

THE WAY OF LOVE

*Whoever and wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome.
Our message is that God's unconditional love is extended to you right now through Jesus Christ.
Here in this church, God says, "You belong, this is my family, and you have a place in it."*

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOLY EUCHARIST: ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP 2

September 24, 2023 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Suite Medievale
Dana Anderson, organ

Gordon Young

AT THE PROCESSION Hymnal (blue) 690
All stand

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

- 1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Book of Common Prayer (BCP red) 323

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

(from *The Orlando Mass*)

Robert Lau



2

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav'n - ly

King, — al - might - y God and Fa - ther. We wor - ship

you. We a - dore — you. Glo - ry to God,

Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP (red) 234

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE LESSONS

All are seated.

JONAH 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

PSALM 145:1-8 *read responsively by the whole verse*

BCP (red) 801

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2 ***Every day will I bless you and praise your Name for ever and ever.***

3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; there is no end to his greatness.

4 ***One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.***

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

6 ***They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will tell of your greatness.***

7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

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

PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

SEQUENCE Hymnal (blue) 694

God be in my head

All stand and turn to face the Gospel procession.

God be in my head,
and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes,
and in my looking;
God be in my mouth,
and in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
and in my thinking;
God be at mine end,
and at my departing.

MATTHEW 20:1-16

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

THE SERMON

The Reverend Walt Seeley

All are seated

THE NICENE CREED

BCP (red) 358

All stand

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 worshipped 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

All stand or kneel

Let us unite our hearts and minds in prayer for our world, saying, Almighty God, hear our prayer.

For the church throughout the world, Almighty God, **hear our prayer.** Inspire the daughters and sons of your church for prophetic witness to your truth, and upon old and young give clarity of vision to acknowledge your saving power in the world.

For nations of the world and its leaders, Almighty God, **hear our prayer.** Overcome the babble of misunderstanding among the nations, and let all people hear in their own language and recognize in their own culture your unifying message of love.

For planet Earth, our home, Almighty God, **hear our prayer.** By your Spirit, renew the earth, make us good stewards of its resources, and teach us to enjoy its abundance rightly.

For those in need of healing, Almighty God, **hear our prayer.** Send your healing Spirit upon those who are sick in body or mind, restore them to health and restore to them the joy of salvation. We also pray for those who have died.

For our neighbors and members of our civic community, Almighty God, **hear our prayer.** Teach us to be good neighbors, to live in peace with one another, and in friendship share the joys and burdens of daily life.

For our children, Almighty God, **hear our prayer.** Bless our children, protect them from danger, and help parents and caregivers nurture them so that they may mature in wisdom and grow in grace.

For our enemies, Almighty God, **hear our prayer.** Bless our enemies and show us how we may do good to them for the sake of Jesus Christ.

I ask your prayers for Chapel on the Plains Episcopal Church in Medicine Bow and for the Diocese of Fredericton, Canada. The flowers this week are given to the Glory of God and dedicated to Ira and Edith Marsh Trotter. Your own prayers and petitions may be added at this time.

Almighty God, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, who knows the needs and desires of this parish. Bless the rector search committee with your direction, understanding, and Spirit to seek your will in finding the next rector for St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Instill in us a collaborative energy along with our fellow parishioners, Vestry members, and community during this time and process. Inspiration ultimately comes from you, and we ask for this in your Holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

In your mercy, Almighty God, receive our prayers and, according to your wisdom, provide all that we need; through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Enriching Our Worship (EOW) 56

Officiant Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

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

All stand

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY BLESSING

BCP (red) 830

Watch over Your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand, comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may Your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

AT THE OFFERTORY

Soliloquy

Gordon Young

An offering is collected as a symbol of our life and labor and to support the work of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

Officiant All things come of you, O Lord.

People And of your own have we given you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: PRAYER FORM 2

Enriching Our Worship (EOW) 60

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you. My

heart pours out my Praise to you you are Ho - ly, Lord!

Chords: G, A7/G, D, A/C#, Bm, Bm/A, Em7, A7, G/A, D

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Mark and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

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

Those who eat my flesh

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Those who

The first system of musical notation for 'The Breaking of the Bread'. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with 'Al - le - lu - ia,' followed by 'Al - le - lu - ia.' and then 'Those who'. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 2/4.

eat my flesh and drink my blood a - bide in me and

The second system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with 'eat my flesh and drink my blood a - bide in me and'. The piano accompaniment continues with the right-hand melody and left-hand bass line. The key signature remains one flat, and the time signature is 2/4.

I in them Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

The third system of musical notation. The vocal line concludes with 'I in them Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.' The piano accompaniment concludes with the right-hand melody and left-hand bass line. The key signature remains one flat, and the time signature is 2/4.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.

Come, all those who have much faith, and those who have little, those who have been here often and those who have not been here long, those who have tried to follow you and those who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites us. It is God's will that those who desire God should meet God here. **Amen.**

All are welcome at the altar. All who desire to receive communion and those wishing to receive a prayer of blessing are invited to the altar rail. Gluten free wafers are available at the communion rail. Please inform the servers at the altar rail if you desire gluten free wafers.

COMMUNION Hymnal (blue) 660

O Master let me walk with Thee

- 1 O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.
- 2 Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.
- 3 Teach me thy patience; still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong,
- 4 in hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.

Hymnal (blue) 325

Let us break bread together

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
*when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*
- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
*when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*
- 3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
*when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

Eight-fold Alleluia

1. Alleluia
2. He is risen
3. Holy Spirit
4. Alleluia

SENDING FORTH

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

The people stand or kneel

Officiant Let us pray.

People *Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.*

THE BLESSING

AT THE PROCESSION Hymnal (blue) 551

Rise up ye saints of God

All stand

- 1 Rise up, ye saints of God!
 Have done with lesser things,
 give heart and soul and mind and strength
 to serve the King of kings.
- 2 Rise up, ye saints of God!
 His kingdom tarries long;
 Lord, bring the day of truth and love
 and end the night of wrong.
- 3 Lift high the cross of Christ!
 Tread where his feet have trod;
 and quickened by the Spirit's power,
 rise up, ye saints of God!

DISMISSAL

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

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

POSTLUDE

Postlude

Francois Couperin

If you are unable to make it to church and would like communion, please contact the church office.

ST. MARK'S INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

Diocesan Prayer: Chapel on the Plains Episcopal Church in Medicine Bow.

Anglican Cycle of Prayers: Diocese of Central Florida, Diocese of Southeast Florida, Episcopal Church, Diocese of Southwest Florida, Diocese of Fond du Lac, Diocese of Fredericton (Canada), and Diocese of Free State (Southern Africa).

SCRIPTURES FOR NEXT WEEK ARE:

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Philippians 2:1-13

Psalms 25:1-8 Matthew 21:23-32

Website for weekly scriptures: <http://www.lectionarypage.net>

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The flowers this week are given to the Glory of God and dedicated to Ira and Edith Marsh Trotter given by Philip Marsh Ellis. You may sign up for a Sunday in the altar flower dedication book located in the rear of the church. More than one donor per Sunday is gratefully welcomed and due recognition given accordingly. Cost is \$70.00.

ST. MARK'S PARKING

We are thankful to the Cheyenne family that allows us to use their parking lot west of the church on Sunday mornings. It is a parking lot that is leased by others Monday through Saturday. If you have any concerns, please contact the church office.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796)

God be in my head, By permission of the Royal School of Church Music.

O Master let me walk with Thee, Washington Gladden (1836-1918)

Let us break bread together, African-American spiritual c. David Hurd

Rise up ye saints of God, William Pierson Merrill (1867-1954)

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8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:30 A.M. Choral Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Children's Chapel/Sunday School and Nursery
Interim Rectors: The Revs. Janet and Walt Seeley