

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2020

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Richmond, Virginia

WELCOME

Bobby Fauntleroy, member of St. Stephen's vestry

HYMN 400

All creatures of our God and King

St. Stephen's Virtual Choir

Brent te Velde, organ

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Caroline Jones

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Ken Dibble

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

Craig Merritt, Beth Smith

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this

is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

THE HOMILY

The Rev. William S. Stanley, Vicar

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION:

“O Taste and See” by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Brent te Velde, piano

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Iona Community

Jordan Schmidt, Lee Speight, Steve Schmidt

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Lee Driscoll

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM VI

Alice Meadows, Scott Finn, Beth Crews, Charlie Caldwell

We entrust to God’s never failing care

Peter Edwin Broadbent, Sr.

June 3, 1919 – July 3, 2020

CLOSING ANTHEM

“We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace” by Moses Hogan

St. Stephen’s Virtual Choir

THE PEACE

Jay Driscoll

CLOSING

Read by Allison Seay

Painting: The Sower by Vincent van Gogh

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Hymn 400, All creatures of our God and King, *Lasst uns erfreuen*, from Hymnal 1982

Music for meditation: “O Taste and See,” music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, copyright Oxford University Press; used with permission.

Music during Prayers of the People: “The Peaceful Wood” by Hilton Rufty

Affirmation of Faith from Iona Community, *Iona Community Worship Book*. Glasgow: Wild Goose, 1991; Wild Goose Worship Group.

Closing piece, “We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace,” by Moses Hogan, used with permission.

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