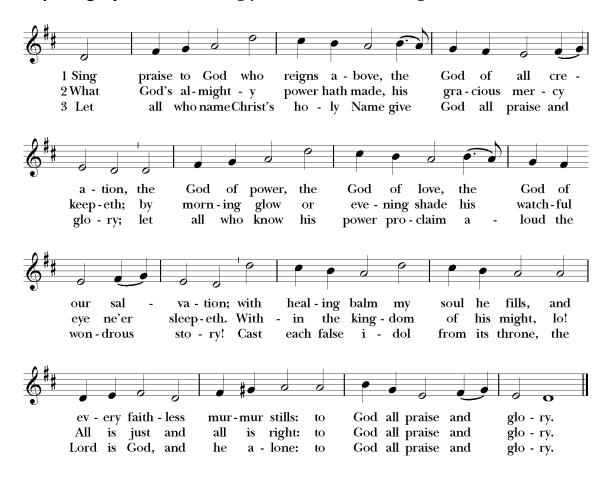
St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Hebron, CT

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 22, 2021

Opening Hymn: #408 "Sing praise to God who reigns above"



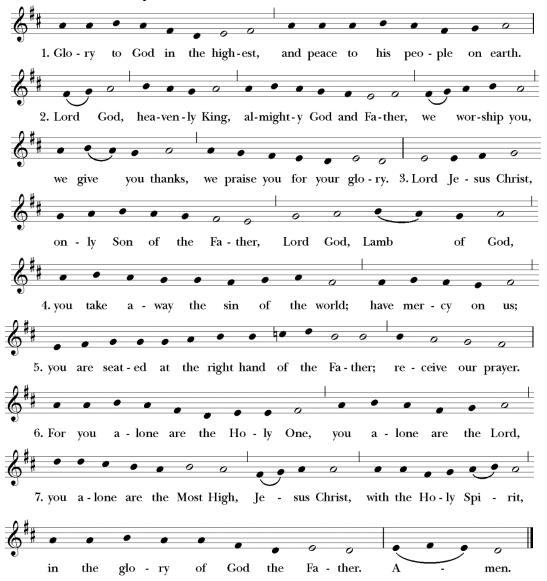
Opening Acclamation

BCP page 355

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom now and forever.

Gloria S-277 Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis



Collect of the Day: Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The First Lesson: Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel:

"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

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

The Psalm: Psalm 34:15-22

- 15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, * and his ears are open to their cry.
- 16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, * to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them * and delivers them from all their troubles.
- 18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted * and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

- 19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
 but the LORD will deliver him out of them all.
- 20 He will keep safe all his bones; * not one of them shall be broken.
- 21 Evil shall slay the wicked, * and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
- 22 The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, * and none will be punished who trust in him.

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

Sequence Music

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ *People: Glory to you, Lord Christ*

The Holy Gospel: John 6:56-69

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

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

Sermon The Rev. Ronald J. Kolanowski

The Nicene Creed BCP, p. 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.

Prayers of the People for Pentecost

Leader: Holy God, source of life and fire of love, in this season of Pentecost when we reflect again on what it means to be a community of faith and preach the gospel through our lives, we ask you to hear our prayer as we open our hearts to you.

We pray for those whose lives closely touch our own that they may always be in our hearts and have joy and happiness in their lives.

We pray for those celebrating their birthdays this week especially for Bob LaMay (8/22), Meaghan Goode (8/23), Peter Goode (8/23), Milton Porter (8/24), Joyce Dombrowski (8/27), Clyde Conrad, Jr. (8/28), Peter Meyers (8/28) and for those celebrating anniversaries that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Trinity, Southport; Grace Church, Stafford Springs; Church musicians: organists; choirs and choir directors; bands; community chorister programs; parish and diocesan committees on liturgy, music, and worship.

Silence

Spirit of Love

People: hear our prayer.

We pray with thanks for all those in our community who support the well-being of others. We pray for those who have requested our prayers, especially for Lydia, John Eaton, Jodi Stephens, Donna Jolly, Amy Forrest and her family, Betty Dombrowski, Joanie Perkins; Peter Meyers, Al Piper; Brian, Kathryn and Olivia; Sandra Whalen & Thomas Murray; Nelson Moore and for those who are listed in the Continuing Prayers grouping at the end of the bulletin.

Silence

Spirit of Love

People: hear our prayer.

We pray for the church; for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; for our bishops, Ian and Laura, for our priest Ron, and our deacon Donna and all priests and deacons. We pray for all who proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the earth and for all who seek the Truth.

Silence

Spirit of Love

People: hear our prayer.

We pray for all the leaders of the world that they may make wise choices for everyone and that they may lead us to honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Spirit of Love

People: hear our prayer.

We pray for your wonderful creation, the Earth, and its streams, trees, mountains and plants. We pray that the animals of the Earth may freely enjoy these resources.

Silence

Spirit of Love

People: hear our prayer.

We pray for those 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

Spirit of Love

People: hear our prayer.

We pray for those who do not understand or have not found Your love, that they may seek a deeper knowledge of You. May Your love find those who need You the most.

Silence

Spirit of Love

People: hear our prayer.

Priest: For what else shall we pray this day?

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

The Confession BCP, p. 360

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: 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.**

Announcements

The Offertory

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

Offertory Hymn: #561 "Stand up, stand up, for Jesus"



The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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BCP page 361

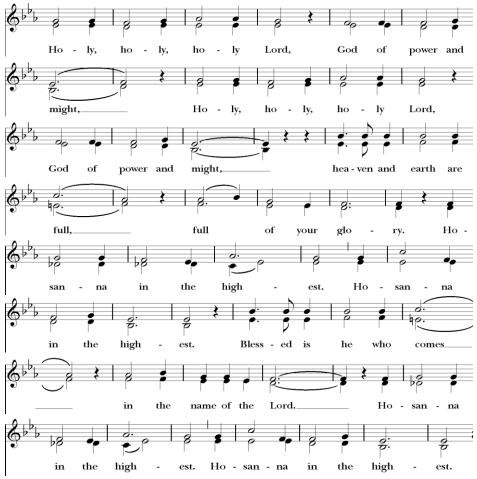
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:





Then the Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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,

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, page 364

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,

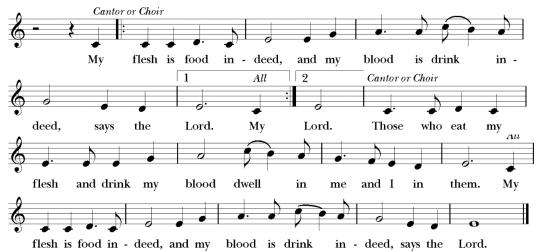
The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

for ever and ever. Amen.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem: S-169



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 (please remain seated while the priest brings communion to you)

Post Communion Prayer

BCP, pg. 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: #460 Alleluia! sing to Jesus



Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God