you have appointed for your people; through Jesus Christ who is Resurrection and Life, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen (*Book of Occasional Services*, p. 108).

O God, you have called your people to your service from age to age. Do not give us over to death, but raise us up to serve you, to praise you, and to glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (Book of Occasional Services, p. 109).

It is also recommended that "suitable festivities and entertainments may take place before or after this service, and a visit may be made to a cemetery or burial place" (Book of Occasional Services, p. 108).

Service for All Hallows' Eve
(Halloween)

27 October 2013
4 o'clock in the afternoon

Grace Episcopal Church
The Reverend Deborah Phillips, Rector
385 Essex Street • Salem • Massachusetts 01970
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Front cover of a 2013 "All Hallows' Eve" Service Bulletin from Grace Episcopal Church in Salem, Massachusetts

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The Episcopal Church on the Beach

“Socktober”

The month of October is “Socktober” and the Feed My Sheep Ministry is running its annual sock drive, which will last the entire month. The goal is for 1,500 pair of new men’s socks. Socks are the most requested item by the chronic homeless. We invite you to place your gift of white men’s socks in the ‘sock box’ on any Sunday in the month beginning today.



Hurricane Relief

Please send donations for Hurricane Michael relief to the following addresses:

The Diocese of the
Central Gulf Coast
201 North Baylen Street
Pensacola, FL 32502

OR

Episcopal Relief and Development
Hurricane Michael Relief
815 Second Avenue
New York NY 10017



Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive continues until Sunday, November 11th. We are collecting nonperishable food items or monetary contributions to buy supermarket gift cards. All items will be donated to **Bridging Families & Communities** for families exposed to domestic violence and/or high conflict. **If you have any questions, please see Maria Mena.**

Angel Tree Toy Drive

The annual Angel Tree Toy Drive will be held from **November 25th to December 16th**. Adopt a Little Angel by bringing a new unwrapped toy to church. Monetary contributions are also welcomed. All items will be donated to Care Resource.



Hospitality

If your surname begins with **A - E**, a reminder that there’s an opportunity for you to provide a much-needed food item for our hospitality next Sunday, **November 4th**. Please check with Joyce Foreman this morning and ask her what she needs for next Sunday. Items needed usually are a starch (pasta, potato, etc.), a meat, a salad, a vegetable and a dessert.

Hey! It’s November!!!

All celebrations and/or events are held at All Souls’ Episcopal Church unless otherwise noted

October 28th

The 23rd Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Eucharist 8:00 am
Sung Eucharist 10:30 am

Saturday, November 3rd

Centering Prayer
All Souls’ 10:30 am
Casa Bambini Music
Demo Class, Taylor Hall 1:00 pm

November 4th

All Saints’ and All Souls’ Day
Holy Eucharist 8:00 am
Sung Eucharist 10:30 am
Founder’s Celebration 12:00 pm
Miami Children’s Chorus 4:00 pm

Thursday, November 8th

Seraphic Fire 7:00 pm

Saturday, November 10th

Centering Prayer
All Souls’ 10:30 am

November 11th

The 25th Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Eucharist 8:00 am
Sung Eucharist 10:30 am



Please join us for
All Souls' 75th Anniversary Founders Celebration
to be held at Taylor Hall
on Sunday, November 4, 2018
after the 10:30 am Eucharistic Service

Stewardship Opportunities

During this exciting time of transition for All Souls' Episcopal Church, we have numerous stewardship opportunities to give your talents and time to our church community. Stewardship is rooted in the belief that we all have inherited wonderful and unique gifts from God. This recognition of our giftedness leads to a life of gratitude and desire to share our gifts with our family, church and community. Please speak with a vestry member to learn more about the ways you can give your gifts to the All Souls' congregation.

Search Corner Information 🔍

We ask you to hold in your prayers the members of the Committee as they continue their important work of discernment:

Sheila Collins and Freddy Tovar (Co-Chairs), **Aracelis Mullings** (Vestry), **Kathi Armbrister, Rafael Padilla, Glen Velker and Jim Carlton** (Chaplain).

We Hold in Prayer

For peace throughout the world.

All military women and men serving at home and overseas. Veterans and their families. Wounded warriors and the work of the V.A.

The Wardens, Vestry Members, Fr. Errol Harvey, and our supply priest. Our Choir, Organist, Altar Guild, Lectors, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Alitza our Administrative Assistant.

Thanksgiving for ongoing refurbishment of our church facilities. All Souls Episcopal Church Foundation, Inc.

Our Diocesan Recovery Ministry and those living with any addiction and those in recovery.

Our Bishop Peter and Kate Eaton, Canon John Tidy and Jill. The Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry.

Refugees, Dreamers, and asylum seekers.

Our Visitors today and for their safe travel back to their homes.

Our Companion Dioceses: Diocese of the Bahamas and Turks & Caicos Islands; Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Diocese of Haiti.

Congregation members living in Broward, Miami-Dade, Aventura, North Miami Beach, Bay Harbor, Bal Harbor, Sunny Isles Beach, and Surfside.

Those celebrating birthdays & anniversaries.

Jackson Hospital staff and patients.

For Healing: Nellie, Sheila, Ken, Gary, Richard, Jim, Lily, Dennis, Greg, Rafael, Bob, Paul, Rick, Jim, Karen, Rev. Kleban, Tony, Ray, Dana, Baby Ailia, Carmela, Obie, Santos, Bronwen Daphne, Bishop Sturdy, Rose, Rito, Darryl, Tania, and Deacon Katon.

All Hospice and Palliative Care Units

The dying and those who watch and care for them and mourn for their loss.

Blessed Jesus, we seek your mercy for all who are dying. May death become for them, as it was for you, a birth to everlasting life. May their soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen †

**Stay Connected! Visit our website: www.allsoulsmb.org
& sign up to receive our Weekly Newsletter by email**

Bible Study for The 23rd Sunday After Pentecost- Proper 25 - Year B, October 28, 2018

Written by The Rev. Darren Steadman

[RCL]: Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22); Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

The Book of Job is a classic story, told with many classic elements: a squeaky-clean protagonist who still falls on hard times, three antagonists, and here, finally a resolution beyond the reader's wildest dreams. The restoration of Job's riches comes not only in an unbelievable amount, but through an unbelievable series of events. Job, the hero, does not conquer God to restore his former wealth. Job does not pull off a last second feat of strength against all odds. No, the story here stands out because Job receives God's bounty after humbling himself even more before God. Job had been humbled to the point of collapse, and still Job never lashes out to curse the all-powerful God. Instead, Job relies on God's power of redemption and exercises humble faith beyond the reader's wildest dreams.

This departure from the classic hero story is not a typical showcase of the human spirit, but of God's power to restore. This is the story of God, told through the life of Job. Our faith in God alone can yield riches beyond imagination. Faith in God, not in ourselves, is the ultimate source of restoration. Job's final act before his restoration proves that our faith and humility are powerful: "And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends," the very same friends that tried to convince Job that his sinfulness caused his downfall. Job found faith that God would even restore them, too, and then Job became the most blessed man in all the land.

- *In the face of extremely hard times, what do you focus on to keep your faith in God's power strong?*
- *What silver linings have you found during an extremely hard time in your life?*

Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22)

The American theologian Jonathan Edwards famously illustrated that experiencing God is not like having the sweetness of honey described to you, but rather like experiencing the taste of honey yourself. Psalm 34 must have been the catalyst that set off that illustration in Edwards' mind. This psalm is packed with action verbs, from what we are to do: bless, glory, proclaim, exalt, seek; to what God does: answer, deliver, save, encompass. Then, in verse 8, "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

Tasting can be a risky action, and there really is no substitute. We can look and sniff all we want, but our taste buds will be the only real measure of sweetness, saltiness, and other informants as to whether a food is acceptable or not. And because what goes into our mouths must be life-giving and not dangerous, the stakes are high. In this psalm, we are encouraged to take the risky leap of faith, to let God in as life-giving sustenance. The Lord is good, bursting with energy and delight, like sweet honey!

- *Would you say that you are an evangelical person?*
- *What makes it difficult, or risky, to proclaim God's goodness in our everyday language; then, what makes it easy?*

- *When you fully experience God's presence today, like tasting honey, what are the real rewards that you experience?*

Hebrews 7:23-28

This must have been a great task of the first hundred years of Christianity: convince the faithful Jews, of which Jesus of Nazareth was one, that the Messiah had actually already come and gone. So many faithful adherents to the Hebrew Law lived during Jesus' years, unaware that the Messiah walked the earth somewhere far away, or even nearby (or even right in front of them.) Jesus' earliest apostles had a lot of convincing to do.

In this passage, the case is made that Jesus serves as a new priest, and furthermore, eternally. The power of Jesus' death and resurrection to change so much of their faithful practice must have been so difficult to hear, much less to adopt. And for hundreds of years, that remains the Christian task: spread the word that there was a man, born of God, fully divine while fully human, who will forever be your priest, as well as much, much more. The prophecy of Isaiah 53 has been fulfilled, as real as you and I now speak. Jesus came to be the Messiah, anointed as the greatest High Priest, and still is.

- *What do you go to your priest for?*
- *What is the primary role that he or she serves?*
- *In what ways does Jesus serve as your priest as well?*

Mark 10:46-52

In this short glance at Jesus' healing ministry, a blind beggar begins by sitting on the side of the road, then ends up on his feet, following Jesus. Is this the transformation that Jesus offers us too? Maybe so, but the middle part is critical. We have to call upon Jesus' holy name more than we call upon everyone else that passes by where we sit, because Jesus is the one with the healing power. The blind beggar knew this, and said, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" He would only do this if he had faith that Jesus could provide what he needed the most. And his own faith turned out to be the cure.

- *What healing miracle would you call out to Jesus for, if he walked by where you sat today?*
- *What first inspired you to follow Jesus?*
- *What has continued to inspire you to follow Jesus?*

The Rev. Darren Steadman was ordained as a deacon in June of 2018 after graduating from Virginia Theological Seminary. He is a native of the Shenandoah Valley and serves at Christ Church Episcopal near Richmond, VA. Before accepting a call to the priesthood, Darren was a classroom teacher and spent most summers working and playing at summer camp.

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