

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
*Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 29, 2024*  
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

**The Word of God**

**Opening Hymn 546**     *Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve*

<sup>1</sup> Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve, and press with vigor  
<sup>2</sup> A cloud of witnesses around hold thee in full sur-  
<sup>3</sup> 'Tis God's all-animating voice that calls thee from on  
<sup>4</sup> Then wake, my soul, stretch every nerve, and press with vigor  
on; a heavenly race demands thy zeal, and  
vey; forget the steps already trod, and  
high; 'tis his own hand presents the prize to  
on; a heavenly race demands thy zeal, and  
an immortal crown, and an immortal crown.  
onward urge thy way, and onward urge thy way.  
thine aspiring eye, to thine aspiring eye.  
an immortal crown, and an immortal crown.

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

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

*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,



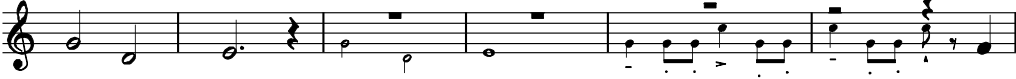
on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you




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, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

## First Reading

## Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

A reading from Esther.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

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

## Psalm 124

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, \*  
let Israel now say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, \*  
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive \*  
in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \*  
and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters \*  
have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! \*  
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; \*  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

## Epistle

## James 5: 13-20

A reading from James.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

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

## Sequence Hymn 635

## *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

*Unison or harmony*



1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through  
2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un-swerv-ing; so do thine own part

all thy ways, he'll give thee strength what-e'er be-tide thee,  
faith-ful-ly, and trust his word, though un-de-serv-ing;

and bear thee through the e-vil days. Who trusts in God's un-  
thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev-er yet for-

chang-ing love builds on a rock that nought can move.  
sook in need the soul that trust-ed him in-deed.

# Gospel

# Mark 9:38-50

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

## Sermon

Rev. Herman Browne, Ph.D

## 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 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 and an anniversary this week, especially: Patricia Smith (10/1), Mary Bumpers (10/3), Finn Dore (10/4), Jacqui McSpadden (10/5), and Michelle & Kirk Warden (10/5).

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.

We pray especially for 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, and Rebecca Ward.

And we pray for those 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, David Smith, Lucy Harris, Adam M, 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, Kathy Kleveno, Mike & Brandy Wyatt, John V. Miller, Ben Handford, Patty Healey, Scott Davidson, Jim Reynolds, Christina, the Clouse family, Peggy Comer, Kristin, and Marilyn Townsend.

*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 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: Hear My Prayer**

Moses Hogan

**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 with your co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, you are one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of you, O Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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)

*The acolyte will ring the Sanctus bells each time the word "holy" is sung.*

### *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**      *O Food to Pilgrims Given*

*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 344 *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with  
2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's  
3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the  
joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,  
joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion  
world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,  
tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,  
in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,  
glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,  
O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.  
ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;  
may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

**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.*