

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 17, 2023
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

Opening Hymn 523 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, ci - ty
2 See! the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
3 Round each ha - bi - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and
4 Blest in - hab - it - ants of Zi - on, washed in the Re -

of our God; he whose word can - not be bro - ken
ter - nal love, well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - ering,
deem - er's blood! Je - sus, whom their souls re - ly on,

formed thee for his own a - bode; on the Rock of A - ges
and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, when such a
show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their
makes them kings and priests to God. 'Tis his love his peo - ple

found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose? With sal -
riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,
ban - ner, light by night, and shade by day, safe they
rais - es o - ver self to reign as kings: and as

The people standing (as able), the Celebrant says

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

People

The Celebrant says

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.***

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
 might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
 praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
 on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect of the Day

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

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

Psalm 103:8-13

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
 slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us, *
 nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
 nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
 so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, *
 so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, *
 so does the Lord care for those who fear him.

Epistle

Romans 14:1-12

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord.

Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Sequence Hymn 423

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Gospel

All stand.

Matthew 18:21-35

Celebrant
People

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Celebrant
People

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

Sermon

The Rev. Jim McDonald

Nicene Creed

All stand, as the People and Celebrant say together.

**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 man.**
**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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.**

Prayers of the People, Form III *(found on page 387 in the Book of Common Prayer)*

People kneeling, as able, the Leader and People pray responsively

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed, especially Susie Farris, eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

We pray especially for Peyton Olson, Jamie Bridgers, Ann Rhodes, John & Susan Dempsey, Jim & Deb Johnson, Patricia Smith, Joan Davidson, Kay, Fred Krug, Al Crouch, Matt Stephenson, and Ingeborg Grahn.

And we pray for those for whom our prayers have been requested: Shawn Gott, Jim Wilson, Finn, Lucy Harris, Nancy, Pam Bachman, Jay, Lakyn Chambers, Laura Reid, Howard Crosby, Jerry Daugherty, Cindy Sellers Roach, Autumn Celestine, Kitten Lawless, DeAnna McCool, Robin Goertz, Gerry Goertz & Jinny Goertz, Jim H., Tom & Kathy Celestine, Marilyn McRoy, Billy Ward, Liz Rust, Mary Myers, Mason Evans, Mark & Jennifer, and Sandra Hughes.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays & anniversaries this week, especially: Peyton Olson (9/18), Carol Crosby (9/20), Anna Grace McSpadden (9/20), Dean Sullins (9/20), Lola Goodwin (9/21), Cameron Hetrick (9/21), Dana Davidson (9/23), Roger & Mabelle Christiansen (9/20), and Don & Karen Mills (9/21).

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sins

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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.**

Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with an Offertory sentence.

Offertory Anthem: Blessed Is the Man

Jane Marshall

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B

The people remain standing

The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and call'd us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus (S128)

Celebrant and People

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven 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.

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with blessed Paul and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Celebrant then continues

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

People and Celebrant

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

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

The Celebrant says

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

Communion Hymn 148 *Creator of The Earth and Skies*

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

The Peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and; the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Post Communion Hymn 334 *Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing*

1 Praise the Lord, rise up re-joic-ing, wor-ship, thanks, de-
2 Scat-tered flock, one shep-herd shar-ing, lost and lone-ly,
3 Sins for-giv-en, wrongs for-giv-ing, we go forth a-

vo-tion voic-ing; glo-ry be to God on high!
one voice hear-ing, ears at-ten-tive to your word;
lert and liv-ing in your Spi-rit, strong and free.

Christ, your cross and pas-sion shar-ing, by this Eu-cha-
by your Blood new life re-ceiv-ing, in your Bo-dy,
Part-ners in your new cre-a-tion, seek-ing peace in

rist de-clar-ing yours the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
firm be-liev-ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev-ery na-tion, may we faith-ful fol-lowers be.

Dismissal

This Sunday's flowers are given by Julie & Tim Dozier to the glory of God and with love & birthday blessings for Wendy Rose Dozier.

Ministers Serving this Sunday

Eucharistic Minister (8:00): Cameron Gillespie

Eucharistic Minister (10:30): Nikki Bittle

Acolyte: Karis Ford

Ushers: Pam Baxter & Paul Hance

Technical Support: Jon Healey

Altar Guild: Martha Healey & Donna Fagan

Community Meal (9/20/2023): Team Mundy/Bittle