



FALL SEMESTER OPENING SERVICE

An Order for Ante-Communion with Academic Procession

September 8, 2020, Proper 18

8:15 a.m.

Ringing of the Tower Bells

Prelude

The Commonwealth Brass

Procession

Canzona No. 2

Giovanni Gabrieli, arr. Seipp

Canzona No. 3

THE WORD OF GOD

All are invited to stand as able when the procession moves from the chapel toward the outdoor altar.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie

Presider Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Presider Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The people sit.

The First Reading *1 Corinthians 6:1-11*

When any of you has a grievance against another, do you dare to take it to court before the unrighteous, instead of taking it before the saints? Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? Do you not know that we are to judge angels—to say nothing of ordinary matters? If you have ordinary cases, then, do you appoint as judges those who have no standing in the church? I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to decide between one believer and another, but a believer goes to court against a believer—and before unbelievers at that?

In fact, to have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—and believers at that.

Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived! Fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, sodomites, thieves, the greedy, drunkards, revilers, robbers—none of these will inherit the kingdom of God. And this is what some of you used to be. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 149:1-5 *Cantate Domino*

Hallelujah!
Sing to the LORD a new song,*
 God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in their maker;*
 let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler.
Let them praise their maker's name with dancing;*
 let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.
For the LORD takes pleasure in the people*
 and adorns the poor with victory.
Let the faithful rejoice in triumph;*
 let them sing for joy on their beds.

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All stand as they are able.

The Holy Gospel *Luke 6:12-19*

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The people sit.

The Sermon

The Very Rev. Ian Markham

All stand as they are able.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor ...Lord of Life,

People **Renew us and fill us with hope.**

Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant

BCP 292

Presider Let us now renew our baptismal vows;

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

People **I do.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Presider 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.**

Presider 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.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

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

Presider 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.**

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

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

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

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

Presider 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.**

Presider 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Peace

The people sit.

All stand as they are able.

Seminary Prayer

**O God, you have committed to your servants
the ministry of reconciliation
And you have guided our forbears to found the
Virginia Theological Seminary:
Watch over us we pray you in the years to come
as you have guided us in the past.**

**Keep our leaders alert to the voice of your Spirit,
that we cling only to such things as are
good in the past
and press forward with courage to the new
service of the future.**

**Grant to teachers and students
humility to learn,
wisdom to plan,
courage to follow where your truth may lead,
and love to think of others before self.**

**So dwell in our homes that we may reflect
the Spirit of the Father for whom every family
is named.**

**Bind us all into an holy fellowship;
Make all our worship, work and play
witness faithfully to you;
So that the Seminary may be a center
from which light and life and love
shall radiate to the four corners of the earth;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

The Blessing

Procession

Rondeau

Jean-Joseph Mouret

Procession to Addison Hall for Rededication

The Altar party proceeds to the front of Addison Hall. The Faculty follows. The Congregation may face toward Addison or shift in that direction maintaining social distancing.

Rededication of Addison Hall

Dean For more than a quarter century, Addison has been the center of learning at Virginia Theological Seminary. After a year of restoration and renewal, we return to this place. We rejoice in the added blessing that it is now the home of Lifelong Learning. And so we consecrate the donation of those who have made this renovation possible and we rededicate Addison Hall to the greater glory of God.

Teach us, O Lord, where wisdom is to be found, and show us the place of understanding.

Dean Seek the Lord your God, and you will find him:

People **Search for him with all your heart and with all your soul.**

Dean Let us pray.

O God of truth, eternal ground of all that is, beyond space and time yet within them, transcending all things yet pervading them: show yourself to us.

Always call us to seek the truth; come whence it may, cost what it will. As we reopen these doors, continue to open our minds to the knowledge of you and our heart to love both you and our neighbor.

And now, we dedicate and bless Addison Hall in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Blessed God, who makes all things new: Grant that this community of Word and Sacrament may be leaven for the world's bread, and wine of delight for hearts in need; followers strong for service and glad in praise; and a people listening and responding to your presence in their midst; through Jesus our redeemer and steadfast companion. **Amen.**

Dean Let us go forth in peace.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

The Rejoicing
(from *Music for the Royal Fireworks*)

George Frideric Handel

Ringing of the Tower Bells



Service Participants

Presider

The Rt. Rev. Jim Mathes

Preacher

The Very Rev. Ian Markham

Reader/Intercessor

Dillon Green

Deacon

The Rev. Fergie Horvath

Crucifer

Christian Basel

Torches

Julia Domenick & Omar Cisneros

Music

The Commonwealth Brass

Chuck Seipp, *Trumpet*

Dennis Edelbrock, *Trumpet*

Rick Lee, *Horn*

Scott Shelsta, *Trombone*

Jack Tilbury, *Tuba*

The Immanuel Chapel bells are rung today by members of the VTS Guild of Bell Ringers and the Washington Ringing Society.