

Service of Holy Eucharist
Proper 25



October 24, 2021
9:00 AM

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
W. Columbia, Texas
(979) 345-3456
www.stmaryswestcolumbia.com

The Rev. Paul B. Wehner, Interim Rector

We welcome all friends and visitors to worship with us this morning. St. Mary's is "The Mustard Seed Church," where out of a small number, great things will grow for the glory of God.

If you would like to receive more information about life within our community, please fill out a Visitor's Card in the pew rack in front of you so that we may get in touch with you this week. You can hand the card to the priest or usher as you leave or leave it in your pew.

Ministers of the Service

Celebrant/Preacher	The Rev. Paul Wehner
Chalice Bearer	Maddie Lane
Lector	Tracy Lane
Prayers of the People	Tracy Lane
Music	Grace Culbreath
Crucifer	Abigail Roddy
Acolyte	Trace Roddy
Usher	Marvin Miller, Jackie Walker
Altar Guild	Theata Miller, Jackie Walker
Technical Support	Amber Prater

Rev. Paul Wehner is our Interim Rector during the current transition time. He will be in the church office on Tuesdays from 8:30 – 5:00, or can meet at other times by appointment. Please do not hesitate to drop in or to call and schedule a time to meet and talk or pray with Fr. Paul. Call the church office or his cell phone: 409-766-0088.

Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Prelude

Grace Culbreath, Organ

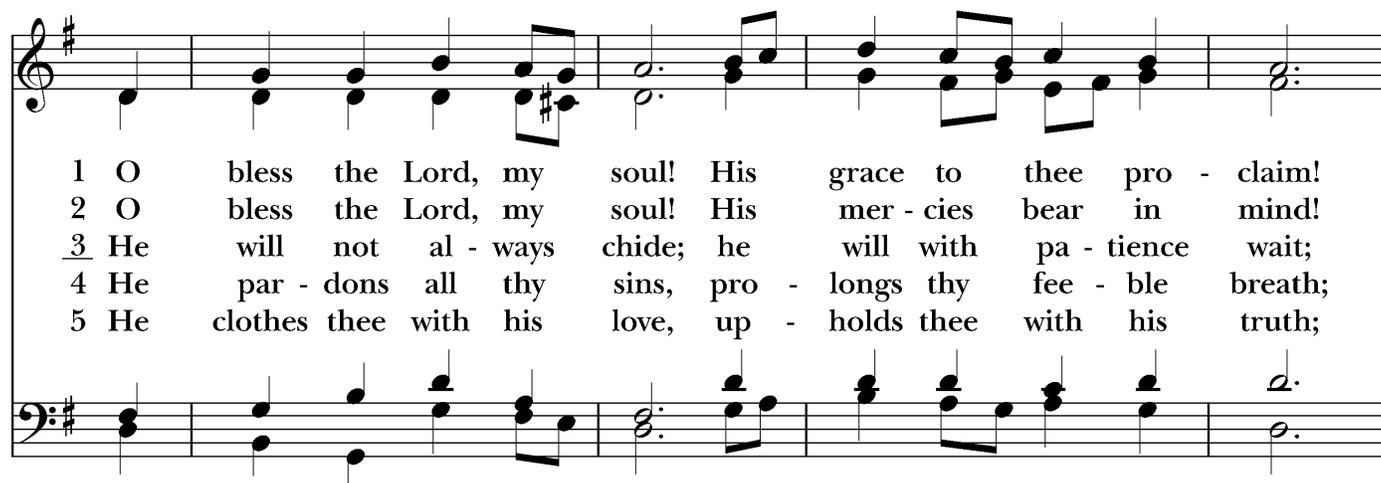
The Word of God

BCP, p. 355

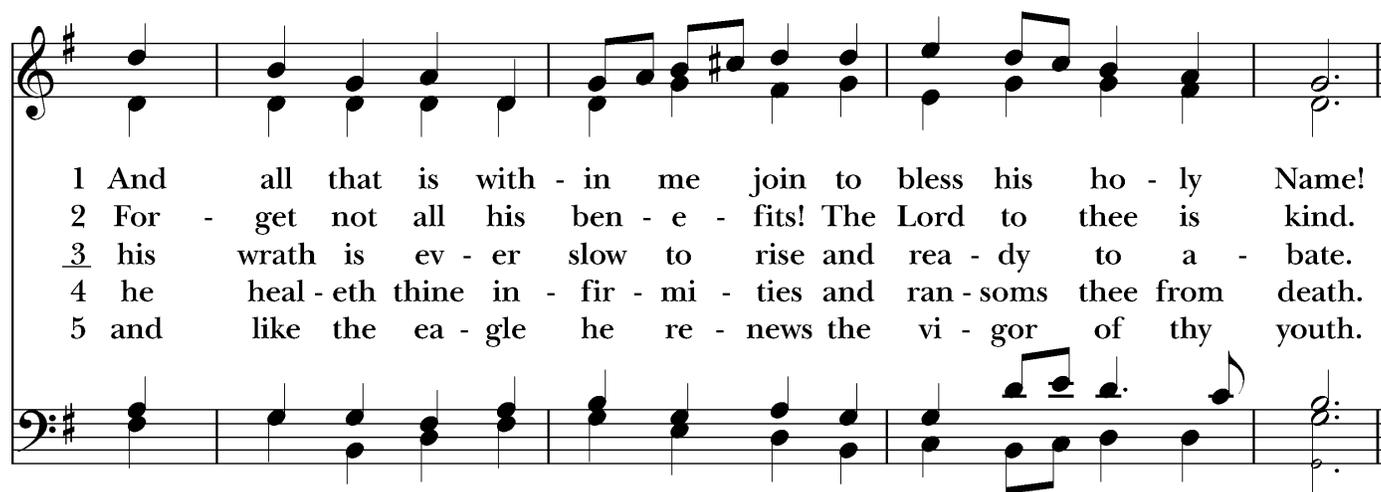
Processional Hymn

O bless the Lord, my soul

Hymn #411 vs. 1-5



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! His grace to thee pro - claim!
2 O bless the Lord, my soul! His mer - cies bear in mind!
3 He will not al - ways chide; he will with pa - tience wait;
4 He par - dons all thy sins, pro - longs thy fee - ble breath;
5 He clothes thee with his love, up - holds thee with his truth;



1 And all that is with - in me join to bless his ho - ly Name!
2 For - get not all his ben - e - fits! The Lord to thee is kind.
3 his wrath is ev - er slow to rise and rea - dy to a - bate.
4 he heal - eth thine in - fir - mi - ties and ran - soms thee from death.
5 and like the ea - gle he re - news the vi - gor of thy youth.

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

The Celebrant continues

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**

Children two years old through 5th grade are invited to follow the cross to Sunday School during the following song. They will return during the Peace.

Song of Praise

THE GLORIA

Hymn #S-280

**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.**

The Collect of the Day *(standing)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Our First Reading is from Jeremiah (31:7-9)

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
- 4 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.**
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.**
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Our Second Reading is from the Letter to the Hebrews (7:23-28)

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

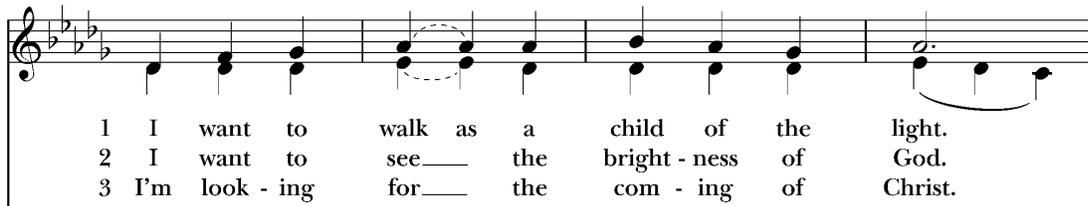
Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

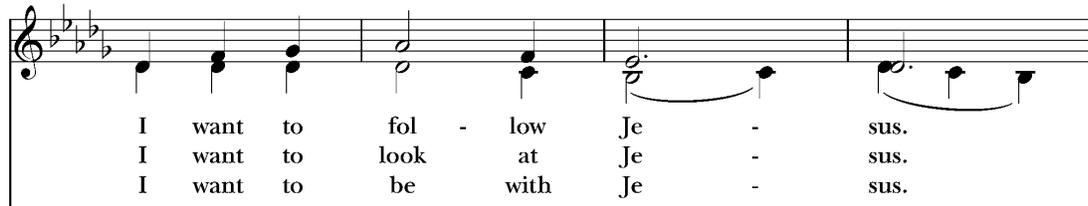
Gospel Hymn (standing)

I want to walk as a child of the light

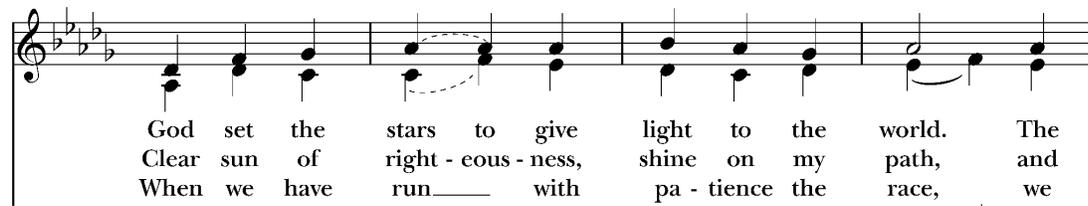
Hymn #490



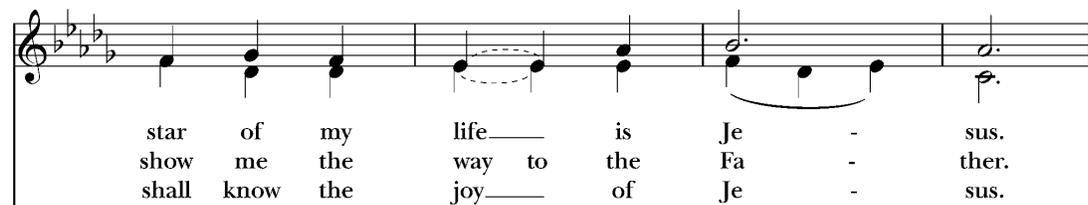
1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright - ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

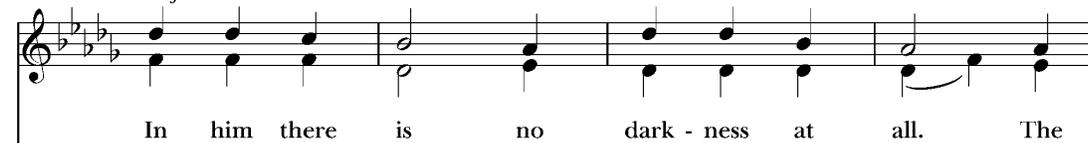


God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa - tience the race, we

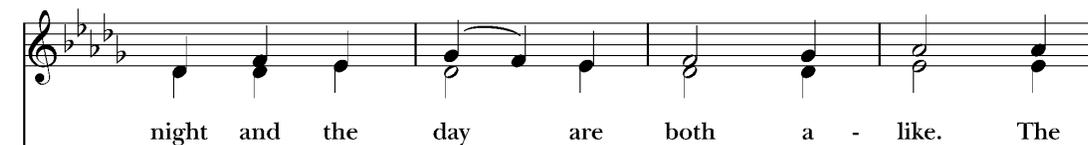


star of my life is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther.
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

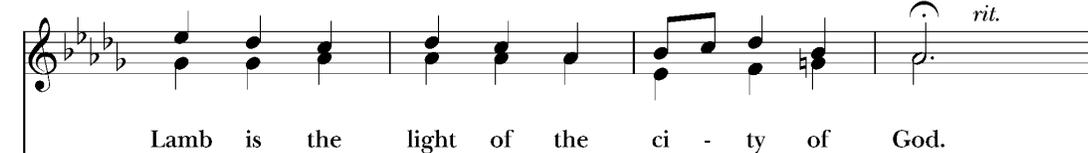
Refrain



In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

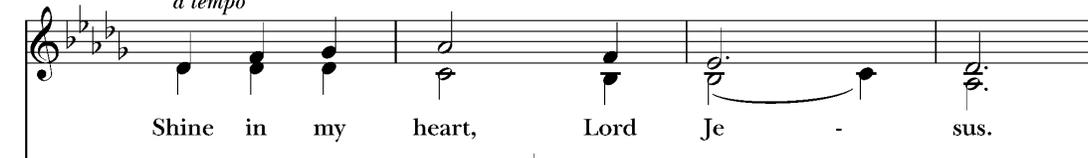


night and the day are both a - like. The



Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

a tempo



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark (10:35-45)

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



Mark 10:46-52

Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Paul Wehner

The Nicene Creed *(standing)*

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 *(standing or kneeling)*

The Prayers of the People are adapted from Form 6, in our Book of Common Prayer.

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *(Silence)*

Leader For all people in their daily life and work;

People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader For this community, the nation, and the world; for those in positions of public trust, especially Joe, our president and Greg, our governor;

People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;

People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; we pray for the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad, especially John Brockway, Ricky Wallace, Luis Cassells, Brandon Davidson, and Shane Case, that they may have a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be.

People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai, our Bishops; Paul, our priest; and the People of St. Mary's Church.

People For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *(Silence)*

We pray for those for whom prayers are requested, especially George, Doris, Kirby, Mary, Dorothy, Mike, Marglet, Mary, Bonnie, John, Loree, Parker, Cody, Cinco, Kelli, James, Daniel, Jennifer, Craig, Carol, Jayne, Shirley, George, Brynn, Lori, Ann, Nancy, Tammy, Duggan, Pam, Veronica, Red, Clay, and those we now name silently or aloud Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

Leader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, for those celebrating their birthdays, especially Thomas Culbreath; and those celebrating their anniversaries, especially Sydney and Robert Mikel. *(The People may add their own thanksgivings)* We will exalt you, O God our King;

People And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader We pray for all who have died that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. We especially pray for those we now name silently or aloud Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People Who put their trust in you.

Prayer to be Good Stewards of God's Blessings: (said in unison)

Gracious and loving God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, and so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours and utterly dedicated to your service. We thank you that you have generously blessed us with more than we can ask or imagine. Help us to use our gifts and talents and finances as you will, and always to your glory and for the welfare of your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

Leader Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister 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 Priest 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 Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Risen Christ.

Welcome and Announcements Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Holy Communion

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Grace Culbreath

The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

THE DOXOLOGY Hymn # 380 vs 3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP 361)

The people remain standing

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.**

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues

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.

Sanctus

Hymn #S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people may remain standing 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. **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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP p. 364

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All that desire a closer relationship with Jesus Christ are invited to receive Communion.

The People proceed single file down the center aisle toward the altar, keeping a distance of at least six feet between them. The priest will put a wafer in your hand. If you desire wine, you must dip the wafer in the cup. We are not drinking from a common cup.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 365

Let us pray.

People and Celebrant

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.

The Priest blesses the people with the following or similar words,

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you this day, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Amazing Grace

Hymn #671

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 * 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
 5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

The Dismissal

Priest Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia



**The flowers on the altar
this Sunday are given
to the Glory of God
and in memory of
Brooke Roddy Denbow
by Dan and Donna
Roddy.**

2021 FLOWER SIGN UP

The forms to sign up for 2021 flower offerings are in the Narthex.

Please stop by and sign up to honor or celebrate special days in your life. The cost is \$50, to be paid in advance.

For more information, call the church office 979-345-3456.

Prayers

Prayers for Healing: George, Doris, Kirby, Mary, Dorothy, Mike, Marglet, Mary, Bonnie, John, Loree, Parker, Cody, Cinco, Kelli, James, Daniel, Jennifer, Craig, Carol, Jayne, Shirley, George, Brynn, Lori, Ann, Nancy, Tammy, Duggan, Pam, Veronica, Red, and Clay.

Prayers for our men and women in the Armed Forces: John Brockway, Ricky Wallace, Luis Cassells, Brandon Davidson, and Shane Case

Prayers for Birthdays: Thomas Culbreath (27)

Prayers for Anniversaries: Sydney and Robert Mikel (30)

Announcements

1. We welcome all those visiting with us today. Everyone is invited to the Parish Hall for hospitality and fellowship after the service.
2. The children's Sunday School will be during the service with them leaving the sanctuary during the Praise Song and returning during the Peace. The youth and adults will meet from 10:30 to 11:15. Activities will be available for the children during the youth and adult Sunday School.
3. St. Mary's along with First Baptist Church and Columbia United Methodist Church will be having Trunk or Treat next Sunday, October 31st, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. We will decorate the trunk of our cars or fold out tables and provide Halloween treats to the children who come by. Right now we have 5 to 6 cars confirmed.
4. All Saint's Sunday is November 7th. During the service, we remember those who are dear to us but are no longer here. If you have loved ones whose names you would like read at the altar during Holy Eucharist, there are forms available in the Narthex, the Parish Hall, on our webpage, and in the October newsletter. The forms are due Nov. 2.

Sunday School and Christian Formation

Today's Lessons:

Children 2 years to First Grade: The Holy Family

The Holy Family holds significance for the entire Church year. It is the matrix – the Latin word for womb – out of which new life comes.

Children Second to Fifth Grade: Slaves in Egypt

The Israelites, after settling in Egypt during a famine in Palestine (in Joseph's time), thrive and become numerous in population. Fearful of the growing numbers of these people, the Pharaoh enslaves them and treats them harshly, then orders the Hebrew newborn babies to be killed in order to reduce their population. Moses is born under these conditions but is spared. He grows up in the pharaoh's household as an Egyptian, then is called by God—who appears in a burning bush—to save the Israelites and lead them to freedom.

Youth (Sixth to Twelfth Grade) and Adults: DVD 3 -Life and Ministry

led by Father Paul

My Rock and My Fortress

The ruins of Masada, another one of Herod the Great's spectacular fortress-palaces, stand high above the Dead Sea in the mountainous Judea Wilderness. He intended it to be a refuge in case he ever had to flee Jerusalem. Ironically, it was used by about 1,000 Jewish Zealots to escape the Roman's destruction of Jerusalem around AD 70.

Next Weeks's Lessons:

Children 2 years to First Grade: Creation

In the Godly Play presentation for Creation, children see the seven days of creation illustrated on a series of seven cards, laid out one by one.

Children Second to Fifth Grade: Passover

When Pharaoh refuses to free the Israelite people, God sends a series of plagues upon the Egyptians. Following the last devastating plague, which claims the life of the Egyptian firstborn, the pharaoh finally releases the Israelites. The first Passover is observed at this time, during the night of the tenth plague. God promises that death will "pass over" the houses of the Israelites who properly observe the rituals of the Passover.

Youth (Sixth to Twelfth Grade) and Adults: DVD 3 – Life and Ministry

led by Father Paul

The Time had Fully Come

In 1947, Bedouins discovered the ancient Dead Sea Scrolls that had been hidden in caves surrounding the Essene community of Qumran. The scrolls provided new insights into the theological beliefs and expectations of people who lived during Jesus' time. This lesson will examine the faith and practices of the Essene community.

Every Perfect Gift

The Gift of Faith

Our often fast-paced, frenetic lives get in the way of the north stars that should be guiding us. And trajectories change when, in the blink of an eye, we are blindsided.

My family's blindside happened four years ago. On a Tuesday morning before work, my sister-in-law Jan was on a walk with the kid's five-month-old puppy Peter Paul. A young man speeding hit them head-on, killing them instantly.

Jan was married to my twin brother Jonathan, and they have twelve children, including ten adopted from Texas, Guatemala, Mexico, Russia, China, and Ethiopia. She was also a beloved breast cancer physician with a practice that served the underserved.

Never afraid to love well, Jan was confident in her faith and marriage, leading her and Jonathan to adopt several older children with traumatic histories. They gave these children second chances believing they could thrive in a loving Christian family and a supportive community.

Jan's ministry on earth informed our belief that gratitude increases with faith. She saw with her heart.

In today's reading, we find Bartimeus, a blind beggar with a deep faith in God living on society's margins. He cries out to Jesus as he's leaving Jericho, "Son of David, have mercy on me." Jesus asks, "what do you want from me?" and Bartimeus says, "Heal Me." Jesus heals him and says, "Go, your faith has made you well."

I find a parallel between Bartimeus' story and Jan's life. Bartimeus' miraculous healing happened because of his faith. He saw with his heart. And Jan, relying on her faith to help her overcome obstacles, inspired her family, friends, and patients to do the same."

Thomas Merton said, "Gratitude is the heart of the Christian life." May our faith continue to increase our gratitude so we, in turn, can live with seeing hearts.

Catherine Miller directs pastoral programs and adult formation at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in North Dallas and serves on the advisory board for Invite, Welcome, Connect.  The Episcopal Network for Stewardship



QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What blindside moments have you experienced in which your faith helped you pull through?