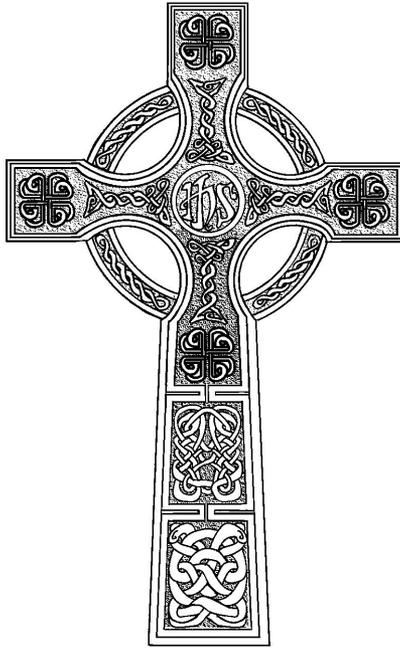


*The 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
after Pentecost*

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

*August 23, 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** *Our Father, five settings* Krieger, Manz,  
Bach

*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* **GRANT, O MERCIFUL GOD,** that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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: Exodus 1:8 – 2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, 'Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.' Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, 'When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.'

But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, 'Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?' The midwives said to Pharaoh, 'Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.' So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.'

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

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

## Psalm 124

*Psalm to be sung by the Cantor*

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, \*  
let Israel now say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, \*  
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive \*  
in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \*  
and the torrent gone over us.
- 5 Then would the raging waters \*  
have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! \*  
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; \*  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

### **SECOND READING:** Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members,

and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

*Reader*    The Word of the Lord.

*People*    **Thanks be to God.**

*Organ interlude before the Gospel reading*

## **The Holy Gospel** (*Stand*) Matthew 16:13-20

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

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

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

*Celebrant*    The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**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:** Blessed God, you have revealed yourself through your Son Jesus Christ to be a God of compassion and love: Inspire your church to live in your Spirit as witnesses to your goodness, as we pray: Our help is in the Name of God, the maker of heaven and earth.*

Litanist: Holy God, you have founded your church upon rock and given to us the keys to the kingdom of heaven: Inspire the gifts of your prophets, ministers, teachers, exhorters, givers, leaders, and servers that we may be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you, which is our spiritual worship.

Our help is in the Name of God,

**People: the maker of heaven and earth.**

Merciful God, you hear the cries of the oppressed and seek the protection of all your children: Confront our leaders and those in authority throughout the world with the power of your compassion, that their service may not be conformed to this world, but transformed by the renewing of their minds in your love.

Our help is in the Name of God,

**People: the maker of heaven and earth.**

Ever-present God, you see all injustice and hear the cries of those who suffer: Bind the hands of the oppressors and loose the victims of harsh taskmasters, that all who are misused in their labor and their lives may be free to experience everything that is good and acceptable and perfect.

Our help is in the Name of God,

**People: the maker of heaven and earth.**

Gracious God, be present in this community to inspire us to serve one another with the gifts you have given us and to live together with generous humility.

Our help is in the Name of God,

**People: the maker of heaven and earth.**

Gentle God, you unite us as many members into one body in Christ: Empower our gifts and reconcile our differences that we may witness to Jesus the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Receive our prayers for those for whom we intercede, 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.

Hear our thanksgiving for all the blessings we enjoy, especially 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. Mary's, Monticello; St. Andrew's, Mountain Home; the Commission on Constitution and Canons and the Deputies to General Convention. And we give thanks for all those in our parish family celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week.

Embrace in heaven those who have died, especially all those who have succumbed to the Corona virus.

May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Our help is in the Name of God,

**People: the maker of heaven and earth.**

***Celebrant:** Triune God, your love fills the whole creation and prevails against the gates of death: Fill us with the gifts of your Spirit, that we may be faithful ministers of your truth and generous servants of your compassion, through Jesus the Messiah, the Son of the living God. 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.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God.

Be the one body in Christ Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of the Living God -- members of one another, for we who are many are one.

Exercise your gifts in the power of the Spirit, to bind and to loose with justice and compassion, presenting yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

And the blessing of our transforming God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and abide with you now and always. Amen.

## Dismissal

*The Celebrant says the words of dismissal*

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

## Organ Postlude

*Espressivo in g*

Krieger



## Participants in the Service

Celebrant	The Reverend Lowell Grisham
Organist	Annette Zehring
Cantor	Lana McDonald
Readers	Lana McDonald, Nancy Nagle