

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday 26 September 2021 ♦ 10:00 AM
Grace Episcopal Church, Hinsdale, IL



GATHERING TOGETHER

*For your safety and the comfort of those around you, while inside,
masks are required at all times, keeping your nose and mouth fully covered.*

PRELUDE

Bourrée in A Major (BWV 806a/6)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME

HYMN

“Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve”

SIROË



1 A - wake, my soul, stretch ev - ery nerve, and press with vi - gor
2 A cloud of wit - ness - es a - round hold thee in full sur -
3 'Tis God's all - an - i - mat-ing voice that calls thee from on
4 Then wake, my soul, stretch ev - ery nerve, and press with vi - gor



on; a heaven - ly race de - mands thy zeal, and
vey; for - get the steps al - read - y trod and
high; 'tis his own hand pre - sents the prize to
on; a heaven - ly race de - mands thy zeal, and



an im - mor - tal crown, and an im - mor - tal crown.
on - ward urge thy way, and on - ward urge thy way.
thine as - pir - ing eye, to thine as - pir - ing eye.
an im - mor - tal crown, and an im - mor - tal crown.

THE ACCLAMATION

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 FIRST READING

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them

take their place there with you.”

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection is kept.

THE PSALM

Psalm 19:7-14

Response



The law of the LORD is perfect, it revives the soul.

The rule of the LORD is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. *Response*

The fear of the LORD is holy, abiding for ever.

The decrees of the LORD are truth and all of them just. *Response*

So in them your servant finds instruction; great reward is in their keeping.

But can we discern all our errors? From hidden faults acquit us. *Response*

From presumption restrain your servant and let it not rule me.

Then shall I be blameless, clean from grave sin. *Response*

THE SECOND READING

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection is kept.

The people stand, as able, for the Sequence Hymn.

SEQUENCE HYMN

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of life”

GARDINER

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on sha - dowed
3 The cup of wa - ter given for thee still holds the
4 O Mas - ter, from the moun - tain side, make haste to
5 till all the world shall learn thy love, and fol - low

1 cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 2 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 3 fresh - ness of thy grace; yet long these mul - ti -
 4 heal these hearts of pain; a - mong these rest - less
 5 where thy feet have trod; till glo - rious from thy

1 self - ish strife, we hear thy voice, O Son of Man.
 2 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of thy tears.
 3 tudes to see the true com - pas - sion of thy face.
 4 throngs a - bid, O tread the ci - ty's streets a - gain;
 5 heaven a - bove, shall come the ci - ty of our God.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-50

Preacher The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

REFLECTION

Donna Ialongo

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people kneel or stand for the Prayers.

Reader Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the
world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church and its ministry. Bless the newly baptized and encourage them in their journey of faith. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for natural wonders of your creation. Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in authority. Give them wise minds and compassionate hearts. Strengthen in them a desire to protect the vulnerable and care for those underserved. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, or any other disease. Provide them with peace and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy and patience. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: the altar guild, musicians, readers, acolytes, and ushers. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion to continue in their service. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all your saints, those we have loved and known and those from every time and place. Continue to guide us by their example and reassure us of your promised salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Presider Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

Silence is kept.

All **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.**

Presider 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

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory Sentence

*We thank God for every gift which helps continue the mission and ministries of Grace Church.
To give electronically, please scan the QR code or follow the link to our giving platform. Thank you!*



<http://www.gracehinsdale.org/give>

The Iona Invitation

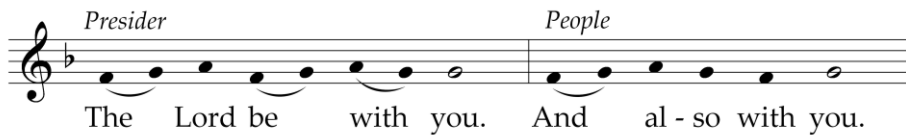
This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.
It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been here for a long time or ever before;
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.

Come, not because the Church invites you;
it is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider *People*



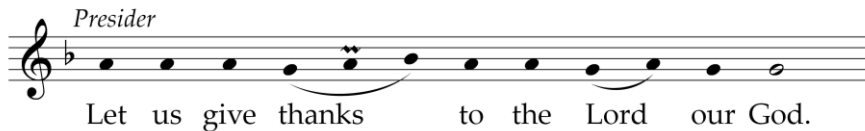
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Presider *People*



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People



It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider 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:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven and
earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Presider

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:



Presider

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.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider

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.**

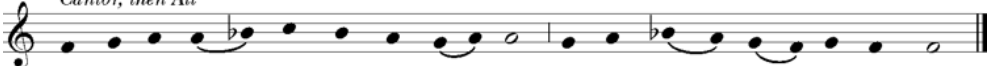
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread is broken. Silence is kept.


Fraction Anthem

Antiphon
Cantor; then All




The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

Cantor



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

The Invitation

From a sermon by St. Augustine

Presider Behold what you are;
People **May we become what we receive.**

THE COMMUNION

Communion Anthem "On God Alone, My Trust I Build" F. Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

On God alone my hope I build, not in my works confiding; in God my heart will rest, fulfilled,
at home, in grace abiding. Lord, speak to me your priceless word, my comfort true, my faithful
guard: I trust your constant guiding.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

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

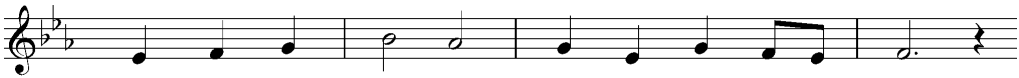
HYMN

“Go Forth for God”

LITTON



1 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in peace;
 2 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in love;
 3 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in strength;
 4 Go forth for God; go _____ to the world in joy,



be of good cour - age, armed with heaven - ly grace,
 strength - en the faint, give cour - age to the weak;
 hold fast the good, be ur - gent for the right;
 to serve God's peo - ple ev - ery day and hour,



in God's good Spi - rit dai - ly to in - crease,
 help the af - flict - ed; rich - ly from a - bove
 ren - der to no one e - vil; Christ at length
 and ser - ving Christ, our ev - ery gift em - ploy,



till in his king - dom we _____ be - hold his face.
 his love sup - plies the grace _____ and power we seek.
 shall o - ver - come all dark - ness with his light.
 re - joic - ing in the Ho - ly Spi - rit's power.

SENT FORTH TO THE WORLD

THE DISMISSAL

The preacher offers a dismissal, and the people respond

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

CHORAL POSTLUDE

“O Sing Joyfully”

Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

O sing joyfully unto God our strength:
make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.

Take the song, bring hither the tabret:
the merry harp with the lute.

Blow up the trumpet in the new moon:
even in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast day.

For this was made a statue for Israel:
and a law of the God of Jacob.

(Psalm 81:1-4)

How do we deal with difficult Bible passages when we encounter them?

How do we deal with passages which historically have been used by others to vilify groups of people—passages that may seem to condone exclusion or condemnation of groups we may perceive as “other than us”? Everyone looks at scripture through a lens of some kind—a lens which will subsequently help shape the way they approach a given passage and ultimately interpret it.

We use the Baptismal Covenant as our lens, specifically “to seek and serve Christ in all persons,” and “to strive for justice and peace among all people.” (See the *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 304.) Through the Covenant, we understand how we are called to follow Christ and approach the difficult biblical passages with this knowledge in mind.

Why use incense in worship?

Incense has a long history in Christianity, Judaism and other religions. It adds our noses to the multi-sensory experience of worship. The psalmist expresses the symbolism of incense and prayer: “Let my prayer rise like incense before you; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

The clouds of incense represent cleansing and purification. The sweet smell suggests Christ's righteousness that covers sin. In some traditions, incense is used to honor holy things and holy people (the gathered people, that is, the body of Christ). The altar/table, the bread and wine, the ministers and the assembly may be “censed” as a way of showing their importance in the liturgy. Incense adds a festive accompaniment to processions, creating “holy clouds” and “holy smells” in the air.

The sweet smell of incense is a doorway to the holy in the same way that beautiful music, flowers, stained glass, or a room/building can lead us to ponder the mystery of God's presence. Incense in worship is an ancient practice that connects us to the Church around the world and through the ages.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve,” Text: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751). Tune: SIROË, Georg Frideric Handel (1685-1759). Psalm 19: setting by Michel Guimont (b. 1950), © 1998, 2002, GIA Publications, Inc. “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life,” Text: Frank Mason North (1850-1935), alt. Tune: GARDINER, from *Sacred Melodies*, 1815. Sanctus: setting by Richard Proulx (1937-2010), © 1971, GIA Publications, Inc. Memorial Acclamation: © 1997, Leonard Atherton (1941-2021), from *Mass for Grace*. Great Amen: McNeil Robinson (1943- 2015). Fraction anthem: Mode 6 melody; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). “Go Forth for God,” Text: John Raphael Peacey (1896-1971) and *English Praise*, 1975, alt. Tune: LITTON, Erik Routley (1917-1982), © 1985, Hope Publishing Co. Scripture texts are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Music reprinted under OneLicense.net, license # A-720489.

*Welcome to the transformative power
of Christ's love;
if you're here, you belong!*



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