

WORSHIP NOTES

Both the text and the tune of our opening hymn, *A Mighty Fortress is our God*, were written by Martin Luther in 1529. It is based on *Psalms 46* and soon became the rallying cry of the Protestant Reformation. Luther sang it daily at Coburg. By 1900 over 80 translations were being used and today there are more than 2,000 versions in common usage. The tune was composed by Luther specifically for this text and may have been his adaptation of a Gregorian melody. The harmonization is by Johann Sebastian Bach, who used the tune in *Cantata 80*. Felix Mendelssohn used it in the Reformation Symphony (1830), and Giacomo Meyerbeer in the opera *Les Huguenots* (1836).

In Mark's version of this story, the daughter who danced at Herod Antipas' birthday banquet is not called Salome, though Salome is the name most associated with this gruesome story. Scholars debate the validity of this entire account of the reason John the Baptist was killed. Josephus, an early Jewish historian recounts the death of John at the hands of Herod Antipas and attributes his execution to political motives. Whether fictional or real, the story has captured the imaginations of painters, sculptors, and playwrights ever since. She is depicted in medieval bas-reliefs in France, 13th century mosaics in Italy, and in Gustave Moreau's 19th century watercolors. Oscar Wilde's 1891 play, *Salome*, helped Salome take on almost a pop icon status, with the play being banned before its first scheduled performance. German composer Richard Strauss used Wilde's text in his 1905 opera of the same name. There, Salome's performance finally was given its seductive name: *The Dance of the Seven Veils*.

Sir David Valentine Willcocks (born Newquay, Cornwall, England, Dec. 30, 1919; died Cambridge, England, Sept. 17, 2015), composer of *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*, was a British choral conductor, composer and organist. Sir David is best known for his years as Director of Music at King's College Chapel, Cambridge where he directed the famous choir of men and boys. During his time at Cambridge, Sir David made many landmark recordings with the King's College Chapel Choir and also collaborated with British composer, John Rutter, on anthologies of carol arrangements for choirs.

NEXT SUNDAY'S PREACHER will be the Rev. Rebekah McLeod Hutto.

THE BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Parish House: 62 East 92nd Street, New York, New York 10128-1398 | On the web at www.brickchurch.org
phone: 212-289-4400 day school: 212-289-5683 email addresses: www.brickchurch.org/contact

MINISTERS

The Rev. Dr. Kimberly L. Clayton, *Transitional Senior Minister*
The Revs. Douglas T. King, Rebekah McLeod Hutto, Adam D. Gorman,
Associate Ministers

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Keith S. Tóth, *Minister of Music and Organist*
Amanda Page Smith, *Director of Children's Music Ministries*

USHERS

Officer-in-Charge: M. Douglas Watson Jr.; *Team Captain:* Richard G. Faux Jr.; Mark R. Altherr, John P. Argenti, Thomas P. Auth, Henry C. Barkhorn III, Walter F. Bottger, David L. Chiang, Jonathan M. Conrad, Richard G. Corey, Michael G. Fisch, John C. Michaelson, Paul W. Perkins, Richard L. Peters, Willis G. Ryckman IV, Gibbons H. Sinclair, Richard H. Stowe.

ORDER OF ST. PAUL

Michael J. Appleby, Nathan P. Appleby, Leah C. Lee, Deborah M. Li, Caroline C. Pickering, Alexander N. Rahman.

CHANCEL CHOIR QUARTET

Isabella Livorni, *soprano*; Agueda Fernández-Abad, *mezzo-soprano*; Jeffrey Taveras, *tenor*; Steven Moore, *baritone*.

SESSION

Patrick A. F. Blott, Anita J. Brickell, Chloe G. Chun (*Youth Elder*), Susan P. Crary, Paul J. Elmlinger, Scripture Z. Gonzalez, Mimi K. Hah, Shannon D. Henderson, William S. Hilburn, Anne R. Huneke, Stefan Krüger, R. Lynne Lee, Sue-Peng Li, Guillaume A. Malle, Robert D. McCrie, Elizabeth M. Philipp, Brian J. Pitz, Debra N. Seraphim, Richard H. Stowe, Mario J. Verdolini, Jr., Katherine C. Vosters, Cynthia Watson, Marjorie G. Widener, Roland L. Wikström, Suzanne W. Wilson.

DEACONS

Linda R. Arnold, Bret M. Barasch, Arthur W. Bingham, Nancy T. Blair, Elizabeth A. Boehmler, Carl C. Cordova III, Anne M. Christon, E. Graham Clark, David M. Darst, Pamela J. Dickson-Thorpe, James B. Doswell, Helen T. W. Elmiger, Marc T. Engberg, John W. Frehse, Joseph A. Galloway, Jeffrey B. Gower, William P. Hah (*Youth Deacon*), Cathy Leonhardt, Jane B. Lowry, Katrina K. Masterson, Amelia McDonald, Oliver T. Moses, Sabina Rahman, M. Paige Rustum, Linda A. Simpson, Andrew R. Skobe, John W. Steen II, David M. Wells.

TRUSTEES

Charles S. Anderson, Kenneth W. Austin, Patrick D. Barrett, Erik M. W. Caspersen, Kevin R. Greene, Linda B. Gridley, Timothy D. Haskin, Helen M. Lynch, Valerie S. Mason, *Secretary*, Richard A. Miller, *President*, Drucilla A. Richards, Willis G. Ryckman IV, Louisa J. Palmer, *Treasurer*.

— THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR — Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

— ELEVEN O' CLOCK —

WELCOME The moments before worship are a transition from “getting here” to “being here.” Since it usually takes a few minutes to quiet one's mind, and to become open to the Spirit, it is most appropriate to give one's friends a silent wave of the hand, a nod of the head, or a friendly smile in lieu of initiating a conversation.

AFTER THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN, in order not to disrupt the worship service, latecomers will be seated by the ushers only at times when the congregation is standing, either during the Congregational Response following the assurance of forgiveness or during the second hymn.

VISITORS, please know how welcome you are. Please sign the Friendship Book when it passes you during the service of worship and identify yourself with a name tag to be found in the book. You are also cordially invited to attend Coffee Hour following worship.

IN THE ORDER OF WORSHIP that follows, an asterisk invites all to stand; items in bold type face indicate that the congregation participates in word or song.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE DAY
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

David Boeckh, *organist*

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.

**People: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord and stand in God's holy place?
Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false.**

Leader: Such is the company of those who seek the Lord.

People: The company of those who seek the face of God.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 260

Ein' feste Burg

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

KYRIE 572

John Merbecke (c. 1510 – c. 1585)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (*Hymn 223, verse 1*)

Stuttgart

**O my soul, bless your Redeemer; All within me bless God's name;
Bless the Savior, and forget not all God's mercies to proclaim.**

*During the singing of the response, all children are invited to
come forward and gather around the baptismal font for the blessing.*

THE WORD

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

Leader: People of God, what is our prayer for God's children?

People: That God be with the children as they learn of Jesus and His love.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Peter H. Brown

Mark 6:14-29 (*Pew Bible, page 40 N.T.*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

* HYMN 409

Aberystwyth

“Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice”

SERMON

Rev. Kimberly L. Clayton

“The Danger of Discipleship”

THE RESPONSE

* CONFESSION OF FAITH (*From A Brief Statement of Faith*)

In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: Preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* GLORIA PATRI 579

Henry W. Greatorex (1813-1858)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray...

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

America

**Not for this land alone,
But be God's mercies shown from shore to shore;
And may the nations see that we must loving be,
And form one family the wide world o'er. Amen.**

* INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

David Willcocks (1919-2015)

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart. Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy grace receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love. Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.—*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

* DOXOLOGY 592

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 448

Llangloffan

“Lead On, O King Eternal”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

David Boeckh, *organist*

Our organist and choirmaster this morning is David Boeckh. David is our most recent Oberlin College Conservatory of Music Wilson Family sacred music intern. David recently graduated from Oberlin with a Bachelor degree in Organ Performance. This September, David will join the music staff of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland, Oregon.