



St. James Episcopal Church

Our commitment: Walk with God.

The 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

September 17, 2023

Est. 1881

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The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Lazzuri

Rector

Tara Ford

Organist / Choir Director

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
September 17, 2023

Prelude

Processional Hymn #494: *Crown him with many crowns*

Please stand

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 355

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

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

Celebrant & People

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 S-280

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.

Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 233

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the Readings

First Reading: Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response: Exodus 15: 1b-11, 20-21

(we will read in unison with the Lector)

"I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation;

this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name.

"Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea; his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power--your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy.

In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries; you sent out your fury, it consumed them like stubble.

At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up, the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.'

You blew with your wind, the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

"Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?"

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing.

And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #393: *Praise our great and gracious Lord*

The Gospel: Matthew 18:21-25

(Please Stand)

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Jennifer L. Lazzuri

The Nicene Creed ~ *Please stand and turn to page 358 in The Book of Common Prayer*

Prayers of the People ~

Please kneel or be seated as you are able. The congregation will respond with the words in bolded italics.

Leader: Each of us is finally accountable to God. So let us pray, saying, "Lord, we are in need of your mercy; have patience with us."

Leader Lord, we acknowledge that we all sin against our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive us even as we forgive each other. Help us to be merciful to each other in the Church. *Moment of silence.*

Leader Lord, we are in need of your mercy;

People ***Have patience with us.***

Leader Lord, we acknowledge that we desire to repay violence with violence. Open our hearts to forgive even those who commit evil acts towards us and those we love. Help us to live mercifully in our world. *Moment of silence.*

Leader Lord, we are in need of your mercy;

People ***Have patience with us.***

Leader Lord, we acknowledge we do not always appreciate the diversity of your creation. Teach us to live in peace with each other and with your creation. Help us to live mercifully with our world.

Moment of silence.

Leader Lord, we are in need of your mercy;

People ***Have patience with us.***

Leader Lord, we acknowledge that we do not love our neighbors as you love us. Forgive us for placing ourselves as judge over others when judgement belongs to you alone. Help us to accept the great mercy you choose to show others. *Moment of silence.*

Leader Lord, we are in need of your mercy;

People ***Have patience with us.***

Leader Lord, we pray for those whose lives are broken by evil. Because of your mercy we believe that whatever befalls them, they belong to you; you care for the brokenhearted. Help us to share your love with all those who are hurting. We pray for **Stephanie** Koren, **Marc** Boivin, **LaVahn & Mary-Frances** Hoh, **George** Franklin, **Bruce** Boxley, **Dave** Eaton, **David & Amanda** Wesley, **Charlotte** Jones, **Phil** Pack, **Esme** Creasy, **Kristin** Zonozi, **Michele** Dennis, **Richard** Bull, **Julia** Thomas, **Linda** Taylor, **Jesse** Wasserman, **Donna** Davis, **Martha** Tilman, **Louise** Proffitt, **Martha** Draper-Witte, **Lucy** Hodge, **Kirk** Dunklee, **Lloyd** Runnett, **Conrad** Eiban, **Joe** Jankowski, **Jim** Gillespie, **Hayleigh** Wilde and her family, **Barbara** “Boo” Williams, **Dave** Martinez, **Brenda** Anderson, **John** Cochrane, **Owen**, **Dale** Brittle, and **Nancy** Miller. *Moment of silence.*

Leader Lord, we are in need of your mercy;

People ***Have patience with us.***

Leader Lord, we remember those who died, especially **Margaret Lumsden**. We remember those men and women of the armed services, innocent bystanders, first responders, and even those we have called enemies. The dead belong to you, O Lord. Even as we seek your mercy for ourselves, judge all those who have died with mercy. *Moment of silence.*

Leader Lord, we are in need of your mercy;

People ***Have patience with us.***

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession

The Book of Common Prayer, page 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Moment of Silence*

Celebrant & 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.

Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all yours 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 & Greeting

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offering of Gifts and Praise

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

Offertory Anthem: *Prayer for Peace*

David Cherwein, 2003

Doxology (*please stand*)

*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. Amen.*

Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer C

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 369

(*please remain standing*)

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 God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S-130 (*in your Hymnal*)

(*remain standing or kneel as you are able*)

Celebrant And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

Celebrant and People

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

Celebrant and People

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

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.

Fraction Anthem: *The disciples knew the Lord Jesus* (please use the laminated copy in your pew rack)

Communion Hymn #581: *Where charity and love prevail*

Post-Communion Prayer

The Book of Common Prayer, page 365

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

Lord Jesus Christ, send us out with confidence in your word, to tell the world of your saving acts, and bring glory to your name. **Amen.** Blessing is from *A Prayer Book for Australia*

Recessional Hymn #478: *Jesus, our mighty Lord*

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Postlude

Those Who Serve Today

Crucifer/Holder of Intinction Cup: Greg Schumacher (10) Chalice: Jill Schumacher (10)
Lector: Dona Breen (8) / Randy Keil (10) Prayers: Dona Breen (8) / Bill Treiber (10)
Ushers: John & Missy Agee Counters: Jill Schumacher / Randy Keil
Sunday School: Debbie Wesley / Nancy Bashaw Nursery: Diane Alfano / Kelly Craig
Altar Guild: Linda Boxley / Pattie Cooke

Intercessions

Church Members: Stephanie Koren, Marc Boivin, LaVahn & Mary-Frances Hoh, George Franklin, Bruce Boxley, Dave Eaton

Family of Church Members: David & Amanda Wesley (Rick & Debbie Wesley's son & daughter in-law), Charlotte Jones (Alice Gaultney's sister), Phil Pack, Esme Creasy, Kristin Zonozi, Michele Dennis, Richard Bull, Julia Thomas, Linda Taylor, Jesse Wasserman

Friends of Church Members: Donna Davis, Martha Tilman, Louise Proffitt, Martha Draper-Witte, Lucy Hodge, Kirk Dunklee, Lloyd Runnett, Conrad Eiban, Joe Jankowski, Jim Gillespie, Hayleigh Wilde and her family, Barbara "Boo" Williams, Dave Martinez, Brenda Anderson, John Cochrane, Owen, Dale Brittle, Nancy Miller
For the people affected by Hurricane Idalia

For the people of Maui and surrounding areas

For the clergy and congregations of St. Matthew's, Sterling, St. Thomas, Richmond

For those in military service, especially: Hope Matkins, Zachary Lynch, Kelsey Brewer, Teri Boivin, Holly-Ann Hess, Nicholas Boivin, and Jon Geiser

For the Departed: Margaret Lumsden

Jesus said, "My house shall be called a house of prayer."

We welcome all visitors to St. James. If you would like to know more about our church family, please sign the pew card or the guest register near the front door of the church.

The altar flowers this morning are given by Linda & Jim Brickey to the Glory of God and in celebration of their wedding anniversary!

This afternoon, beginning at 3:00pm – there will be an Organ Recital by Dr. Kelly Tennille Grooms to celebrate the addition of the new pipes to our organ. This event is open to the public and free of charge.

The Town of Louisa will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary on September 30th, 2023. The event will include an opening ceremony, parade, fireworks and more. St. James will open its doors from 12:00-4:00pm that day for the community to stop by and learn about the history of the church. For more information on the celebration, you can go to www.louisachamber.org.

On Sunday, October 1st, St. James will host for the first time a Croquet Tournament! We will also have a parish potluck luncheon! So, grab a partner for the tournament – pick out your white outfit and hat – make a dish to share – and most of all, plan on spending a fun afternoon at church!! Everything will take place after the 10 o'clock service.

The St. James Fall Festival will happen in 4 weeks – October 14th. The Men of St. James are asking everyone to look through your cupboards and closets for items you no longer use or want and consider donating them to the Men's sale. Clothes are not accepted. The Men will begin taking your items on Friday, October 13th in the large parking lot. The men also need volunteers to help Friday & Saturday – please call Mike Breen @ 540-223-3788 to volunteer an hour or two.

Also, for the Fall Festival, 2nd Time Around Jewelry will be featured. A basket has been set up in the Parish Hall for your jewelry, scarves & purses that you no longer use or want that someone else may enjoy! If you have any questions, please refer them to Anna Lou Flynn 540-894-3379.