

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Gathering

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

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

Presider 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.***

Presider Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, (three times)

People ***Have mercy upon us.***

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; 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

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

A Reading from Isaiah.

O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;

for you have done wonderful things,

plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

For you have made the city a heap,

the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of aliens is a city no more,

it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.
On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he
might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

Psalm 23

The Antiphon is "O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name."

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
O Lord, you are my God;*

I will exalt you, I will praise your name.

3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

O Lord, you are my God;*

I will exalt you, I will praise your name.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

O Lord, you are my God;*

I will exalt you, I will praise your name.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

A Reading from Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

Psalm 100

- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
O Lord, you are my God; *
I will exalt you, I will praise your name.

- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

- 4 For the LORD is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.
O Lord, you are my God; *
I will exalt you, I will praise your name.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-14

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made

light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon The Rev. Eric Biddy

Nicene Creed Said by all.

*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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Presider

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord,
saying "Lord have mercy."

Leader

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the
unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, for Paula, Edwin, Fulton, and Winnie, for St. Martin's and St.
Michael's, for Kendall and Mary Kay, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to
the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to
the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the
suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners
and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, including those we now name . . . let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including **Jeremy, Nick** and **Sherry, Barbara, Kevin, David, Liam, Tom, Richard** (Martin), **Eunice** (Lewis), for those affected by wildfires in the west and storms in the south, and for others we now name . . .

Let us thank the Lord for all the blessings of this life, including the birthdays this week of **Christopher** Nied (10/12), **Hannah** McDonald (10/14) **Bill** Pearson (10/14), **David** Monti (10/17); the anniversaries of **Paris & Michael** Coffey (10/11), **Jenn & Bill** Urso (10/11) **Jennifer & Marcus** Contaldo (10/14), **Deb** Maue & **Terry** Blake (10/14); and other blessings we now name . . .

In the communion of Christopher and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Presider O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession and Absolution

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

Silence may be kept.

*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.*

Presider 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

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

All greet one another in the name of Christ.

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

Presider 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:

All *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider continues

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 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember his death

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Presider continues:

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.

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 forever. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer

The Presider says,

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

All

*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 Presider breaks the consecrated bread and a period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*
Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music During Distribution of Communion

{Prayer for Spiritual Communion, for those at home

*God of infinite mercy,
We thank you for Jesus our Savior, our true Mother
Who feeds us and gives us eternal life.
Though we cannot consume the gifts of bread and wine,
We thank you that we have received the sacrament of Christ's presence,
The forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion.
Grant that we may continue for ever in the Risen Life of our Savior,
Who with you and the Holy Spirit,
Lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.}*

After all have received, the Presider says
Let us pray.

All *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 Blessing

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Hotline: 1-800-662-HELP

[National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Link](#)

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St. Christopher's Anti-Racism Statement

In the name of Jesus Christ,
obeying his commandment to love one another as he loves us,
we are called to dismantle all forms of racism,
in our thinking,
in our speaking,
in our listening,
in our learning,
in our understanding,
and through our actions.

That's why we commit to the following:

- To study how racism is manifest in ourselves as individuals and in our church institution;
- To partner with local congregations, organizations, and the [Diocese of Chicago](#) for accountable actions that tear away at our systemic racist culture and work toward God's Beloved Community;
- To continue our call to be a Sanctuary Church.