

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

26 July 2026 | 10:00 am

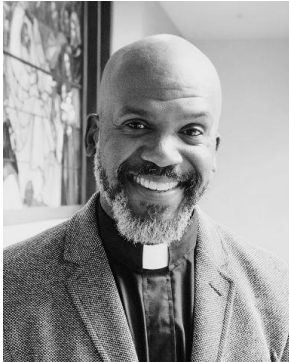
The Holy Eucharist: Rite II



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, CINCINNATI, OH

Empowering people of peace to reconcile, liberate, heal, and serve the world.

A Welcome from the Dean



Grace and peace be with you! On behalf of the Christ Church Cathedral family, I want to welcome you this morning into the warm embrace of this beloved community. We are so glad that you have chosen to spend time in worship and fellowship with us today. Jesus said, “when two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them.” Indeed, it is my hope that through our prayers, music, preaching, and fellowship at God’s table, you will feel the presence of Christ’s love incarnate in this place.

Our vision is to empower people of peace to reconcile, liberate, heal, and serve the world by living out the way of Christ’s love. In covenant with God and each other, we share a mission to be Christ’s loving, healing, liberating, and reconciling presence in our city and in our diocese. It is the custom of the Cathedral that during the Holy Eucharist, *all* are welcome at God’s table to receive the bread and wine, or, if you prefer, a blessing. You are also free to stay seated in quiet contemplation. Just know that no matter who you are or where you’re from, you are welcome at Christ Church Cathedral Cincinnati.

If you would like to learn more about the Cathedral and ways to connect and get involved, please fill out one of our visitor cards (or use the QR code) in the pews; one of our ushers will be happy to receive it and one of our clergy members will reach out in the coming week. And if you are able, please join us for coffee and refreshments after the service in the Swan Area (just outside of the library). If you are joining us on the third Sunday of the month, please join us for a tasty brunch in the Undercroft! Again, I welcome you and give God thanks for your presence with us today!

Your Brother in Christ,
Dean Owen Thompson+

Children are welcome in worship! Many take delight in the sights, smells, and sounds of the liturgy. Families are welcome to sit anywhere in the nave. The **Pray and Play Pew** is an area designed specifically for little ones who need more room to move around. It includes items to help them worship their way—with wonder and wiggles.

Another option for children and families is our **Children’s Room**. There you will find caring staff and a safe space for open play during the worship service. Children are welcome to stay in the Children’s Room for the entire service, or can be picked up for communion.

Whether your children feel most comfortable in the Children’s Room or prefer to stay in the service, we’re so glad they’re here! We would love the opportunity to get to know you and your family. If you’d like to get connected or have any questions, feel free to email John Snavelly at jsnavely@cccath.org

THE WORD OF GOD

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Psalm Prelude, Op. 32, No. 1

Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

The People stand as the procession enters the cathedral.

HYMN AT THE ENTRANCE

O worship the King, all glorious above

The Hymnal 1982: No. 388

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Benedictus es, Domine

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord

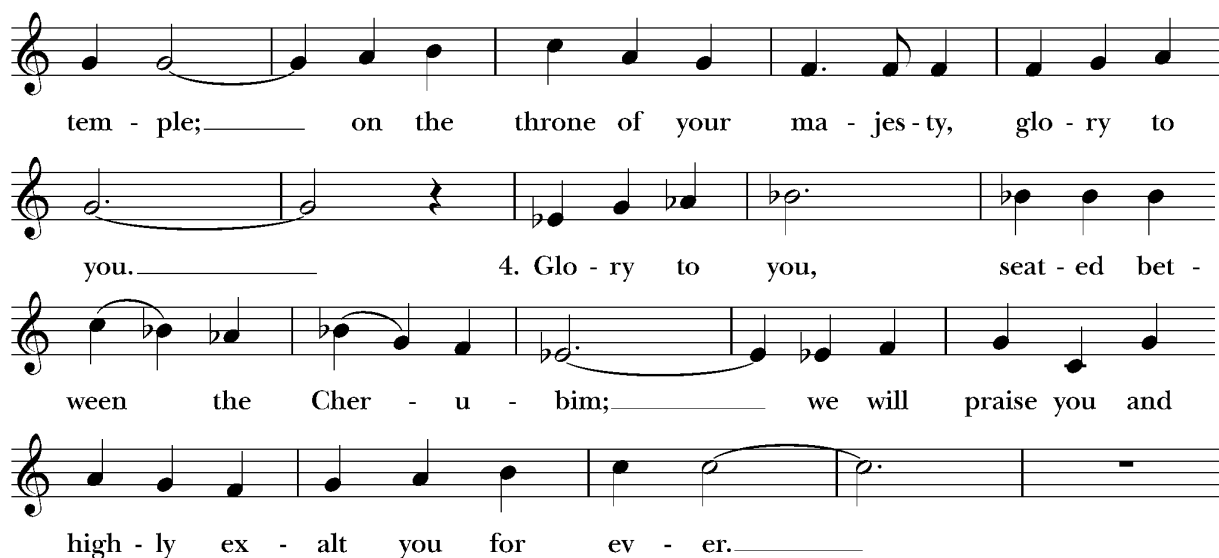
God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;

glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____

— for the ra - di-ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will

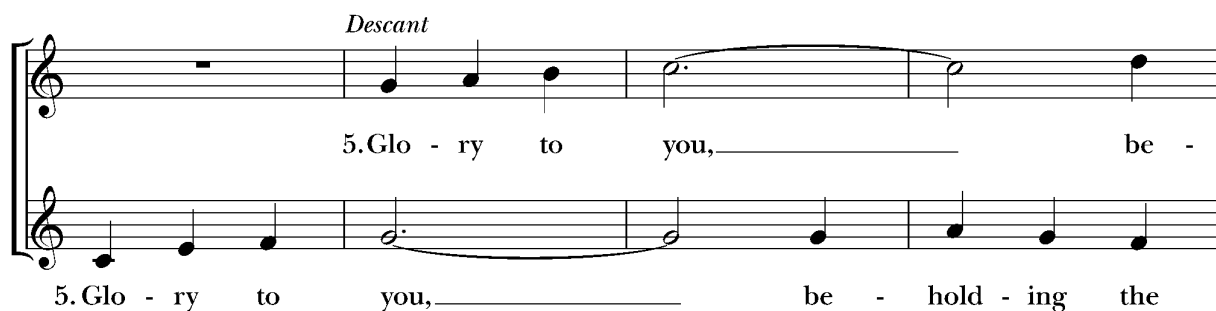
praise you and high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your

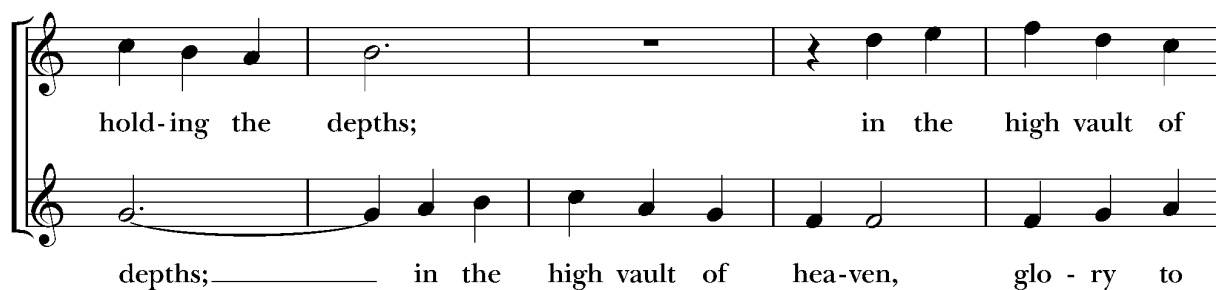


tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
 you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
 ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and
 high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

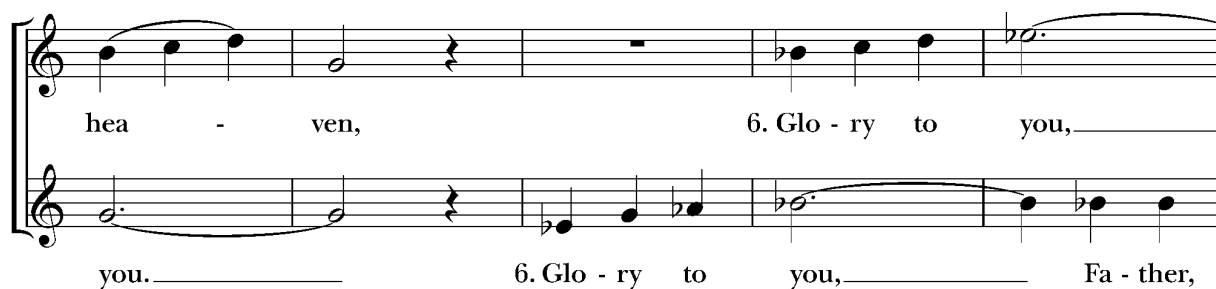
Descant



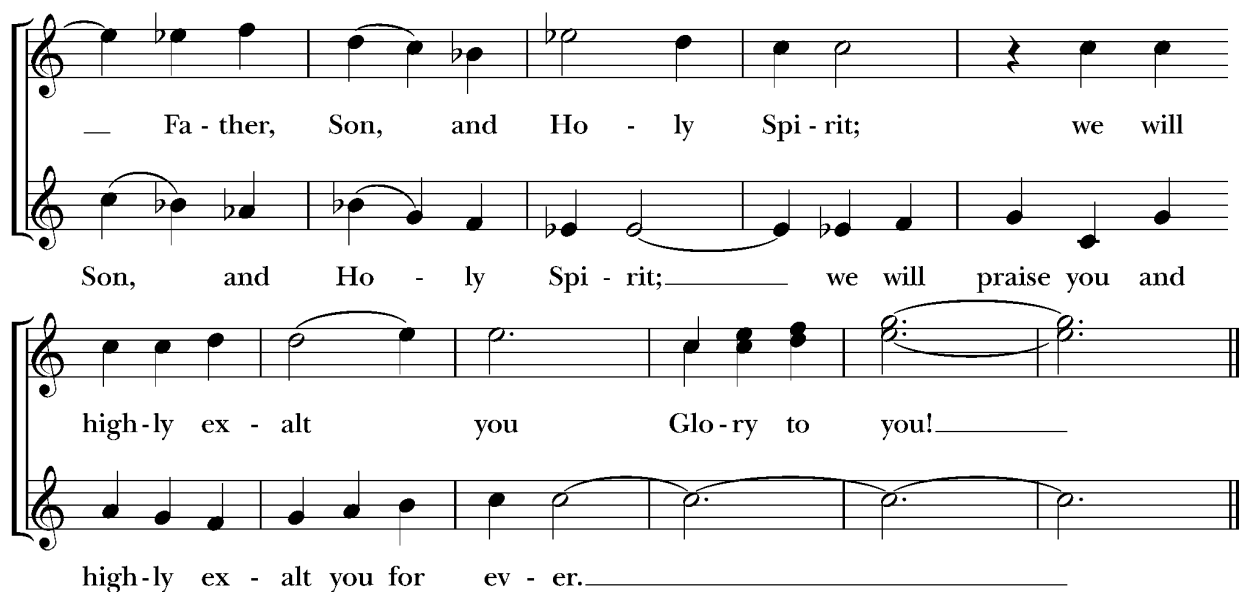
5. Glo - ry to you, be -
 5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the



hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of
 depths; in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to



hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you,
 you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther,



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from the First Book of Kings.

AT Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

1 Kings 3:5-12 (NRSV)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL

Sung by the choir.

YOUR decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

Psalm 119:129-136

Chant: Margaret Burk (b. 1990)

THE SECOND LESSON

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

THE Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed

intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:26-39 (NRSV)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE

The Christ who died but rose again

The Hymnal 1982: No. 447

THE GOSPEL

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

JESUS put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (NRSV)

The Gospel of our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The People stand.

THE NICENE CREED

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Deacon or Celebrant bids the Prayers saying

RECONCILED by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the
world and its needs.

*The Intercessor offers prayers for the Church, the Nation, the welfare of the world, the community, those who
suffer, and the departed.*

After each intercession

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A prayer for Disability Pride Month:

Gracious God, you formed each of us in your image, delighting in the beauty and diversity of your creation. As we observe the anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, free us from the temptation to see disability through the eyes of limitation or pity. Remind us that your invitation to your table has never depended on ability, strength, or perfection. Strengthen those who grow weary from navigating inaccessible spaces, misunderstanding, or isolation. Surround them with community that honors their voices and celebrates their gifts. Challenge and strengthen us to work for an accessible church that reflects your kingdom: where every body is welcomed, every body is cherished, and every body is recognized as sacred in your sight. Through Jesus Christ, who welcomed all, called all, and loved all, we pray.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect. The People respond

Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

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 our Savior 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.**

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says an Offertory sentence.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Living Word of God Eternal

Living Word of God eternal,
laying claim to every age,
Jesus, speak through all our speaking,
bring to life the Bible's page;
let your gospel, heard and heeded,
set our course of pilgrimage.

Loving Savior, whose embraces
our true selves alone unmask,
in this fellowship's small compass
train us for our common task:
by our love to grow more like you
and to dare what you will ask.

Living bread come down from heaven,
broken, shared, distributed,
feed us, gathered at this table,

with your grace unlimited,
and as servants then employ us
till this hungry world is fed.

Loving Spirit, praying in us,
giving voice to all our sighs,
show the wideness of your mercy
to deaf ears and blinded eyes;
free our tongues to come before you
with our neighbors' joys and cries.

May your Word among us spoken,
may the loving which we dare,
may your Bread among us broken,
may the prayers in which we share
daily make us faithful people,
living signs, Lord, of your care.

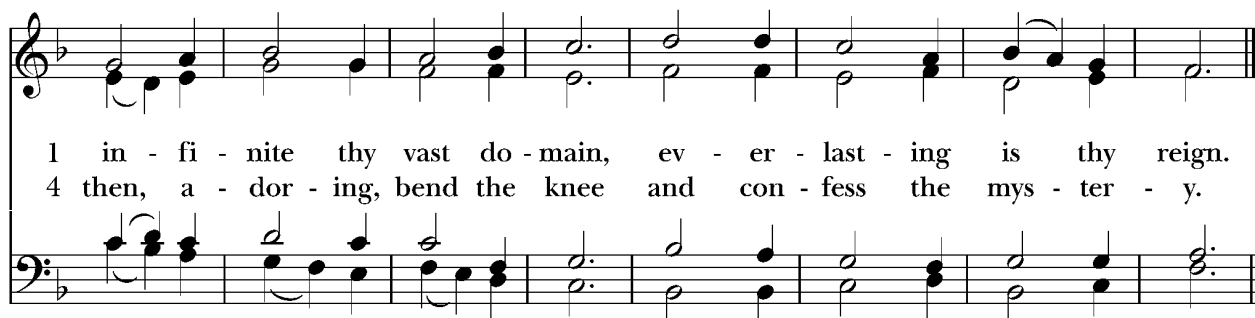
Text: Jeffery Rowthorn (1934-2025)

Music: Bruce Saylor (b. 1946)

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

Holy God we praise thy Name

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the next two lines. Each line of text is preceded by a line number (1 or 4) indicating the starting line for different choir parts. The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the other parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: 1 Ho - ly God, we praise thy Name, Lord of all, we bow be - fore thee; 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spi - rit, Three we name thee, 1 all on earth thy scep - ter claim, all in heaven a - bove a - dore thee; 4 while in es - sence on - ly One, un - di - vi - ded God we claim thee;



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Glory to you for ever and ever.

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.

By your will they were created and have their being.

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.

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

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.

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

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:

All voices

Ho - ly, ho -

- ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is the One who

High voices

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na,

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

Low voices

ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

- san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

And so, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus, 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 Savior.

On the night Jesus 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, Jesus 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 that work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection, as we await the day of Christ's return.

Lord God of our Ancestors; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work 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 the name of Jesus.

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

Accept these prayers and praises, O God, 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.**

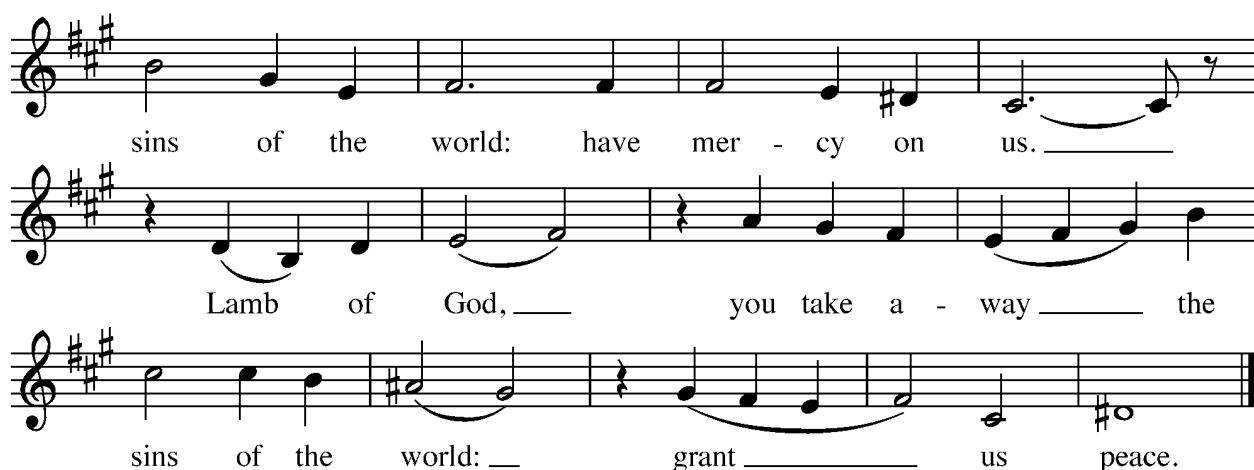
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

OUR Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God, — you take a -
- way the sins of the world: have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



The Celebrant says an Invitation to Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Clergy are available for healing prayer at this time. If you desire prayer, approach the priests in the side aisle after you have received either Communion or a blessing

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

O Sacred Feast

O Sacred Feast, wherein Christ is received, the memory of His Passion is renewed in us, our souls are filled with grace, and the pledge of everlasting glory is given unto us.
Alleluia.

Music: Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Eternal Spirit of the living Christ

The Hymnal 1982: No. 698

The People stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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 Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, 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.

THE BLESSING

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people. The People respond Amen.

HYMN AT THE CLOSING

Jesus lives! thy terrors now

The Hymnal 1982: No. 195

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, says a dismissal. The People respond

Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Sonata in B Flat, Op. 65, No. 4

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

I. Allegro con brio



MINISTERS

The Very Reverend Owen Thompson, *Celebrant*

The Reverend Canon Liesebet Gravley, *Preacher*

The Reverend Canon Brian Blayer,

Deacon & Healing Minister

The Reverend Canon Ted Albert, *Healing Minister*

Susan Anuforo, *Lay Eucharistic Minister*

Pat Haug, *Lay Eucharistic Minister*

John Moreland, *Lay Eucharistic Minister*

Karen Moreland, *Lay Eucharistic Minister*

Chris Christensen, *Reader*

Lexie Bopp, *Reader*

M.E. Steele-Pierce, *Intercessor*

Cheryl Eagleson, *Head Verger*

Beth Zavodny, *Verger*

Jerry Stein, *Acolyte Master*

Dianne Butler, *Acolyte*

Karen Moreland, *Acolyte*

Mary Lynn Woebkenberg, *Acolyte*

Tucker Stone, *Head Usher*

Jennifer Blair, *Usher*

David Fedders, *Usher*

Sigrun Haude, *Usher*

Eric Kearney, *Usher*

Barabara Koerner, *Usher*

Connie Sanders, *Usher*

Lynn Okel, *Welcome Table*

Brady Swearingen, *Welcome Table*

Lexie Bopp, *Altar Guild*

Mary Lynn Woebkenberg, *Altar Guild*

Susan Anuforo, *Altar Guild*

Brenda Shawver, *Altar Guild*

Patti Radenheimer, *Flower Guild*

Quincy Collins, *Flower Guild*

Steve Davis, *Flower Guild*

Denise Johnson, *Flower Guild*

Nan Witten, *Flower Guild*

Sue Heighberger, *Flower Guild*

*Apologies to last week's Flower Guild members
whose names were omitted from the bulletin:*

Susan Pace, Susan Anuforo, Steve Davis,

Priscilla Dunn, Sue Heighberger,

& Nan Witten

Jennifer Blair, *Communion Bread Ministry*

The Christ Church Cathedral Choir

Stephan Casurella,

Canon Precentor & Director of Music

Abraham Wallace, *Associate Director of Music*

About the artwork:

Kelly Latimore - "The Parable of the Mustard Seed"

From the artist:

"The original audience may have been perplexed by this story. They would have known that no-one would intentionally plant a mustard shrub. In fact, the Jewish Mishnah forbade the growing of mustard seeds in the garden because they were 'useless annoying weeds'. In the Hebrew Scriptures the "birds of the air" can be a reference to Gentiles/Non-Jews, the foreigner. This parable suggests that the kingdom of heaven is available to everyone. Even those who may be considered outsiders or not "Worthy". Jesus is calling us to see the significance in the insignificant. The parables of the kingdom of heaven make clear that the kingdom of heaven is not just "up there". Through the parables Jesus is teaching us to "be for the world the material reality of the kingdom of heaven brought down to earth." As Jesus is himself the parable of the father so the church is meant to be the parable of Christ. A people in space and time welcoming the outcast, the foreigner, and the stranger. These kind of communities will look like unwanted weeds to the world, or even to other Christians. However, this may be exactly the church Jesus is asking us to embody."

~<https://kellylatimoreicons.com>



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