



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
JENSEN BEACH, FLORIDA

Wednesday Devotional Time

St. Patrick's Day

March 17, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

Officiant: Father Tony Holder, Rector

Mission Statement:

The Community of All Saints' accepts the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship of God, service to His people and stewardship of His gifts.

*The people are invited to read the parts in **bold**.*

Prelude Music

"In Christ there is no east or west"

Paul Demer

Opening Prayer

The Officiant begins with the following words:

Officiant: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Officiant: Almighty God, in your providence you chose your servant Patrick to be the apostle of the Irish people, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of you: Grant us so to walk in that light that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

Reading (*Extracts from St Patrick's Confession*)

"So I am first of all a simple country person, a refugee, and unlearned. I do not know how to provide for the future. But this I know for certain, that before I was brought low, I was like a stone lying deep in the mud. Then He who is powerful came and in his mercy pulled me out, and lifted me up and placed me on the very top of the wall. That is why I must shout aloud in return to the Lord for such great good deeds of his, here and now and forever, which the human mind cannot measure.

If I am most looked down upon, yet he inspired me, before others, so that I would faithfully serve the nations with awe and reverence and without blame: the nations to whom the love of Christ brought me. His gift was that I would spend my life, if I were worthy of it, to serving them in truth and with humility to the end.

In the knowledge of this faith in the Trinity, and without letting the dangers prevent it, it is right to make known the gift of God and his eternal consolation. It is right to spread abroad the name of God faithfully and without fear, so that after my death I may leave something of value to the many thousands of my brothers and sisters - the children whom I baptized in the Lord."

Psalm 97. 1-2, 7-12

(Page 726 of the Book of Common Prayer or as printed in the bulletin. We will read the psalm alternatively by half verse.)

- 1 The LORD is King; let the earth rejoice; * let the multitude of the isles be glad.
2 **Clouds and darkness are round about him, * righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.**
7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! * Bow down before him, all you gods.
8 **Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, * because of your judgments, O LORD.**
9 For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; * you are exalted far above all gods.
10 **The LORD loves those who hate evil; * he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**
11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, * and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
12 **Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, * and give thanks to his holy Name.**

Scriptural Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2. 1-12

Reader: A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Reflection

The Rector

Musical Selection:

"O breathe on me, O breath of God"

Liam Lawton

Confession and Absolution

Officiant: The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ. As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

A period of silent reflection and self-examination is allowed.

People: **Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Absolution

The officiant says the following Absolution.

God, the Father of mercies, has reconciled the world to himself through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, not holding our sins against us, but sending his Holy Spirit to shed abroad his love among us. By the ministry of reconciliation entrusted by Christ to his Church, receive his pardon and peace to stand before him in his strength alone this day and for evermore.

People: Amen.

Prayers of the People

The musical selection - "I bind unto myself today" - St. Patrick's Breastplate - arr. By Kurt Weber is played during the prayers.

Officiant: Christ within us, help us to spread the word of love, peace and justice in our world.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Officiant: Christ in all hearts, be with your people as they share the good news of the gospel in places where your word is not known.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Officiant: Christ beside us, help us to trust in you when we meet difficulties and sustain us in our journey of faith.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Officiant: Christ, who guided Patrick through the struggles of slavery and poverty be with all people as they face hardship in their everyday life.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Officiant: Christ be the light of all those as they face challenges far away from home. Help them through loneliness and the fear of the unknown.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Officiant: Christ be with all our missionaries who are working to bring the gospel to our brothers and sisters in different lands. Be with each of us gathered in your name and help us to be true to the faith that St Patrick preached to our ancestors.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Officiant: Christ be the healer of all persons who are ill, especially those for whom we pray today (*name those for whom we wish to intercede*); that their illness may be turned into health and wholeness of body, mind, and spirit.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Officiant: O God, we celebrate your gifts of holiness, leadership and service in the life of St Patrick. Bless our country, renew the faith of our people and breathe new life into each of us as we give thanks for our love and care of our nation, in the name of Jesus our Lord who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, world without end.

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Sung by Jason Silver

Officiant: Let us pray:
As I arise today, may the strength of God pilot me, the power of God uphold me, the wisdom of God guide me. May the eye of God look before me, the ear of God hear me, the word of God speak for me. May the hand of God protect me, the way of God lie before me, the shield of God defend me, the host of God save me. May Christ shield me today. Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit, Christ when I stand, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

People: **Amen.**

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Officiant may say

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields, and, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand...and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

People: **Amen.**

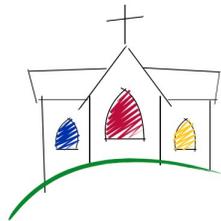
Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Musical Selection:

“Christ be beside me”

James Kilbane



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2303 NE Seaview Drive, Jensen Beach, Florida 34957

T: 772.334.0610 **E:** info@allsaintsjensenbeach.org **W:** allsaintsjensenbeach.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/All-Saints-Episcopal-Church-68146357174

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/allsaintsjensenbeach

Rector: The Reverend Dr. Anthony B. Holder

Deacon: The Reverend Alan Gellert