

*The 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
after Pentecost*

*Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10:00 a.m.*

*August 16, 2020*



*Saint Theodore's Episcopal Church*

*Bella Vista, Arkansas*

*The Right Reverend Larry R. Benfield,  
Bishop of Arkansas*

All of the following service can be found in the

1979 Book of Common Prayer

Scripture lessons are taken from the

Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Year A and are from  
the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible

**Organ Prelude** *Now we pray to thee—Bach chorale* Buxtehude

*The people standing, the celebrant says*

*People* Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## **Collect for Purity**

*Celebrant* **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.*

## **Glory to God**

*Said in unison*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,**

you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* **ALMIGHTY GOD**, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

# **A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God**

*Celebrant* **GOD OF ALL POWER AND LOVE**, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons** (*Sit*)

### **FIRST READING:** Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, 'Send everyone away from me.' So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but

God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, “Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.” And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.’ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

### **Psalm 133**

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
    when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
    that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
    and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
    that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: \*  
    life for evermore.

## **SECOND READING:** Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Holy Gospel** (*Stand*) Matthew 15:10-28

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

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

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, 'Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.' Then the disciples approached and said to him, 'Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?' He answered, 'Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.' But Peter said to him, 'Explain this parable to us.' Then he said, 'Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions,

murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.'

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

*Organ interlude following the Gospel*

Sermon (*Sit*)

Fr. Grisham

**The Nicene Creed** (*Stand as able*)

(BCP 358)

**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.

## Prayers of the People

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.  
*People:* *And also with you.*  
*Celebrant:* Let us pray. (*Kneel as able*)



***Celebrant:** O God, the loving Creator of all humankind, you have expanded the boundaries of kinship through the abundant compassion of your Son Jesus Christ: Empower your Church through our ministries of reconciliation as we bring to you our prayers on behalf of the whole world, saying: Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!*

**Litanist:** Gracious God, awaken your Church to the cries of the suffering, especially our brothers and sisters from other cultures and other faiths, that we may be mediators of your charity and friendship.

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,

**People: when kindred live together in unity.**

**Litanist:** Compassionate One, open the ears of the leaders of the nations to hear the voices of the importunate and those who refuse to be silenced, that your children may nevermore be treated as dogs nor be tossed only the crumbs that fall from the tables of the wealthy and powerful.

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,

**People: when kindred live together in unity.**

**Litanist:** Reconciling One, hear our prayers for the families of the world, divided by conflict and mistrust, especially those who suffer from famine, illness, violence, injustice and prejudice: May all be brought in peace to feast at your abundant table of fellowship.

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,

**People: when kindred live together in unity.**

**Litanist:** Unite our community in bonds of charity and friendship, that people of various races, cultures and religions may extend to one another gifts of mutual respect and generosity.

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,

**People: when kindred live together in unity.**

Loving and healing God, extend your hand of mercy to those for whom we pray, especially Amanda, Becky, Karen Kay,

Diane, Ryan, Mary, Sue, the Rector Search Committee, and all those who have contracted Covid-19 and all who care for them.  
*(Pause)*

We raise our voices of thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; Larry, our bishop; Lowell, our interim supply priest; and Chris, our Candidate for Holy Orders. In the diocesan cycle of prayer for St. Andrew's, Marianna; Christ Church, Mena; and the Commission on Church Architecture and Allied Arts. And we give thanks for all those in our parish family celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week.

We entrust to your never failing care and love those who have died, especially all those who have succumbed to the Corona virus. *(Pause)*

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,

**People: when kindred live together in unity.**

*Celebrant: Through your scriptures you have shown us that you have rejected no one and that you offer your divine mercy to all humanity: Have mercy upon us, O Father, that we may extend your universal work of reconciliation to all whose lives we touch, through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Leader and People*

**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.**

*The Celebrant stands and says*

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 people stand and the Celebrant says*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

## **Holy Eucharist Rite II**

### **The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A**

*Organ music is played as the Celebrant prepares the Table.*

*After the Table has been prepared, the Celebrant says:*

All things come of thee, O Lord  
**People: And of thine own have we given thee.**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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.

*People*      **AMEN.**

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

**The Lord's Prayer** (*Kneel as able*)

**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, and says*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Communion is received by the Celebrant*

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

*The Celebrant invites the following prayer to be said by all, kneeling as able.*

**My Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

## **Closing Prayer**

*Celebrant and People*

(BCP 366)

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

## The Blessing

As children of the God who rejects not the disobedient, but extends infinite mercy and love to all, be filled with God's compassion.

As brothers and sisters of Christ who have feasted on the children's food, rejoice in your acceptance, and extend Christ's unconditional love to those who may not know themselves to be beloved.

As the community of the baptized, filled with the Holy Spirit, share in the ministry of reconciliation and be mediators of divine charity and friendship.

And the blessing of our merciful God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and embolden you, now and for ever. Amen.

## Dismissal

*The Celebrant says the words of dismissal*

*People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*Passacaglia*

Raison

## Participants in the Service

Celebrant	The Reverend Lowell Grisham
Organist	Annette Zehring
Readers	Lana McDonald, Colleen Whitney

