

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

10:00 am



THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (EPISCOPAL)

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The Word of God

The Prelude

Benedictus

Max Reger

Please stand as you are able as the bell is rung.

The Opening Hymn 537 Christ for the world we sing!

Moscow

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.

The Collect of the Day

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

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Lessons

A reading from the prophet Jonah (3:10-4:11)

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

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

Psalm 145:1-8 (*prayed antiphonally by half verse, alternating between East and West sides of the Nave.*)

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
 and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
 and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
 there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
 and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
 and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
 and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
 they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
 slow to anger and of great kindness.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians (1:21-30)

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well--since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

Please stand as you are able for the sequence hymn and gospel.

The Sequence Hymn 707 Take my life, and let it be consecrated

Hollingside

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

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

Please stand as you are able for the Creed.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]. Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. Who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

You may continue to stand or sit or kneel for the prayers as your personal piety guides you.

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God, responding “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Silence

For people of every race and nation, for their safety and well-being, for the relief of their suffering, and an end to hunger, thirst and homelessness, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those we view as our enemies. For an end to violence, and especially gun violence in our own nation, and a deeper understanding between those who differ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the world around us, earth and sea and soil and all that grows and all that lives. May our stewardship of these gifts preserve them for those who will come after us, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For this church and all churches, that we may hear and live your gospel of generous and creative love. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for: Grace Church, Salem; St. Peter’s Church/Iglesia de San Pedro, Salem; Christ Church, South Hamilton; Church of the Holy Name, Swampscott; Trinity Church, Topsfield. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the special needs and concerns of our own church family. We remember especially those who have asked for our prayers: Elizabeth Beattie, Robert Blanchet, Don Bragdon, Terese Brown, Robin Bruckner, Ken Damon, Joan Gere, Mary Isner, Marirose Lynch, Ed Mason, Sue Mittelstaedt, Jennifer Peters, Joan Payne, Joan Proctor, Helen Richardson, Barbara and Philip Sousa, Linda Staab, Jim Vrabel, Andrew, James, Lauren, Mike. And those we name before you now.

Silence

The People add their own petitions silently or aloud.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. For families, friends, and neighbors, and for all worshipping with us today, here and in their own homes. In our parish cycle of prayer, we offer thanks for those serving on our Stewardship and Sustainability Team. And we thank you for all we name before you now.

Silence

The People add their own thanksgivings silently or aloud.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. We remember especially those we name before you now.

Silence

The People add their own petitions silently or aloud.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

The Absolution

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

The Peace

People: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Greeting and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Offertory

John Ness Beck
text: Micah 6:6-8, alt.

With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before God with burnt offerings, shall I come to offer my yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? God has shown unto you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and love kindness and to walk humbly before your God?

Hymn 424 For the fruit of all creation (vs 3)

East Acklam



For the har-vests of the Spi-rit, thanks be to God. For the good we
all in-her-it, thanks be to God. For the won-ders that as-tound us,
for the truths that still con-found us, most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

As the offering is presented, please stand as you are able.

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

Celebrant May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to God.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify you and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Sanctus S-129

R. Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You may remain standing, kneel or sit for the remainder of the Eucharistic prayer as your personal piety guides you.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

We now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, your Church, redeemed by your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Holy Jesus, Redeemer of the World, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of this altar. Even while some of us are unable to receive you in the elements of bread and wine, we invite you to enter our hearts and be our companion along the way. Awaiting in hope, we know that you are present in every moment of our lives and will never leave us comfortless. For all good things come from you O Lord, and from that goodness, lead us to the love of others. For you live with the Creator and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

All are welcome to receive the bread and/ or the wine. You may stand or kneel to receive. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available; simply make your needs known to the person serving you. If you wish a blessing instead of the elements, cross your arms over your chest as the priest approaches you.

Each Breath is Borrowed Air

Loretta

Text: Thomas H. Troeger

Each breath is borrowed air, not ours to keep and own,
and all our breaths as one declare what wisdom long has known:
*To live is to receive and answer back with praise
to what our minds cannot conceive: the source of all our days.*
The sea flows in our veins, the dust of stars is spun
to form the coiled, encoded skeins by which our cells are run:
From earth and sea and dust arise yet greater things,
the wonders born of love and trust, a grateful heart that sings.
And when our death draws near and tries to dim our song,
our parting prayers will make it clear to whom we still belong.

The Communion Hymn

Hymn 312 Strengthen for service

Malabar

The Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

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.

The Sending *(when lay eucharistic visitors are scheduled to make home or hospital visits)*

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread and the one cup.**

The Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted. Support the weak. Help those in need. Comfort the afflicted. Honor everyone. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And may God's blessing be upon you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn 482 Lord of all hopefulness

Slane

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**

While many of us enjoy remaining in place for the postlude, we also understand that our liturgy ends with the dismissal. If you wish to leave church before or during the postlude, please do so quietly in support of those listening.

The Postlude

Con moto maestoso

Otto Barblan

Celebrant and Preacher

The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

Minister of Music

Joan Kirchner

Eucharistic Ministers

Sue and Jack Sasso

Readers

Earle Bailey, Chris Crighton, Lizzy Thompson

Ushers

Sally Dewing, Phil Suraci

Altar Guild

Barbara Wahlquist

Audio/Video

Brenda Ridgeway

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A Note on Music:

Max Reger (1873–1917) was a German organist, pianist, and conductor. He composed this work in 1901. It is based on Matthew 21:9 – blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. John Ness Beck (1930–1987) was an American composer and music publisher. This anthem was composed in the last year of his life. Otto Barblan (1860-1943) was a Swiss organist, composer, and conductor. He served as organist at St. Pierre Cathedral in Geneva, the church of John Calvin, for more than fifty years.

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