

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

26 July 2026 | 8:00 am

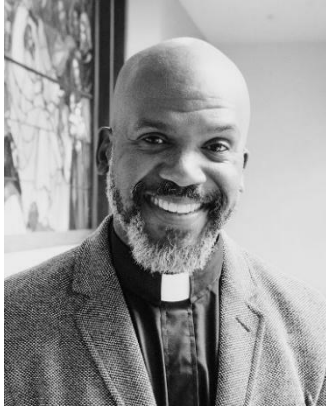
The Holy Eucharist: Rite I



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+

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fantasia on *Christ lag in Todesbanden*

Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

THE WORD OF GOD

The People stand.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

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

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.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

GLORY 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

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy, that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee 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)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL

Read responsively.

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

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)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

THE GOSPEL

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

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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 the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O 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:
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

A Deacon bids the prayers, saying

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

The intercessor continues

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

FOR the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all Bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the President and members of the Cabinet; for the Governors of States, and the Mayors of Cities; for federal and state Senators and Representatives; and for Judges and officers of our Courts, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those who have asked for prayers, _____let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially _____. And on the anniversary of death we remember _____. For all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of [_____ and of all the] saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect. The People respond Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

A Deacon bids the Confession, saying

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

MOST merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

**For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says an Offertory sentence.

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

Chorale Prelude on *Christ lag in Todesbanden*

Georg Böhm

At the presentation of the offering the Celebrant may say
All things come of thee, O Lord.
And of thine own have we given thee.

The People stand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

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 said.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

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.

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 hath 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.

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

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

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

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.

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

Following Communion, the People stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

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 BLESSING & DISMISSAL

THE PEACE of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

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

Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Christ lag in Todesbanden, BWV 625

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)



MINISTERS

The Very Reverend Owen Thompson, *Celebrant*

The Reverend Canon Liesebet Gravley, *Preacher*

Drew Abbott, *Lay Minister*

Stephan Casurella, *Organist*

Beth Boatright & Michael Rouse, *Altar Guild*

Patti Radenheimer, Quincy Collins, Steve Davis, Denise Johnson, Nan Witten, &

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



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