



## THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 25, 2024, AT 8 AM

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

### THE WORD OF GOD

*Please keep a prayerful quiet as we prepare for worship.  
Our liturgy is drawn from a variety of resources. Please see endnotes for references.  
The People's responses are printed in **bold**.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### Opening Acclamation

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

#### Song of Praise *said by all*

Kyrie eleison. **Christe eleison.** Kyrie eleison.

#### Collect of the Day

God be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

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 Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### First Reading *seated* 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.  
For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 34:15-22** *read responsively by whole verse*

The eyes of God are upon the righteous, \*  
and the ears of God are open to their cry.

**The face of God is against those who do evil, \*  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.**

The righteous cry, and God hears them \*  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

**God is near to the brokenhearted \*  
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.**

Many are the troubles of the righteous, \*  
but God will deliver them out of them all.

**God will keep safe all their bones; \*  
not one of them shall be broken.**

Evil shall slay the wicked, \*  
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**O God, you will ransom the life of your servants, \*  
and none will be punished who trust in you.**

**The Gospel** *standing as you are able* John 6:56-69

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon** The Rev. Ledlie I. Laughlin

*Please be seated at the invitation of the preacher. A period of silence will be observed after the sermon.*

## **The Nicene Creed** *standing as you are able*

**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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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**

*Intercessor* We pray to you, O God, as we say "Loving God, hear our prayer."

God of all creation, you made us and you knit us together in your church. Help us to work together as members of the body of Christ, that our lives may bear holy fruit. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of justice, guide our cities, nation, and world in the pursuit of love and care, that we may experience true peace, union, and justice. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of connection, empower us to build beloved community and seek your kingdom in our midst, that we may come to know you in each of our neighbors. Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of care, give your presence to those who suffer and are in any need or trouble. We pray especially for . . . and for those concerns we name aloud or in our hearts . . . Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of generosity, every good thing comes from you. Make us ever mindful of the many joys that come through you. We pray in thanks for . . . and those thanksgivings we name aloud or in our hearts . . . Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of eternity, you grant us hope of the resurrection and of eternal life with you. Welcome those who have died into your house, especially . . . and the departed we name aloud or in our hearts . . . Loving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, you have given us grace to pray with one heart and one voice, and you have promised to hear the prayers of two or three who gather in your name. Fulfill now, we pray, the prayers of your people, in the service of your kingdom, through the grace of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution** *standing or kneeling as you are able*

*Presider* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**Peace** *The Presider says to the People*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*All greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.*

## **Announcements**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## **At the Offertory**

*The Holy Spirit inspires us to give generously, to extend Christ's mission in this place and the wider world. Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/GivetoSCEC> to make your offering, or you can text to give using your phone. Text SCEC and AMOUNT to 73256 (QR code in Connections) and you will receive a text with instructions.*

*Please stand as you are able as the offering is brought forward and blessed.*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them unto God.**

Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 Savior. 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:

## **Sanctus and Benedictus**

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

Holy and gracious God: 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 Creator of all.

Jesus 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 Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Jesus' 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 God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

And now, as our Savior Christ 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.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*The bread is broken and silence observed.*

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

### **Invitation to Communion**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at Christ's table.

### **Communion**

*Christ welcomes all to communion. ■ Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips. ■ If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also perfectly appropriate to receive the bread only. We do not allow dipping the bread into the wine. ■ Respond to communion by saying "Amen." ■ If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. ■ Gluten-free wafers are available at each communion station. ■ Baptism is offered several times a year; speak to a priest to learn more.*

### **Prayer after Communion** *standing as you are able*

Let us pray.

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

*Presider* As we are gathered, fed, and sent by God, let us ask ourselves: With whom can I share the Good News? Whom will I invite to join us at this table?

### **Sending Forth of Eucharistic Ministers** *when scheduled*

In the name of St. Columba's we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that *N.* may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**We who are many are one body, as we all share one bread, one cup.**

### **Blessing**

*The People respond* **Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

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



### **Liturgical Note**

The season after Pentecost is called “Ordinary Time,” and it stretches from Trinity Sunday (the first Sunday after Pentecost) through Christ the King Sunday (the Sunday before Advent). Ordinary Time can sound boring or unexciting, but it can also be a reminder that God works in the ordinary days of our lives. Godly Play, a children’s church curriculum, calls Ordinary Time “the Great-Green-Growing Season.” In this season we use green vestments and experience God in simplicity and in the ordinary.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

We meet today on the traditional land of the first people of Nacotchtank, who were custodians of the land for thousands of years, caring for and nurturing it. We give thanks for their stewardship and lament the ways the Nacotchtank were removed from their ancestral home. We pray for all who live on this land and pay our respects to the native leaders past, present, and emerging.

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