



THE FEAST OF EPHREM OF EDESSA
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD
JUNE 10TH, 2020 | 10:00 AM

+++++

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant
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.*

OPENING ANTHEM

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Pour out upon us, O Lord, that same Spirit by which your deacon Ephrem declared the mysteries of faith in sacred song, and so gladden our hearts that we, like him, might proclaim the riches of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSON

Reader A Reading from the Book of Proverbs:

Proverbs 3:1-7

My child, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments;
for length of days and years of life
and abundant welfare they will give you.

Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them round your neck,
write them on the tablet of your heart.
So you will find favour and good repute
in the sight of God and of people.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

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

THE GOSPEL

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Matthew 13:47-52

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

‘Have you understood all this?’ They answered, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.’

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON

THE REV. JIM COOK, ASSISTING PRIEST

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*

Reader Let us pray.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop(s); for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people, especially those suffering from COVID-19, those caring for them, and those working on treatments. Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, those on our parish prayer list, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died, especially Pat. *Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

Celebrant

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

We are grateful for your tax-deductible contributions, which enable us to continue our work.

Click [here](#) to give on-line; or text a dollar amount followed by the word “pledge” to 833-948-2161; or mail a check to: St. Luke’s on the Lake Episcopal Church | 5600 RR 620 N | Austin, TX 78732

OFFERTORY SONG

The gifts are presented and placed on the Altar.

DOXOLOGY

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

Celebrant and People say together

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.

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Celebrant and People say together

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

BLESSING

Celebrant

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you this day and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Celebrant

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

+++++

WORSHIP MINISTERS

Celebrant: *The Rev. Jim Cook, Assisting Priest* | Technology Support: *Brad Powell*

+++++

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Contact office@stlukesonthelake.org to add yourself or a loved one to this list.
Names remain on this list for four weeks unless otherwise requested.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially:

These Members and Loved Ones Serving Our Country: Amos, Brian, Christine F., Christine M., Christopher, Isabelle, Jacob, Jason, Mark, Marshall, Phillip, Raymond, Russell, Scott, Travis, Trev, Weston.

These Members and Loved Ones Who Are COVID-19 Heroes: Anna, April, Aurelia, Bethany, Beau, Brenda, Brett, Christine, Daryl, Dennis, Dustin, Elizabeth, Jason, Jenny, Jim, Laura, Lucia, Michelle, Niki, Noël, Pito, Rick & Wendy, Riley, Ryan, Sherry, Sterling, Tamara.

Those Whose Needs Have Been Made Known To Us: Allison, Anita, August, Beverly L., Beverly W., Breese, Caitlin, Chris G., Chris M., Corinne, Craig, Danny, Dax, Deborah, Dolores, Goeff, George, Harlan, Nolan, & Barbara, Heather, JD, JoAnne, Joe, Johanna, John F., John H., Kelly, Sarah, Ben, & Paul, Kristi, Larry, Linda, Margaret, Marie, Mark, Mary D., Mary W., Morris, Nathan & Robin, Nelle, Pat B., Pat C., Pat D., Patricia, Paula, Rachel, Suzanne, Terri.

All St. Luke’s Ministry and Mission Partners, including our St. Luke’s workers in the field: K & K & children, V.B..

Those Who Have Died: Pat Kelso, wife of Richard Kelso; Joyce Anton, mother of Ken Anton.

+++++

**ABOUT EPHREM OF EDESSA
DEACON AND HYMN-WRITER (10 JUNE 373)**

Ephrem (or Ephren or Ephraim or Ephrain) of Edessa was a teacher, poet, orator, and defender of the Faith. (To English-speakers, the most familiar form of his name will be "Ephraim." It is the name of the younger son of Joseph, son of Jacob (see Genesis 41:52), and is thus the name of one of the largest of the twelve tribes of Israel.) Edessa (now Urfa), a city in modern Turkey about 100 kilometers from Antioch (now Antakya), was an early center for the spread of Christian teaching in the East. It is said that in 325 he accompanied his bishop, James of Nisibis, to the Council of Nicea. Certainly his writings are an eloquent defense of the Nicene faith in the Deity of Jesus Christ. He countered the Gnostics' practice of spreading their message through popular songs by composing Christian songs and hymns of his own, with great effect. He is known to the Syrian church as "the harp of the Holy Spirit."

Ephrem retired to a cave outside Edessa, where he lived in great simplicity and devoted himself to writing. He frequently went into the city to preach. During a famine in 372-3 he worked distributing food to the hungry, and organizing a sort of ambulance service for the sick. He worked long hours at this, and became exhausted and sick, and so died.

Of his writings there remain 72 hymns, commentaries on the Old and New Testaments, and numerous sermons.