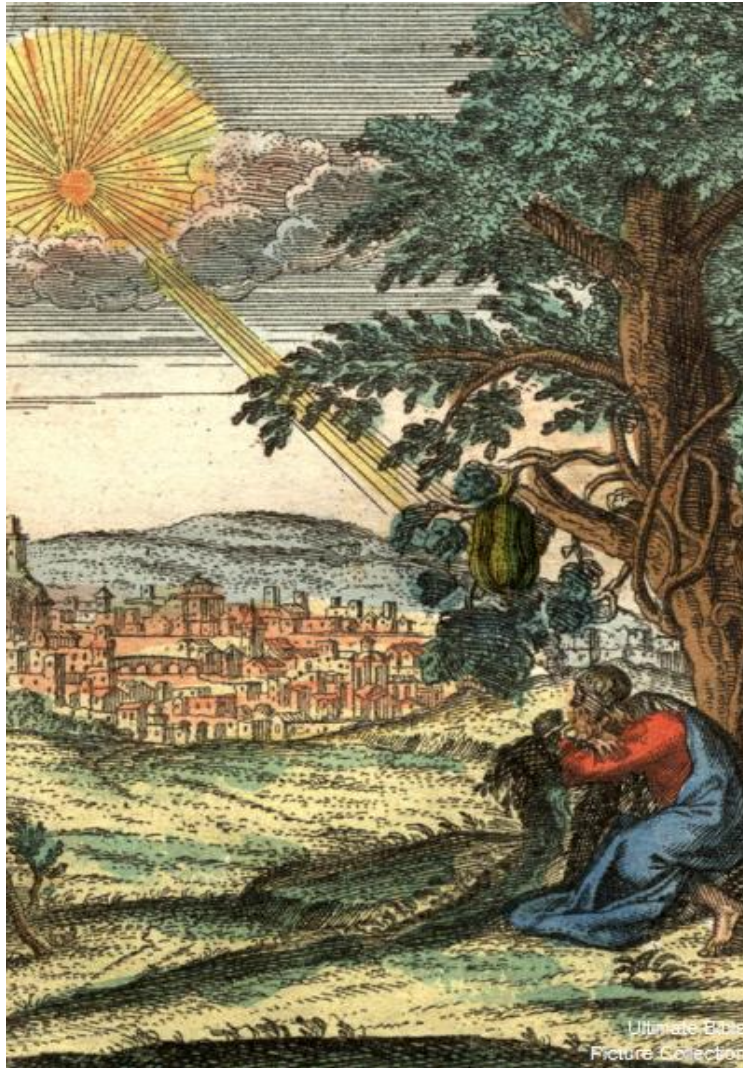


# The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

*September 24, 2023*

*9:15 am*



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

*Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.*

~Jonah

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.*

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## 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

"Joyful, joyful we adore Thee"

Hymnal 1982 #376, vv. 1-3

- Joyful, joyful we adore you,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before you,  
Op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!**
- All Your work with joy surround You,  
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,  
Stars and angels sing around You,  
Center of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain  
Praising you eternally**
- Always giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blessed,  
Well-spring of the joy of living,  
Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Loving Father, Christ our Brother,  
Let Your light upon us shine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine.**

### Collect of the Day

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The congregation sits.*

## **The Proclamation**

From the Hebrew Scriptures

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

**Thanks be to God.**

Song

"I want to walk as a child of the Light"

*Hymnal 1982 #490*

1. **I want to walk as a child of the light.**

**I want to follow Jesus.**

**God set the stars to give light to the world.**

**The star of my life is Jesus.**

*Refrain:*

**In him there is no darkness at all.**

**The night and the day are both alike.**

**The lamb is the light of the city of God.**

**Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

2. **I want to see the brightness of God.**

**I want to look at Jesus.**

**Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father.**

*(Refrain)*

3. **I'm looking for the coming of Christ.**

**I want to be with Jesus.**

**When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus.**

*(Refrain)*

## **Gospel Proclamation**

The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Matthew 20:1-16

**Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the

vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

The Apostles Creed

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

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

**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,**

**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.*

Song of Offering

"All who hunger gather gladly"

WLP # 761

**1. All who hunger gather gladly;  
Holy manna is our bread.**

**Come from wilderness and wand'ring.  
Here in truth we will be fed.**

You that yearn for days of fullness,  
All around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

Come from restlessness and roaming.  
Here in joy we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered  
In communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

2. All who hunger, never strangers;  
Seeker, be a welcome guest.

3. All who hunger, sing together,  
Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing.  
Here in peace we have been fed.  
Blest are those who from this table,  
Live their days in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.

## 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

“Let us break bread together”

*Hymnal 1982 #325*

1. **Let us break bread together on our knees.  
Let us break bread together on our knees.**

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

3. **Let us praise God together on our knees.  
Let us praise God together on our knees.  
(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.*

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.**

Sending Hymn

“Lord I want to be a Christian”

*LEVAS #138 vv. 1-3*

1. **Lord, I want to be a Christian,  
In my heart, in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.**

**In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.**

2. Lord, I want to be more loving...

3. Lord, I want to be more holy...

**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: like 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](mailto:krisy.golden@gmail.com)).



Cover image: Jonah under the fig tree. Ultimate Bible Picture Collection  
<https://achristianpilgrim.wordpress.com/2013/10/09/gods-mercy-and-compassion-extend-to-everyone-jonah-41-11/>

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*Assisting this morning:*

Altar Guild

Rich Englebach, AnnMarie Stanton  
Lance & Mary Donaldson-Evans

Family of the Week

Verger

AnnMarie Stanton

Chalice bearers

Rich Englebach, Mary Thompson

A/V Ministry

Mason Hartley

Homilist

Paul Oestrich

Presider

"Fr. Ted"

*Vestry Members and Officers*

Rebecca Clemmer (Rector's Warden) \* Bill Scarborough (People's Warden)

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

Catherine Gardner \* Mike Donoghue \* Jan Dreachslin \* John McCurry

Jim Meehan \* Andy Millett \* Suzanne West \* Jeff Orlando \* Suzanne West \* Agnès Wozniak

Rector The Rev. Dr. Edward E. ("Ted") Thompson

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*A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania*