

# Gathering in the Berwicks

The Feast of Augustine

Thursday, August 28, 2008

*All standing, the Officiant says*

*Officiant:* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People:* Glory to God for ever and ever.

*The Officiant and People pray together,*

*Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.*

*O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ*

Hymnal 25



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in  
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the  
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O



you the Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,  
lamps are lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and  
Son of God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through



blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.  
Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.  
all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

*This hymn may be sung unaccompanied as a four-part canon at a distance of one measure.*

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

Lord God, the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, and the strength of the hearts that serve you: Help us, following the example of your servant Augustine of Hippo, so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you, whom to serve is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**First Reading** Hebrews 12:22-24, 28-29

A Reading from the book of Hebrews.

You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Therefore, since we are

receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 84:7-12, *Quam dilecta!***

- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own  
room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \*  
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, \*  
happy are they who put their trust in you!

**Holy Gospel** John 14:6-15

*All stand.*

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said to Thomas, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Sermon**

*The Rev. Kit Wang*

## Prayers of the People

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

We pray for God's people throughout the world, for our bishops, for all ministers and people. God of love and mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for peace, that fighting and wars will stop, that all people may learn to care for each other. God of love and mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for our president and the leaders of all nations, that they may make wise decisions for the good of all creation. God of love and mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for people who are sick, hungry, poor, in prison, or in any kind of trouble, especially those we name in our hearts and minds and voices... (pause) God of love and mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We thank you for all the blessings of this life (pause) God of love and mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We pray for those who have died (pause) God of love and mercy, *hear our prayer*

## Confession of Sin

*The Deacon then says:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence.*

*Minister and People:*

***God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.***

*The Officiant stands and says:*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

## Peace

*Officiant:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*The Officiant then continues:*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

***People and Celebrant: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.***

## Communion

### *Officiant and People:*

*God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.*

### *Officiant:*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ' give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

*The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended*

Hymnal 24

1 The day thou gav - est, Lord, is end - ed, the dark - ness  
2 We thank thee that thy Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls  
3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land the dawn leads  
4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall nev - er, like earth's proud

falls at thy be - hest; to thee our morn - ing hymns a -  
on - ward in - to light, through all the world her watch is  
on an - oth - er day, the voice of prayer is nev - er  
em - pires, pass a - way; thy king - dom stands, and grows for

scend - ed, thy praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.  
keep - ing, and rests not now by day or night.  
si - lent, nor dies the strain of praise a - way.  
ev - er, till all thy crea - tures own thy sway.

*Deacon:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People:* Thanks be to God.