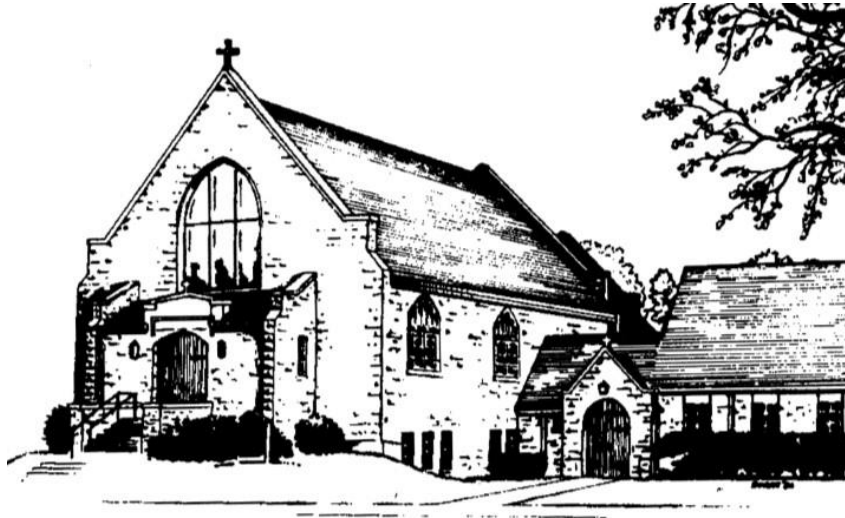


# Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## September 8, 2024



## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 2255

Batesville, Arkansas, 72503

870-793-2203

### Today's Ministers

<i>Officiant:</i>	Sarah Harmon
<i>Chalice bearer:</i>	Gary Perkey
<i>Lector:</i>	Dwight Ford
<i>Acolyte:</i>	Karis Ford
<i>Ushers:</i>	Kyler Dickey & Fuller Bumpers
<i>Choir Director &amp; Organist:</i>	Kristian Ameigh
<i>Technical Support:</i>	Jon Healey
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Pat Mason & Jo Cargill-Krug

This Week's Community Meal (9/11/2024): Team Olson

*This Sunday's altar flowers are given by Donna Terrell, Barbara Terrell's granddaughter, to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for St. Paul's church.*

# The Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion: Rite Two

## The Word of God

**Entrance Hymn 371:** *Thou, Whose Almighty Word*

<sup>1</sup> Thou, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard,

<sup>2</sup> Thou who didst come to bring on thy redeeming wing

<sup>3</sup> Spirit of truth and love, life giving, holy Dove,

<sup>4</sup> Holy and blessed Three, glorious Trinity,

and took their flight; hear us, we humbly pray, and, where the  
healing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the  
speed forth thy flight! Move on the waters' face bearing the  
wisdom, love, might; boundless as ocean's tide, rolling in

Gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!

inly blind, now to all humankind, let there be light!

gifts of grace, and, in earth's darkest place, let there be light!

fullest pride, through the world far and wide, let there be light!

*Today's service begins on Page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer.*

*The people standing (as able), the Officiant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

**People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Officiant 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.**

Gloria - Sung (S278)

(BCP 356)

Officiant and People

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

*Officiant*            The Lord be with you.

*People*                **And also with you.**

*Officiant*            Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## First Reading

**Isaiah 35:4-7a**

*Lector:* A reading from Isaiah.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
‘Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you.’

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

*Lector:*                The Word of the Lord.

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

## Psalm 146

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul! \*  
I will praise the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The Lord loves the righteous;  
the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

## **Second Reading**

## **James 2:1-17**

*Lector:* A reading from James.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*There is no procession. The Lector remains at the lectern to read the third reading, using the same form as the first two.*

## Sequence Hymn 628: *Help Us, O Lord, To Learn*

1 Help us, O Lord, to learn the truths your word im - parts: to  
2 Help us, O Lord, to live the faith which we pro - claim, that  
3 Help us, O Lord, to teach the beau - ty of your ways, that

stu - dy, that your laws may be in - scribed up - on our hearts.  
all our thoughts and words and deeds may glo - ri - fy your Name.  
yearn - ing souls may find the Christ and live a life of praise.

### Third Reading

Mark 7:24-37

*There is no procession. The Lector reads the third reading from the lectern, using the same form as the first two.*

*Lector:* A reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Sermon** \*Read by Sarah Harmon

**Nicene Creed**     *found on page 358 in the Book of Common Prayer*

*All stand, as the People and Officiant 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 IV** – *found on page 388 in the Book of Common Prayer*

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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

We pray for our wardens, vestry, and those who will choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for God's people and equip us for our ministries.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays & anniversaries this week, especially Melissa Castleberry (9/8), Drew Warden (9/10), Lachlyn Dore (9/12), Michelle Warden (9/14), Sam Sullins (9/14), Dave & Cindy Allen (9/11), Lloyd & Betty Bess (9/12).

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

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:** Jamie Bridgers, Ann Rhodes, Jim & Deb Johnson, Patricia Smith, Joan Davidson, Matt Stephenson, John & Susan Dempsey, Isabelle Tenace, Ellen Massey, Bill Olson, Kay Forrest, Sam Crawford, Rebecca Ward, and Jeraine Root.

**We pray also for family and friends for whom our prayers have been requested:** Jim Wilson, Jay, Kitten Lawless, DeAnna McCool, Robin Goertz, Gerry Goertz & Jinny Goertz, Tom & Kathy Celestine, Mark & Jennifer, Susan, Jody Gayle, Stacey Lindsey, Tara Nance, the Sweet Family, Melvin & Jennie Smith, Howard Crosby, Gina Layne, David Smith, Lucy Harris, Adam M, Dwayne & Audra Stott, Keith Perkins, Jim & Charlotte, Jordy, Shelby & Penelope Rubio, Daniel & Steven King, Sherry Snow, Mark Counts, the Gott family, Nan & Matt Tucker, Walker, Mark Higginbotham, Danny Yeager, the Mooneyhan family, Shannon Bohnert, Micah Jordon, Rodney Brady, Ron Karg, the Waldrip family, Amber Casey, Kathy Kleveno, Mike & Brandy Wyatt, John V. Miller, Ben Handford, Patty Healey, Scott Davidson, and Jim Reynolds.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

*The Officiant adds the following Collect:*



Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Confession**

*BCP 360*

*The Officiant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant 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 Officiant remains kneeling and says*

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

## **Peace**

*All stand. The Officiant 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 Officiant may begin the Offertory with the following or another Offertory sentence.*

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

**Offertory Anthem: God Be In My Head**

John Rutter

### **Doxology: 43 v.4**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise him, all creatures here below: praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

*The people's offerings of money or other gifts are received. The officiant reverently places the offerings on the altar.*

*The Officiant opens the tabernacle, reverently places the ciborium containing the consecrated bread on the altar, and pours the consecrated wine from the flagon into the chalice.*

*The Officiant then continues*

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

*People and Officiant*

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

*The Officiant says the following Invitation*

**The Gifts of God for the People of God.**

*and may add*

**Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.**

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

**Communion Hymn: *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face To Face***

*After Communion, the Officiant says*

Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

*On 365:*

**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.**

## Post Communion Hymn 375: *Give Praise and Glory unto God*

<sup>1</sup>Give praise and glory unto God, the Father of all blessing;  
<sup>2</sup>The host of heaven praiseth thee, O Lord of all dominions;  
<sup>3</sup>What God hath wrought to show his power he evermore sustaineth;

his mighty wonders tell abroad his graciousness con-  
and mortals then, on land and sea, beneath thy shadowing  
he watches o'er us every hour, his mercy never

fessing. With balm my inmost heart he fills his  
pinions, exult in thy creative might that  
waneth. Through all his kingdom's wide domain, his

comfort all my anguish stills. To God be praise and glory.  
doeth all thigs well and right. To God be praise and glory.  
righteousness and justice reign. To God be praise and glory.

### Dismissal

*Officiant*      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

### Organ Postlude

**\* Today's sermon is from *Sermons That Work* and is called *The Story Is Told of St. Francis*.  
It was written by Alistair Bain.**