

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Third Sunday after Pentecost, June 13, 2021

WE GATHER IN PRAISE

OPENING HYMN

Let the river flow

Darrell Evans, 1995

Verse

Let the poor one say "I am rich in him," Let the lost one say "I am found in Him," and let the riv - er flow; Let the blind one say "I can see a-gain" Let the dead one say "I am born a-gain," and let the riv - er flow; Let the ri - ver flow.

Chorus

Let the riv-er flow, Let the riv-er flow; Ho - ly Spi-rit come, move in power. Let the riv-er flow, Let the riv - er flow; Ho - ly Spi-rit come, move in po wer; Let the ri-ver flow, let the ri - ver flow, let the ri - ver flow

GREETING

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

People: May the life of God be known among us.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we come together in this place where our ancestors gathered to worship you. Open our hearts to be filled with your Spirit; open our ears to truly hear you Word; open our mouths to sing your praises; open our hands to be Christ to the world. In his power we worship, in his name we pray, **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord.

I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 92:1-4, 11-14

- 1 It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord,
and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;
- 2 To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning
and of your faithfulness in the night season;
- 3 On the psaltery, and on the lyre, **and to the melody of the harp.**
- 4 For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord;
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

11 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
12 Those who are planted in the house of the Lord
shall flourish in the courts of our God;
13 They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;
14 That they may show how upright the Lord is,
my Rock, in whom there is no fault

THE GOSPEL Mark 4:26-34

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON "We can see it!" The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler

PRAYER SONG Let the Spirit of the Lord come down Kenyan song

Leader: Let the Spirit of the Lord come down

All: Amen! Let the Spirit of the Lord come down.

Let the Spirit of the Lord from heaven come down,
let the Spirit of the Lord come down. *Repeat with "love," "joy," other words*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - FORM III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for and all your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others:
For the sick and those in need, especially... (*prayers for the sick*)
And those we name now in silence or aloud...

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially for ...
and other blessings we name aloud or in silence...
The Celebrant offers a closing prayer.

THE PEACE (*Standing*)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN All creatures of our God and king, vv 1,2,4 Hymnal 400

1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voices, let us sing: Alleluia, alleluia!
Bright burning sun with golden beams,
Pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Great rushing winds and breezes soft,
you clouds that ride the heavens aloft,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice,
stars nightly shining, find a voice:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Dear mother earth, you day by day unfold your blessings on our way;
O praise him, Alleluia! All flowers and fruits that in you grow,
Let them his glory also show: O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE HOLY MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people are invited to participate, praying the words in bold type.

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.

It is right to praise and bless you, O Father of Lights.

For you have made all that is, and have called it good.

The whole creation sings the story of God's goodness and love –

the sun sings of God's light; the earth of God's provision,

And we, the creatures made in God's own image, join in the angels' song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Land of Rest

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in highest.

We praise you, Almighty God, for in Christ you have reconciled all people to yourself, every nation, language and family.

In Christ, you made us one church, your Body in the world.

In him, the only begotten Son, was revealed what it means to be a child of God.

He was born into a family, but reached beyond it –

he called as his brothers the despised and the downtrodden;

he called as his sisters the broken and bereaved;

He called as his mother all those who believed in His true sonship.

He calls us, adopted sons and daughters of the Living God, into his new family, the family of those who dwell with Him forever.

On the night our Lord Jesus Christ showed us the self-giving love at the heart of community, He gathered at table with his brothers and sisters, his disciples and friends. He took bread; and when He had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, **“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this to remember 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 to remember me.”**

And so we come to this table to remember him;

To be re-membered, re-joined in these signs of His blood, His body.

Come, Holy Spirit, and make these gifts for us the Body and Blood of your Son.

Come, Holy Spirit, upon us gathered as one, making us His Body in the world; his blood bringing life to the world.

Unite us in him with all the saints across all time and all space, preparing for that eternal day when we worship together around the throne of the Lamb, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever: **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Risen Lord; Be known to us in the breaking of the bread.

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

Indescribable

Laura Story/Jesse Reeves 2004



1. From the high - est of heights to the depths of the sea,
2. Who has told ev - ry light - ning bolt where it should go,



Cre - a - tion's re - veal - ing your ma - jes - ty.
and see hea - ven - ly store - hous - es la - den with snow.



From the col - ors of Fall to the fra - grance of Spring
Who im - a - gined the sun and gives source to its light,



Ev - ry crea - ture un - ique in the song that it sings, All ex - claim - ing
yet con - ceals it to bring us the cool - ness of night, None can fath - om.

Refrain



In - des - crib - a - ble, un - con - tain - a - ble, You set the stars in the



sky and you call them by name You are a - maz - ing God;



(last) All pow - er - ful, un - tam - a - ble, awe - struck we fall to our
In - comp' - ra - ble, un - change - a - ble, You see the depths of my



knees as we hum - bly pro - claim You are a - ma - zing God.
heart and You love me the same,

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, You have blessed us with the wine of life and bread of heaven,
signs of the body and blood of our Lord and brother Jesus,
by whom we are invited to this meal and included in this family.

You have made us a people consecrated to you,
saved by your grace, empowered by your overwhelming love.

From your heart of love give us hearts that love.

From your heart of love give us grace to forgive those who offend us.

From your heart of love give us humility to ask forgiveness and be reconciled.

From your heart of love give us a desire for peace in the Body
that exceeds our own desire to be right or safe.

So will the world know that we are Your disciples, by our Love in Christ: Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the Holy Spirit fill you and empower you to be bold and humble, seeking unity as
the Body of Christ we are; and the blessing the One God, Holy and undivided Trinity,
be with you this day and forever. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

I'll fly away

Albert Brumley, 1932



1. Some glad morn - ing, when this life is o'er, I'll fly a - way,
2. When the sha - dows of this life have gone,
3. Just a few more wea - ry days, and then



To that home on God's ce - les - tial shore, I'll fly a - way.
Like a bird from pri - son bars has flown,
To a land where joys will ne - ver end,

Refrain



I'll fly a - way, oh glo - ry I'll fly a - way



When I die, hal - le - ju - jah, by and by, I'll fly a - way.

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

Those who serve today:

Celebrant:	The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler
Deacon:	The Rev. Joan Crittenden
Lector:	Barbara Poe
Psalmist:	Susan Estep

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TENTS FOR THE HOMELESS – In these difficult times, many individuals and even families have lost housing and had to resort to living in encampments. We like to give tents, tarps and small propane canisters to people in need – please contact Deacon Joan to find out what kind of tents are needed.

SHARING OUR LIFE-SKILLS WITH YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE - The Charles County Dept of Social Services has invited us to create a program to build relationships and share life-skills with some of the most vulnerable adolescents in our community - teens in foster care and soon to age out. We can be extended family to these youths so they can emerge from the foster system productive, functional, grounded young adults - a win for the larger community as well as for the kids. We will have a kick-off Movie Night June 18th at Christ Church in La Plata- speak with Alicia Cordelle if you'd like to know more.

BIBLE STUDY - Short New Testament Letters - Wednesdays, 7pm

We're taught not to read other people's mail - unless we're talking about all those letters collected in our New Testament. What are they all about? Join us on Wednesday evenings in the Easter season as we explore them at Wednesday Bible Study - which draws a crowd from all over the US and Canada! You don't need to know anything coming in - and you'll be surprised at how much wisdom you can share. Hop in any Wednesday at 7 pm on Zoom; we're done in time for Night Prayers at 8 pm.

ONLINE GIVING - You can text a donation - text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts. You can give to Open Plate or toward your pledge. A 2.6% fee is charged for credit or debit cards - you'll have the option to include that in your gift or not. Standard text message rates do apply. You can also give online - go to www.christchurchlaplata.org and scroll down to the "Donate" link.

GIVING FUND – Please consider making a dedicated donation to the Giving Fund, from which Rev. Kate can offer help. You can write a check or give online at the donate page on our website, www.christchurchlaplata.org, or text “CCLAPLATA” to 73256, and follow the prompts, designating Giving Fund. You now have the option to make pledge offerings or donations online, or by text.