

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2020

The Holy Eucharist: Rite 2
With Spiritual Communion

Service Leaders

The Rev. Frank C. Strasburger, Celebrant and Preacher
The Rev. Stephanie Batterman, Deacon
Frank Jacob, Lector
Mike Powers, Responder
Mary Swain, Intercessor
Gard Conley & Carrie Strasburger, Cantors
Sharon Steele, Zoom Manager

The Word of God

Hymn 546 *Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve*

1 Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve,
and press with vigor on;
a heavenly race demands thy zeal,
and an immortal crown,
and an immortal crown.

2 A cloud of witnesses around
hold thee in full survey;
forget the steps already trod,
and onward urge your way,
and onward urge your way.

3 'Tis God's all-animating voice
that calls thee from on high;
'tis his own hand presents the prize
to thine aspiring eye,
to thine aspiring eye.

4 Then wake, my soul, stretch every nerve,
and press with vigor on;
a heavenly race demands thy zeal,
and an immortal crown,
and an immortal crown.

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

All
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The First Lesson Genesis 12:1-8

Lector A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1-6,13-17 (read responsively by full verse)

Lector 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

Responder 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

The Second Lesson 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Lector A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 598 (vss. 1,2,&4) *Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth*

1 Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth,
Upon a cross they bound thee,
And mocked thy saving kingship then
By thorns with which they crowned thee;
And still our wrongs may weave thee now
New thorns to pierce that steady brow,
And robe of sorrow round thee.

2 O awful Love, which found no room
In life where sin denied thee,
And, doomed to death, must bring to doom
The powers which crucified thee,

Till not a stone was left on stone,
And all those nations' pride o'erthrown,
Went down to dust beside thee!

4 O wounded hands of Jesus, build
In us thy new creation.
Our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled,
We wait thy revelation:
O love that triumphs over loss,
We bring our hearts before thy cross,
To finish thy salvation.

The Gospel Matthew 22:34-46

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

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

All

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 III-revised)

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

Intercessor In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our sisters and brothers in common mission in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on this Reformation Sunday. In the Anglican Communion we pray for the Church in Wales and for The Most Rev. John Davies, Archbishop of Wales and Bishop of Swansea and Brecon. Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Intercessor Remembering Thomas Brown, Bishop of Maine; Stephanie Batterman, Deacon of Grace Church; Edward Greene, Frank Strasburger, and Pamela Mott, our supply priests, we pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Intercessor Remembering Donald Trump our President and Janet Mills our Governor, we pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; we pray especially, in this election season, for wisdom in our choices and the charity to treat one another with justice, mercy, and humility. Help us seek common purpose as citizens of the nation and the world.
People That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Intercessor We pray for first responders, front-line caregivers, and all whose dedication to service places them and their families at risk. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People That our works may find favor in your sight.

Intercessor In our parish family, we pray for: John Beaven, Stephanie and Dean Batterman, Susan Arbuckle-Keith, Gordon White, Marnie Hackenberg, Ethan Stanley, Frances Pinney and Al Ferguson.
We pray for family and friends: Alice, Ann Hughes, Trisha's family, Allison, Kent Koger, Lois McCormick, Deana, Jack Swanton, Peter Galvin, Chuck, Martha Cashman Miller, Dennis & Sue, Dev & Jan, Anna Kendrick, Kayo & David, Ryan McIntosh, Chuck Gauger, Laura Fielding, Ned & Terry, Ru and family, Brian Brandt, Thomas Sawyer, Kim Coleman, the family of Diane & David Butler, Len Barker, Deborah Beal, Margaret Intonti, Todd Schlapfer, Bruce, Diane Engler, Patricia White, Larry Ferguson, Joan Dixon and Timothy.
We pray for all victims of the COVID-19 pandemic and for all who care for them. [Please add silently or aloud others for whom you pray.]
Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People That they may be delivered from their distress.

Intercessor We remember all who have died and those who grieve for them, especially Barbara Lebel, The Rev. Robert Raymond, and Richard Poliquin. [Please add silently or aloud others for whom you mourn.] Give to the departed eternal rest.
People Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

Intercessor As our parish seeks new clerical leadership, lead us to discern our future wisely, faithfully, and gracefully.
People May our search strengthen our bonds with you and one another.

Intercessor Oh God, you call us each by name; help us hear your voice.
People That each of us may become all you intend us to be.
Intercessor Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

[Please offer your own prayers silently or aloud.]

Celebrant

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Holy Communion

Hymn 333 *Now the silence*

Now the silence Now the peace Now the empty hands uplifted
Now the kneeling Now the plea Now the Father's arms in welcome
Now the hearing Now the power Now the vessel brimmed for pouring
Now the Body Now the Blood Now the joyful celebration
Now the wedding Now the songs Now the heart forgiven leaping
Now the Spirit's visitation Now the Son's epiphany Now the Father's blessing
Now Now Now

The Great Thanksgiving

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.
Celebrant 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 called 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:

All
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant
Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.*

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

All
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

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

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

People
Lord Jesus, as I cannot be physically present at the altar where your Body and Blood have been blessed and sanctified, I pray that, in virtual presence, I may become one with you and with all humanity in life, and death, and resurrection.

Closing Prayer

All

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

Hymn 557 *Rejoice, ye pure in heart*

1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing!
Your glorious banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.
Hosanna, hosanna!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

4 Yes, on through life's long path,
still chanting as ye go;
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe.
Hosanna, hosanna!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

5 Still lift your standard high,
still march in firm array,
as warriors through the darkness toil,
till dawns the golden day.

Hosanna, hosanna!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

6 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their Father's house,
Jerusalem the blessed.
Hosanna, hosanna!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

7 Then on, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing!
Your glorious banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.
Hosanna, hosanna!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

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The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God

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