

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – July 25, 2021

WE GATHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN Morning has broken, 1-3 (*words below*) Hymnal 8

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God, whom we know as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be the Life of God among us!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE II Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
People **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 145:10-19

- 10 All your works praise you, O Lord, **and your faithful servants bless you.**
11 They make known the glory of your kingdom **and speak of your power;**
12 That the peoples may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.
14 The Lord is faithful in all his words **and merciful in all his deeds.**
15 The Lord upholds all those who fall; **he lifts up those who are bowed down.**
16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,
and you give them their food in due season.
17 You open wide your hand **and satisfy the needs of every living creature.**
18 The Lord is righteous in all his ways **and loving in all his works.**
19 The Lord is near to those who call upon him, **to all who call upon him faithfully.**

THE GOSPEL John 6:1-21

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

SERMON The Rev. Jennifer Gamber

PRAYER SONG O Lord Hear My Prayer Taize

O Lord, hear my prayer; O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, an-swer me; O
Lord, hear my prayer; O Lord, hear my prayer; come and lis-ten to me. O

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Heavenly Father, the source of all life, we thank you for the beauty of this earth, and for all your gifts to us; for...
For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially...
And for all other blessings we name now...
Lord of all creation, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we pray for this world you made, and for which you died and rose to new life. We ask your blessing upon all people who live in hunger or terror or disease; your peace in places torn by violence, your hope for those who despair. We pray for: ...and for all other concerns for the world and our country that we name now:
Lord of all creation, **Hear our prayer.**

Holy Spirit, who gives gifts of healing to your church, we pray in faith for those who are sick or in any special need, especially for... and for all other concerns that we name now:
Lord of all creation, **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, our beginning and our end, we pray for those who have died and those who grieve them, especially... and any others whom we name now ...
Lord of all creation, **Hear our prayer.**

CONFESSION

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution

THE PEACE (standing)

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

The people exchange a sign of Christ's peace with their neighbors.

OFFERTORY HYMN Let Us Break Bread Together (*words on last page*) Hymnal 325

*You can make your offering online at <https://christchurchlaplata.org/donate/>
Or text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts.*

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 God thanks and praise.**

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 you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and all the company of heaven who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy (Sanctus)

Kate Heichler, 2000

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. Hea-ven and
 earth are full of your glo-ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed, bless - ed,
 bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Ho - san - na in the
 high est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 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 for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me.”**

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN!**

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,
 Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, how and forever. Amen.**

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

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

THE COMMUNION

*All present are welcome to the Altar rail for communion (bread only for now).
 If you do not wish to receive, please cross your arms for a blessing. Those worshipping at home are invited to partake of consecrated bread and wine at home tables.*

COMMUNION MUSIC Eat This Bread Taize

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

COMMUNITY NEWS

CLOSING HYMN I Come With Joy, v 1-3,5 (*words on last page*) Hymnal 304

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

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OUR PRAYERS

We pray for: Those in need of healing – Marianne Wilburn, Jake and Sandy Mitchell, Duana Page, Alicia Cordelle, Steve Blamer, John MacCoy, Beverly Stone, Gary Murray, Susan White, Benji, Jane Hobbs, Garner Burroughs, Michelle, CeCe Cordelle-Carter, Carter, Becky Bolton Bridgett, Lou Demas; Rudy

Those Who Have Died:

We give thanks for: The ministry of Jenifer Gamber in our diocese;

Birthdays and Anniversaries: Ruth Mudd 7/25; Marty Pride 7/27; Robin Long 7/31

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TENDING OUR SOIL - We are excited to share that the Christ Churches have been selected to be among the first twelve congregations in the Diocese of Washington to participate in Tending Our Soil, a thriving congregations initiative to help transform our congregations for greater vitality. The **Tending Our Soil** initiative seeks to cultivate the soil of our congregations so that God's love might grow more fully right here, right now within our congregations and in our neighborhoods. The approach is based on the belief that thriving congregations recognize their changing social and cultural contexts, exhibit clarity of values and mission, and cultivate Christian practices.

Over a three-year period our entire congregations, led by a team of 4-6 lay members and the rector, will (1) listen to God, one another, and our neighbors; (2) reconnect to God's dream for our congregations; (3) discern new or refreshed ministries; (4) cultivate leadership and resources needed for those ministries; and finally (5) celebrate learnings and successes. Our hope is that this initiative will strengthen our capacity to bear God's love in the world. More to come!

SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES – Summer is a good time for playful worship, so this August we'll have a worship series on Summer Pastimes. We'll look at Swimming (8/1), Travel (8/8), Baseball (8/15) and Picnics (8/22) and see what these pastimes can tell us about the life of faith and joy in God. There's a Facebook event and flyer to share – invite someone to join you for church. Church, like summertime, is meant to be refreshing.

LEARNING HOUR COMES BACK NEXT WEEK! We resume Learning Hour August 1st with a simple program for children, and for adults *Swimming In Scripture* - a time of reflection on a passage of Scripture using the ancient meditative format called *lectio divina* (divine reading). See you then!

ONLINE GIVING – La Plata: 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.

Waysde: Go to https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_72387a78 and follow the prompts.

HYMNS

OPENING HYMN

Morning Has Broken

Hymnal 8

1 Morning has broken. Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken Like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing Fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall Sunlit from Heaven,
Like the first dewfall On the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness Of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness Where his feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight, Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, Praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!

OFFERTORY

Let us break bread together

Hymnal 325

1 Let us break bread together on our knees (x2);

Refrain: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees (x2) *Refrain*

3 Let us praise God together on our knees (x2) *Refrain*

CLOSING HYMN

I Come With Joy

Hymnal 304

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall, his life laid down for me.

2. I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
The new community of love in Christ's communion bread.

3. As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends.

5. Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways
And as his people in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.