

19th Week of Pentecost
October 3-4, 2026
Holy Communion

The Prelude is a signal to *end our conversation* and prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND

(u)

PASSING OF PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Lead Me Lord”

Lead me Lord, / lead me in thy righteousness; /
make thy way plain (/) before my face.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
- C** Amen.
- P** Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin. Compassionate God,
- C** we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.
- P** Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
- C** Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

- 1 When I survey the_ wondrous_ cross/
on which the prince of_ glory_ died,/
my richest gain I_ count but_ loss/
and pour contempt on all my_ pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that_ I should_ boast/
save in the death of_ Christ, my_ God;/
all the vain things that_ charm me_ most,/
I sacrifice them to his_ blood.
- 4 Were the whole realm of_ nature_ mine,/
that were a present_ far too_ small;/
love so amazing_, so di - vine,/
demands my soul, my life, my_ all.

GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE "Come Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs"

Come, let us join our cheerful songs/
with angels round the throne;/
ten thousand thousand are their tongues,/
but all their joys are one.
*Jesus is worthy to receive/honor and pow'r divine;/
And blessings, more than we can give,/
be, Lord, forever thine.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
 - C** Amen.
- (d)

ANTHEM

LESSON OF THE DAY

Philippians 3:4b-14

The lesson begins:

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

P The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al – le - luia! / Lord to whom shall we go? / Al – le – luia.

***You have_ the words / of_ eternal life. /**

Al – le – lu – ia, al – le – luia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

"Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. "The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

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SERMON

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SERMON RESPONSE "O God, Who Gives Us Life"

O_ God, who gives / us_ life and breath, /
who shapes us in_ the womb,
*who_ guards our lives / from birth to death, /
then_ leads_ us from the tomb:
*deliver us from fears that kill / the life we have from you. /
Help us to know your_ Spirit, /
still is_ mak – ing all things new.

APOSTLES' CREED

- P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P** In the power of the Spirit, let us pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the world, the Church, and one another.

A brief silence.

- P** Father, thank you for grafting us into your pleasant planting, your people Israel. Thank you for uniting us with your true Vine, your dear Son Jesus. Make us abound with fruit of the Holy Spirit, to your glory and for the nourishment of a world starved for your love. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.

- P** Uproot from your Church all malice, strife, false teaching, and unrighteousness. Defend it from those who would destroy it from within, or ravage it from without. Make Jesus, the strong Son of Man who sits at your right hand, its life and salvation. By Word and Sacrament, draw all people to the foot of the Cross; there to glorify your most holy Name. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Thank you for making this congregation your own, through Jesus Christ. Help us to count everything else as rubbish compared with the surpassing worth of knowing him as our Lord and Savior. Make us Jesus' disciples, sharing his love and encouraging others to join us as we follow in the way of the Cross. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** We pray for all those who toil at "dirty jobs" that are unpleasant, dangerous, and poorly paid. Help us to honor their labor and ease their burden. Give them a glimpse of the surpassing loveliness of Christ. By your Spirit, shape their faithful work into "something beautiful for Jesus." Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Give everyone entrusted with worldly power and authority a hunger for justice and a thirst for righteousness. Make them swift to build bridges of respect and concord, and slow to brandish weapons of war. Fill them with wisdom, patience, fairness, and kindness. Spread these virtues among all people, so that bloodshed and injustice cease, and all live in peace and call upon your name with joy. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Restore the lives of all who cry out to you in their distress of body, mind, and spirit, including: (*List*). Shine the light of your countenance upon them, that they may be saved. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.

- P** For Jesus' sake, grant the fulfillment of all we ask that conforms to your holy will.
- C** Amen.

OFFERING

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OFFERTORY "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,/
and_ fill to the brim our cup of blessing./
Gather a harvest(/)from the seeds that were sown,/
that we may be fed(/)with the bread of life.
*Gather the hopes(/)and the dreams_ of all;/
unite them with the prayers we offer./
Grace our table with your presence,/
and give us a foretaste(/)of the feast to come.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- P** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

**Holy Ho - ly Holy, Lord_, / God of power and might_, /
Heav'n and earth_(//)are full of Your glory, /
Hosannah in_ the highest.**

***Blessed_ is He who comes_ / in the name of the Lord, /
Hosannah in_ the highest_, / Hosannah in_ the highest!**

P Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P As a community, let us pray in the way our Lord Jesus has taught us: *(Spoken)*

C 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, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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COMMUNION is given and received.

(During Distribution)

"Lamb of God"

1 O Lamb of God_,/you bear the sin_/of all the world_ away;/
*You suffered death_/our lives to save_:/
have mercy now_, we pray.

2 O Lamb of God_/you bear the sin_/of all the world_ away;/
*You set us free_/from guilt and grave_:/
have mercy now_, we pray.

3 O Lamb of God_/you bear the sin_/of all the world_ away;/
*Eternal peace_/with God you made_:/
Give us your peace_, we pray.

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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN "The Church's One Foundation"

1 The church's one foundation/is Jesus Christ, her Lord;/
she is his new creation/by water and the word.
*From heav'n he came and sought her/to be his holy bride;/
with his own blood he bought her,/and for her life he died.

4 Through toil and tribulation/and tumult of her war,/
she waits the consummation/of peace forevermore;
*till with the vision glorious/her longing eyes are blest,/and the great church victorious/shall be the church at rest.

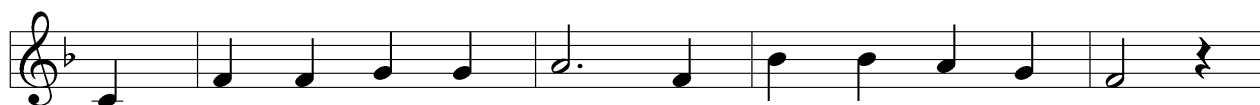
5 Yet she on earth has union/with God, the Three in One,/and mystic sweet communion/with those whose rest is won.
*Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!/Lord, save us by your grace,/that we, like saints before us,/may see you face to face.

DISMISSAL

- A** Let us go forth, to know Christ and to make Christ known,
C Caring for our members and supporting our community.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

My Song Is Love Unknown



- 1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,
2 He came from his blest throne, sal - va - tion to be - stow;
3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es sing;
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?



- love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
re - sound-ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



- Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his
Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and



- flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!
thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.
'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

- 5 They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.
- 6 In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home;
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
- 7 Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!