

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023

9:15 am



An Order for Holy Eucharist **Trinity Church, Swarthmore**

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.

~ Exodus 14:21

Welcome! This service is meant to be especially suitable for children and their friends, of any age. There is room in it for interaction and play, as well as unplanned sounds and events! Upon entering, children are invited to **take a plain "Prayer Card" and write or draw a prayer or thanksgiving**, which will be shared with all by the priest during the service. We encourage older persons to help younger persons with **reading (or memorizing) the words in bold**.

Within the rubrics of "An Order for Eucharist" in our Episcopal Book of Common Prayer, the form for worship for this service has been adapted from the "Eucharist for Creation and Redemption," A New Zealand Prayer Book, pp. 467-473.

This service **is not** livestreamed or recorded.

The Ministry of Word and Prayer

The People Gather

The people may be greeted informally. Children are invited to take a Prayer Card and packet of markers (crayons or pencils) to their pews, to draw or write a prayer for sharing in the service.

All standing, the presiding priest or minister says

Opening Acclamation

In the name of God:

Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life.

Amen.

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,
the love at our beginning and without end,
in our midst and with us.

**God is with us,
giving new life.**

Song of Praise

"All things bright and beautiful" Hymnal 1982 #405 vv. 1, 2, 4

REFRAIN:

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

2. The purple headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky:
(REFRAIN)

1. Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.
(REFRAIN)

4. He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.
(REFRAIN)

Collect of the Day

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 for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

The Proclamation

From the Hebrew Scriptures

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Song

"When Israel was in Egypt's land"

LEVAS #228

1. **When Israel was in Egypt's land,
Let my people go;
Oppressed so hard they could not stand,
Let my people go.**

REFRAIN:

**Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land,
Tell old Pharaoh to let me people go.**

2. **The Lord told Moses what to do,
let my people go;
To lead the children of Israel through,
Let my people go.
(REFRAIN)**

3. **They journeyed on at his command,
Let my people go;
And came at length to Canaan's land,
Let my people go.
(REFRAIN)**

4. **Oh, let us all from bondage flee,
Let my people go;
And let us all in Christ be free,
Let my people go.
(REFRAIN)**

Gospel Proclamation

The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Matthew 18:21-35

Glory to you, O Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

Children are invited forward for a children’s message. Children are then asked to return to their seats to continue working on their Prayer Cards.

We Respond to the Good News

Affirmation of Faith

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,**

The Apostles Creed

**is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

The Prayers of the People

We begin with a litany of prayer, after which children are invited to bring forward their Prayer Cards to be shared.

Caring God, we thank you for all creation:

For the heavens and the earth, which tell of your glory;

For the people who came before us and those around us today;

For your creatures everywhere.

We pray for those who decide on the resources of the earth,

That we may all use your gifts well;

We thank you for giving us life and for all who bless us:

For those who work on the land and sea, in city and country;

For artists, scientists and visionaries,
For Church leaders and all who seek to bring life to others.

We pray for all who are deprived of fullness of life:
For prisoners, refugees, and all who are sick, lonely, or afraid;

Above all, we thank you for your redeeming love.
**May your word and sacrament strengthen us
to love You and your creation as you love us.**

Prayer Cards are brought forward for sharing.

For your love and goodness
we give you thanks, O God.

God of grace,
grant our prayers.

As we put our trust in you,
**may your hopes and desires be ours
and we your expectant people. Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned.
Let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

**We need your healing, merciful God.
Some sins are plain to us,
some escape us,
some we cannot face.
Forgive us, merciful God,
and help us turn to you.
Set us free to hear your word to us.
Set us free to serve you.**

God forgives all who seek to live in the Spirit of mercy and love.
Forgive others.
Receive God's loving forgiveness for you,
and be at peace.
Amen.

Sharing in Christ's Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

All are invited to share a sign of Christ's peace. Announcements follow.

The Ministry of the Sacrament

All are welcome to approach the altar, the Lord's Table. All who feel drawn to the way of Christ are welcome in this community to receive the blessed bread and wine. During the following song, the offerings of the people are presented: bread and wine for communion, contributions for the work of the church.

1. **Come thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh fix me on it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.**
2. **Here I find my greatest treasure;
Hither by thy help I've come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.**
3. **Oh, to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Presider begins, the People responding with words in bold

The Spirit of God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift your hearts to heaven

where Christ in glory reigns.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

... We thank you that you make us human
and stay with us even when we turn from you to
sin.

**God's love is shown to us:
while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.**

... We entrust ourselves to you,
for you alone do justice
to all people, living and departed.

**Now is the acceptable time,
now is the day of salvation.**

Therefore with saints and martyrs,
apostles and prophets,
with all the redeemed,
joyfully we praise you and sing:

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

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one

who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

... Here and now, with this bread and wine,
we celebrate your great acts of liberation,
ever present and living in Jesus Christ,
crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

The prayer continues

Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit,
feed us with your life,
fire us with your love,
confront us with your justice,
and make us one in the body of Christ
with all who share your gifts of love.

**Through Christ,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Creator God. Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

As Christ teaches us we now pray

**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 us 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
now and for ever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the bread in silence and then says

The bread we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

*Lifting the bread and cup, the priest invites the people,
saying*

Bread and wine; the gifts of God
for the people of God.

Song during Communion

“One bread, one body”

LEVAS #151

REFRAIN:

**One bread, one body,
One Lord of all,
One cup of blessing which we bless.**

**And we, though many,
Throughout the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.**

1. **Gentile or Jew,
Servant or free,
Woman or man, no more.
(REFRAIN)**

2. **Many the gifts,
Many the works,
One in the Lord of all.
(REFRAIN)**

3. **Grain for the fields,
Scattered and grown,
Gathered to one, for all.
(REFRAIN)**

Prayer After Communion

The priest says

Most loving God, creator and redeemer, we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory.

Through Christ, and with all your saints,
we offer ourselves to your service.

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to stand with you in your world.**

**We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant,
our friend and brother. Amen.**

Silence may be kept. A blessing may be offered.

Sending Hymn

“Soon and Very Soon”

LEVAS #14

1. **Soon and very soon,
we are going to see the King,
(x 3)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We are going to see the King.**

2. **No more crying there,
We are going to see the King,
(x 3)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We are going to see the king.**

3. No more dying there,
We are going to see the King.
(x 3)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We are going to see the King.

Repeat Verse 1:
Soon and very soon,
we are going to see the King,
(x 3)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
We are going to see the King.

The Dismissal of the Community

A blessing may be given. The congregation is sent out with these words.

Grace be with you.

Thanks be to God.

Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

All are invited...to join the various programs and discussions as outlined in the announcements.

Have you heard of our FAMILY OF THE WEEK (FOTW) rotation of Sunday worship leaders?

All families are asked to sign up for a week when they take on certain roles: greeting, carrying the cross at the beginning and end of our worship service, and reading the first lesson. "Liturgy" means the "work of the people"! Please sign up by Sign-Up Genius, located on our website and included in the weekly emailed announcements, to take your turn in helping to lead worship.

Questions? Kristine Golden is our FOTW Coordinator! She'd love to hear from you (krisy.golden@gmail.com).



Cover image: fresco, Moses, early 8th cent. Church of Agios Panteleimon, Tsaritsani, Larissa, Greece.

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Assisting this morning:

Altar Guild

Suzanne West, Betsy Breakell, Linda Howard

Barb Swartz, Angela Cimino

Family of the Week

The Thompson Family

Verger

AnnMarie Stanton

Chalice bearers

Rick & Sharon Graham

A/V Ministry

Mason Hartley

"Fr. Ted," preaching and presiding

Vestry Members and Officers

Catherine Gardner (Rector's Warden) * Bill Scarborough (People's Warden)

Jay Gillespie (Treasurer, non-voting) * Sharon Graham (Secretary)

Kristin Cardi * Angela Cimino * Rebecca Clemmer * Mike Donoghue

Jan Dreachslin * John McCurry * Jim Meehan * Andy Millett * Suzanne West

Rector The Rev. Edward E. ("Ted") Thompson, Ph.D.

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