

Worship

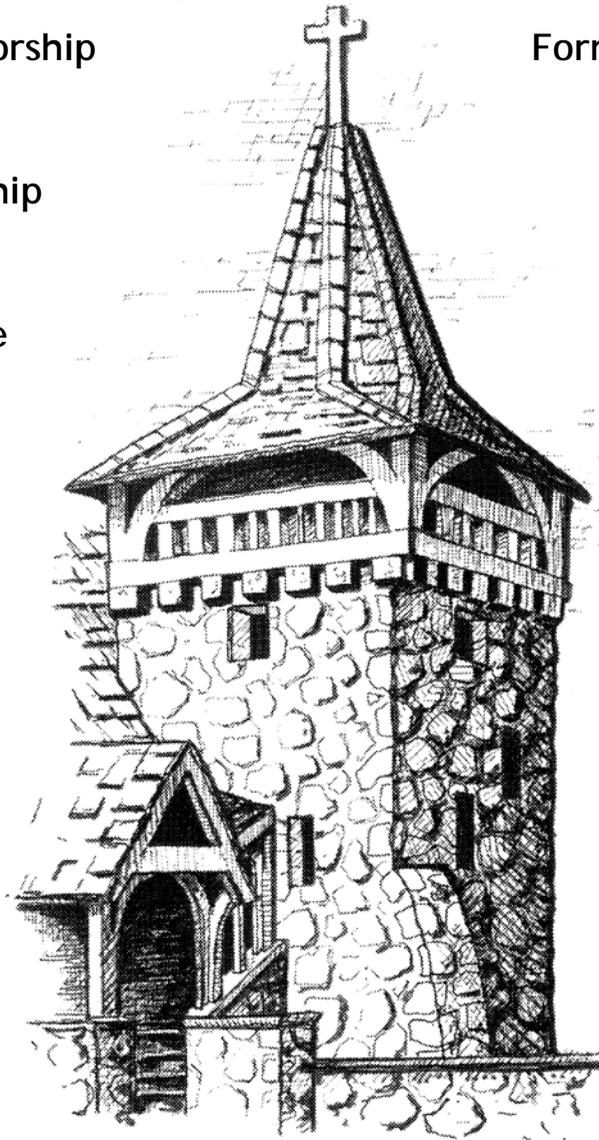
Formation

Fellowship

Outreach

Pastoral Care

Presence



The Episcopal
Church of the Ascension

Your Village Church Since 1885

*Our Vision: we serve Christ today
for those who will come to know and serve Christ tomorrow.*

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020

SEVEN-THIRTY IN THE MORNING

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE

BCP page numbers refer to the red Book of Common Prayer. The Great Bell “Bethlehem” sounds, calling the community to prayer. The people stand at the sound of the small bell.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Opening Acclamation, Collect for Purity, and Summary of the Law **BCP page 323**

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

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

Celebrant: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Gloria

BCP page 324

Glorify be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

BCP page 182

The Celebrant says to the people The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

BCP page 325

The people sit. One lesson will be read. After the Reading, the Reader may say

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

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (14:1-12)

The Gradual Psalm 114 In exitu Israel

BCP page 756

The psalm will be read in unison

- 1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, * the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary * and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; * Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, * and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? * O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? * you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, * at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water * and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (18:21-35)

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

After the Gospel, the Reader says The Gospel of the Lord. *People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Homily

The Rev'd Joshua McGuffie

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 326

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

BCP page 328

The Deacon or other person appointed says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop; for John, the bishop of Los Angeles and Diane our bishop suffragan; and Michael, Josh, and Ed our clergy, and Keiichi our Diocesan Discerner, that they may both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; 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.

We pray for those parishioners celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially, _____. We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Donald our President, Gavin our Governor, the Congress and Legislature, and the Courts that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We remember and pray for other blessings, we now name silently or aloud.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. We pray for _____ and for any other needs or concerns we name silently or aloud.

For the larger church, we pray for _____. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for _____. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer on this Sunday we pray for _____.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, _____, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the ever Blessed Virgin Mary, the patriarchs, matriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin

BCP page 328

Celebrant or Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,

which we from time to time most grievously have committed,

by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,

provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;

the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution and the Comfortable Words.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

Representatives of the congregation would in ordinary times bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Altar. The people stand while the offerings are presented.

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP page 333

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. *People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. *(Here a proper preface is inserted.)* Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or sit. Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood. And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion,

may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

People and Celebrant

**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

BCP page 337

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. Then may be said

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

The following Fraction Anthem may be said

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **have mercy on us.**
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **have mercy on us.**
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, **grant us thy peace.**

The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. *(And may add)* Take them in remembrance that Christ died and lives for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Bread is given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]

All are welcome to receive of this sacrament of Christ's Presence or receive a blessing. If you wish to receive a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms before you. Gluten-free hosts are available – please inform the priest or deacon distributing communion if you would prefer to receive in this kind.

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. The Celebrant may bless the People.

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please join us for fellowship during our virtual coffee hour on Zoom.

A Service of Communion under Special Circumstances will be held for individuals or households on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings by appointment. Please call the Parish office to set the time you'd like to be greeted. If your work schedule conflicts, please contact Father Bamberger for another option.

IF YOU ARE VISITING US TODAY, we welcome you in the Name of Christ and invite all persons to share in the Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood. Holy Baptism is the way we acknowledge our fellowship and communion in Christ's Church. If you are interested in being baptized or talking about your baptism, please speak to the Rector – Canon Bamberger or another member of the clergy.

Announcements for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 13, 2020

WEEKLY SERVICES: HOLY EUCHARIST: Sunday, 7:30 am (in person/outside) & 9:00 a.m (Via Zoom and Facebook Live); Thursday, 7:00a.m. (on hiatus)

THE TUESDAY NIGHT DINNER GROUP is on hiatus.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES MEETS BETWEEN SERVICES is on hiatus.

Between the Masses may meet on Zoom

LESSONS NEXT SUNDAY: Exodus 16:2-51 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16

CELEBRATING THE SAINTS FOR THE COMING WEEK (taken from Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018):

9/14 – The Feast of the Holy Cross **9/15 - Catherine of Genoa** (*Mystic and Nurse, 1510*) **9/16 – Ninian** (*Bishop in Galway, c.430*) **9/17 - Hildegard of Bingen** (*Mystic and Scholar, 1179*) **9/18 – Edward Bouverie Pusey** (*Priest, 1882*) **9/19 – Theodore of Tarsus** (*Archbishop of Canterbury, 690*);

LEADERSHIP: *Rector:* The Very Reverend Canon Michael A. Bamberger, M. Div.;

Assisting the Rector: The Reverend Canon Deacon Ed Sniecienski
The Reverend Pastor Joshua McGuffie, M.Div.

Director of Music and Organist: Dr. Debora Huffman; *Minister to Young Persons:* Ms. Jobi McGuffie;
Parish Administrator: Ms. Kim Lumino; *Administrative Coordinator:* Mrs. Jean Rowe; *Verger:* Mr. Michael Beach; *Altar Guild Director:* Mrs. Lynne Holl; *Senior Warden:* Mr. Gordon Tomaske; *Junior Warden:* Mr. Ray Smith; *Treasurer:* Mr. Dan Hanson; *Diocesan Discerner:* Mr. Keiichi Matsumoto

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