



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

**The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 26, 2021 • 10:30 AM
Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

The service begins on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer. The service is printed here in its entirety.

The Processional Hymn

Fight the good fight with all thy might
Hymnal 552

The Liturgy of the Word

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

The People say together

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 Gloria

Hymnal S 280

Children ages 4-8 are invited to gather at the rear of the church to attend Children's Chapel, return during the Peace.

The 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.**

All may be seated.

The First Lesson: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm: 124

The psalm is sung by the choir.

- 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.

The Second Reading: James 5:13-20

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn

If thou but trust in God to guide thee
Hymnal 635

The Holy Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

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.**

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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.

The Prayers of the People — Form VI

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

Intercessor For all people in their daily life and work;

People ***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

Intercessor For this community, the nation, and the world;

People ***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;

People ***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

Intercessor For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People ***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

Intercessor For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People ***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

Intercessor For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Robert, Don, and Paul, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

People ***For all who serve God in his Church.***

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray for those on our prayer list, especially David, Bill, Joan, Tom, Ernie, Heather, Anne, Don, Frank, Carol.

The People may add their own petitions

Intercessor Hear us, Lord;
People **For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks for those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially: Ella, Jay, Robert, Brad, Banks, Alice, Michael, Katie.

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Intercessor We will exalt you, O God our King;
People **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions

Intercessor Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People **Who put their trust in you.**

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

Silence may be kept.

Leader 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.

Celebrant

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

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

Blessings and Thanksgivings

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

Christ is our cornerstone
Noel Rawsthorne

The Presentation Hymn

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless
Hymnal 343

Celebrant 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.**

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 by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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:

The Sanctus

Hymnal S 125

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.

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 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.



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.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154

Communion Anthem

Ave verum corpus
Robert Pearsall

The Communion Hymn

O food to pilgrims given
Hymnal 309

Celebrant: 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.*

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace
Hymnal 347

The Dismissal

A prayer for Serenity: (From the Daughters of the King)

*Merciful Jesus, you are my guide, the joy of my heart, the author of my hope, and the object of my love. I come seeking refreshment and peace. Show me your mercy, relieve my fears and anxieties, and grant me a quiet mind and an expectant heart, that by the assurance of your presence I may learn to abide in you, who is my Lord and my God. **Amen.***

Remember in your Prayers

We pray for those who are sick and those who love them, and for those who have died because of the coronavirus; for those who are oppressed by fear. Let us also pray for those in the medical, scientific, research and pharmaceutical communities devoting their time and talent to the cause of global health.

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Malcolm Velasca, Kiran Force, Alice Magnan, Annie Bulford, Margaret Crary, Trina Hall, Tyler Chapman, Anna Endres, Kimberly Leitch, Candy Waldron, Bo Warren, Brittany Jones, Ralph Hajosy, Jeff Lawhead, Billy Newman, Joan Kelley, Carol Paschal, Donald Simpson.

We pray for those with timely concerns: Brink Howard, Danielle Doughtie, Rena McMichael, Michael Coxand, Dustin Brown, Ernie Williams, Mandy Screven, Steven Stellen, Marcia Mack, Bill Harrison, Vashti Ravenell, Gavin Stuart and family, Heather & Martha Pennell-Glover, Anne Murphy, Heather, Quinn Harrison, Jason Allen, Ethan Page, Luke Bourneuf, Ruthie Stewart, Don Jones, Frank West, Dorothy Schultze & family, Ivy Roman, Maxine Gordon.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Jennifer, Nicole, Philip, Frankey, Mark, Geoff, Renee, Heather, Virginia, Jennifer; the Clergy and Staff: Hazel, Mason, Charmaine, Dawn, Elisabeth, Mary Margaret, Kimberly, Cole.

We pray for members of our armed services and their families: Phil Kearney, Kevin Bradley, Joe Clay, Tom Choate, Linda Boyce, Dariel Johnson, Sean McGraw, Steven Puckett, Bill Tudor, Jr., Scott Woodward, Luke White, Tommy White, Zach Simkins, Jacob Britt, Morgen Davis, Luke Eason, Michael Rafferty, David Norwood, Arron Essex, Adam Harrison, Sam Vermilyea, Charles Mathews, Cameron Everett, Lanier Sealy, Beau Massenburg.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: Ella Myers, Jay Macke, Robert Hopkins, Brad Macke, Banks Ream, Alice Magnan, Michael Francis, Katie Payne.

Parish Notices

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by **Renee Powell**, in thanksgiving for her granddaughter Ellis, on her birthday.

ADULT FORMATION - Please join us this Sunday in the Library at 9:30 for this season of Adult Formation. We are reading **Faith After Doubt** by McLaren.

BIBLE STUDY: "Prayers in Scripture: A six-week Bible Study" will begin on October 6th and will meet on Wednesdays at 9:30 in Room 2 off the parish hall.

EPISCOPAL 101 class on Sundays at 9:30 continues this Sunday, Sept. 26, 2021 with Rev. Hazel. We are discussing how our faith as Episcopalians is understood and lived out in our lives.

YOUTH SUNDAY: Next Sunday, **October 3, 2021**

2nd SUNDAY BREAKFAST: From 9am - 10am **Sunday, October 10th**

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - St. Francis Day: At Greenville Street Park **Sunday, October 10 at 2-4 p.m.**

BLOOD DRIVE: Please join us in the mission of saving lives on **Monday, October 25 from 1:30-6:30 p.m.** in the Parish Hall. Please email Virginia Williams or Wendy Llosa to make an appointment.

SUNDAY PARTICIPANTS

VPOW [Vestry Person of the Week] - Frankey Henderson				
Verger	Eucharistic Minister	Ushers	Acolytes	Readers
Tony		Bob Heaberlin, Heather Turner, Virginia Williams, David Carver, Rick Candler Jim Thomasson, Jeff Lawhead	Mary Scott Fabrizi - 1st - 2nd - Banner Jayden R - Torch 1 Zach R - Torch 2	