

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 12, 2021

WE GATHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE Morning William Stickles

OPENING HYMN Praise to the Lord, vv 1,2,4 (*words on last page*) Hymnal 390

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Celebrant Blessed be God, whom we know as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be the Life of God among us!**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

THE WORD OF GOD

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from

the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 116

Musical setting: Kate Heichler

Refrain: I love the Lord, for He has heard me, and listens to my prayer.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

1. For He has given me a hearing, whenever I have cried to Him;
The cords of death, they bound me; Sheol held me in its grip.
Anguish and torment held me fast, so I invoked the Lord by name.
"Deliver me, O Lord, I beseech thee, for I am thy slave.

Refrain: I love the Lord, for He has heard me, and listens to my prayer.
I will pay my vows to the Lord, in the presence of all his people.

2. Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; full of compassion is our God;
He preserves the simple-hearted; I was brought low and He saved me.
Be at rest, once more, my heart, for He has showered gifts upon you.
He has rescued me from death, and my feet from stumbling.

Refrain: I love the Lord, for He has heard me, and listens to my prayer.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 8: 27-38

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

SERMON The Right Reverend Chilton Knudsen

PRAYER SONG Merciful Lord David Peacock, 1995

Mer-ci-ful Lord, in your lov-ing kind-ness hear our prayer, lis-ten
to our in-ter-ces-sion. Mer-ci-ful Lord, in your lov-ing kind-ness
hear our prayer, lis-ten to our in-ter-ces-sion.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please add your prayers aloud so we can all pray together.
We will sing the Prayer Song between each section.*

Father, we thank you for.... *Please lift up your thanksgivings...*
Jesus, please bless.... *Offer all the people, nations and situations in need of Jesus' blessing*
Holy Spirit, please give us... *What spiritual gifts to we need to be about God's mission?*

THE PEACE

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

Take up your cross vv 1,2,5

Hymnal 675

*You can make your offering online at https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_72387a78
(Wayside) or <https://christchurchlaplata.org/donate/> (La Plata)
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 good to give you thanks, Almighty God. You made all of creation, lush and abundant, and called it good. You made us in your image, to be a people of praise. So, in harmony with creation on earth and angels in heaven, we sing this song of praise:

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.

God of Love, you made humankind to love and serve you,
to love and serve your world.

We turned away from your love to love and serve ourselves;
and we turned away from one another.

Yet you never turned from us, Most Holy One –
you sent Jesus to love us, to teach us, to save us, to lead us into freedom.

He came and invited men and women to join him in the Way of Love:
broken, imperfect people transformed through love into disciples.

After he was raised from the dead, he sent upon them his own Spirit,
and gave them authority over demons and disease and death itself,
sending them out to make disciples of all nations.

And so we, his disciples now, celebrate his life in this feast
in which we receive his life.

On the night he took up his cross for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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, poured out for
you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me.”**

So we come to your table to remember, to be remembered as your Body.

We come to be sent into the world to proclaim the good news
to our families, our workplaces, our networks.

You have promised that we do not go alone, but that your Spirit works through us,
with powerful signs and miracles to confirm the message we bring.

So send your Spirit upon this bread and wine;
that it may renew Christ’s life in us.

Send your Spirit upon us, we pray:
**empower us as apostles whom you call to serve you;
strengthen us to be your Church.**

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 God, now and for ever.

AMEN!

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.

ANTHEM AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD: Taste and See

Kate Heichler, 2004

Taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, the bread he broke for us, Hal-le - lu-jah;
Taste and see the wine that he has poured; the great-est for the
least, hal-le - lu - jah; so let us keep the feast, Hal-le - lu - jah!

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

In the Garden

C. Austin Miles; arr. Cindy Berry

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Prayer of St. Alphonsus (1696-1787)

Celebrant Let us pray.

In union, O God, with your faithful people in every church where the Holy Eucharist is
now being celebrated, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. As I cannot receive you today
in the sacrament of your Body and Blood, I ask you to 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.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, we thank you for revealing yourself to us in this meal of broken bread and shed wine, for revealing yourself to us as you did to your first disciples.

We thank you for calling us, equipping us, sending us.

Pour your grace upon us as we seek to take up our crosses and walk the way of love, going to all who are lost and bound and proclaim the good news of the Kingdom, bringing healing and peace, in the name and love of Jesus. Amen.

EPISCOPAL BLESSING

PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES

COMMUNITY NEWS

LITANY OF TRANSITION FOR DEACON JOAN

Kate: Joan, you have helped to lead us in worship and set for us God's Holy table.

All: **Go with our blessing to feed and enliven the worship of another flock.**

Diana/Barb: Joan, you have proclaimed to us the Good News of God's love and its power to transform our world.

Go with our blessing to be a preacher of truth and grace to other flocks.

Walter/Steve: Joan, you have helped us look beyond ourselves, to go out in mission, and welcome in the stranger, joining us in our Food Pantry, ministry to youth in transition, and other outreach efforts.

All: **Go with our blessing to foster outreach with other flocks.**

Diana/Barb: Joan, you have prayed with us, visited us, counseled us, and helped us to grieve our departed.

All: **Go with our blessing to pastor other flocks.**

Walter/Steve: Joan, you have brought Christ's presence to us and helped us deepen our relationship with God in prayer and spiritual growth.

All: **Go with our blessing to guide another new flock to living water.**

Diana/Barb: Joan, you have discerned in us gifts for ministry, and have nurtured, encouraged – and nudged – us into service.

All: **Go with our blessing to help release gifts in other flocks.**

Walter/Steve: Joan, you have met with us and eaten with us and taken opportunities for us to laugh and celebrate as a family.

All: **Go with our blessing to bring your gifts of hospitality to a new flock.**

Bishop: Joan, you have loved us, and invited us to love you. Because God is love, and God's love in God's way always adds and multiplies, is never divided or taken away...

All: **We release you with our blessing to new ministries, confident that you will hold your love for us in your heart, as we will hold our love for you in ours.**

Time for people to speak words of appreciation

Bishop: The time has come to release your active role in the ministry of this congregation. Do you now surrender your tasks and ministry to others, trusting in God's provision for this congregation as you focus on discerning your next ministry?

Joan: Yes, with my blessing.

Be the saints of God I know you to be, to give and receive love in freedom and grace.

Bishop: What has been done has been done. What has not been done has not been done. Let it be. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

All: **AMEN!**

CLOSING HYMN Lord you give the great commission (*words on last page*) Hymnal 528

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Festive Postlude

Richard A. Williamson

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OUR PRAYERS

We pray for: Those in need of healing – Marianne Wilburn, Duana Page, Alicia Cordelle, Steve Blamer, Beverly Stone, Gary Murray, Susan White, Benji, Jane Hobbs, Garner Burroughs, Michelle, CeCe Cordelle-Carter, Lou Demas, Nick LaMonica

Those Who Have Died: Joan Shoemaker, Pat Carroll

We give thanks for: The ministry of Joan Crittenden among us; the ministry of Bishop Chilton in this diocese, and as she moves to the Diocese of Chicago; our concert yesterday

Birthdays and Anniversaries: Ray Willburn 9/17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEARNING HOUR IS BACK NEXT WEEK! Please jump on Zoom at 10 am Sunday (*or come in person at either church...*) for courses that will help you grow in faith. Offerings are:

Kids Forum (aka Sunday School) – Children ages 4-12, will come to know God's love through creatively exploring bible stories with Ms Alicia and Ms Janet.

Faith Formation: *Jesus The Game-Changer*,

video and discussion series led by Rev. Kate and others

Book Study: *The Call*, by Adam Hamilton – led by Barry Kercher

HOMELESS NEEDS – People who are living homeless are in need of blankets and D-Cell batteries, as well as Ramen noodles and popcorn. Blankets and batteries can be put into the Miracle Box on the Food Pantry wall; food should be left on counter by the microwave in the Christ Church La Plata kitchen, or dropped off at the Food Pantry Friday mornings between 9 and 11, during food distribution (or at other times on arrangement).

SECRET GARDEN CONCERTS September 11, 18, 25 – Our beautiful Meditation Garden (which seems to be a well-kept secret...) will be the site for a series of chamber concerts in September, featuring the directors of the Charles County Youth Orchestra. Please bring some friends for an hour of fine music from 4-5 each of those Saturdays – and if you're willing to come early to set up chairs, come on along!

ONLINE GIVING – Wayside: Go to https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_72387a78 and follow the prompts. **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. 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. Our policy is to help once, as we are able, and deal with repeat requests on a case-by-case basis. **Wayside:** Write a check or go to https://swipesimple.com/links/lnk_72387a78 and follow the prompts. **La Plata:** 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.

HYMNS

OPENING HYMN

Praise to the Lord

Hymnal 390

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise Him, for he is thy health and salvation:
Join the great throng, psaltery, organ, and song sounding in glad adoration.

2 Praise to the Lord; over all things he gloriously reigneth:
Borne as on eagle-wings, safely his saints he sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen how all thou needest hath been granted in what he ordaineth?

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the "Amen" sound from his people again, gladly forever adore him.

OFFERTORY

Take up your cross

Hymnal 675

1 "Take up your cross," the Savior said, "if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart, and humbly follow after me."

2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

4 Take up your cross then in Christ's strength and calmly ev'ry danger brave
it guides you to an abundant life and leads to vict'ry o'er the grave.

CLOSING HYMN

Lord you give the great commission

Hymnal 528

1 Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the Church neglect its mission and the Gospel go unheard,
Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each.
Give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend,
And, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.