

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 26, 2021

8:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite One



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Services: Sunday at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 10 AM • Saturday at 5 PM

**Our Sunday services are livestreamed**

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## WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

**CDC Guidelines:** In accordance with new CDC guidelines, masks are again required on the church campus, including in-person attendance for church services, regardless of vaccination status.

**Restrooms:** Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

**Symbols in the Bulletin** P Priest, D Deacon, C Congregation, L Leader, A Everyone.

**Standing, sitting, and kneeling:** Throughout the bulletin, there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

**We have gluten-free wafers available:** Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

**A gentle Reminder:** Please enter the Nave Quietly and reverently and silence your phones.

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## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*[Please remain seated.]*

### ACCLAMATION

*[Please stand.]*

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

C And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

A Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Christ, have mercy upon us.

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

☞ The Lord be with you.

☞ **And with thy Spirit.**

☞ Let us pray... O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

☞ **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

**The Readings:** Esther 7:1-6,9-10,9:20-22, Psalm 124, James 5:13-20, Mark 9:38-50

[*Please be seated.*]

### The First Reading

☞ *The First Reading is taken from Esther chapter 7...*

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

☞ The Word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalm

**L** *We will read responsively Psalm 124...*

**L** If the LORD had not been on our side, let Israel now say;

**C** **If the LORD had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us;**

**L** Then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;

**C** **Then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;**

**L** Then would the raging waters have gone right over us.

**C** **Blessed be the LORD! he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

**L** We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

**C** **Our help is in the Name of the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

## The Second Reading

**L** *The Second Reading is taken from James chapter 5...*

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

[Please stand.]

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

**C** **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

**D** John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. "For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

The Rev. Whitney Burton

*[Please be seated.]*

**NICENE CREED**

*[Please stand.]*

☑ **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**

*[Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.]*

☐ Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

☐ Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. God of Light and Life,

☑ **We pray to you.**

☐ Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Barry and Michael, our Assisting Bishops; Whitney, our Rector; Cindy, our Deacon; to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese; All Angels by the Sea, Longboat Key; All Saints', Tarpon Springs; All Souls', North Fort Myers; Annunciation, Holmes Beach; Ascension, Clearwater; Calvary, Indian Rocks Beach; Christ Church, Bradenton, Clearwater Deanery Collaboration Partners; and to all priests, deacons, and the laity in their ministry; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. God of Light and Life,

☑ **We pray to you.**

ℒ And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. God of Light and Life,

**☞ We pray to you.**

ℒ We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially our elected leaders, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. We pray that all God's children, especially those in the Middle East, might live in the hope of the world peace for which we are created. God of Light and Life,

**☞ We pray to you.**

ℒ And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [*Add handwritten names from notebook*] and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those listed in the weekly news who have asked for our prayers. I now invite you to pray for others by name, aloud or in your hearts. [*Leave time...*] God of Light and Life,

**☞ We pray to you.**

ℒ Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We give thanks for the flowers given to the Glory of God, and for all the blessings of this life, especially the birthdays this coming week of Margaret Kirk, Joanne Drega, Sharon Ozburn, Brettan Dickie and the anniversaries of Butch & Diane Niford, Bill & Pat Elmendorf, God of Light and Life,

**☞ We pray to you.**

ℒ And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, [*especially... add names from notebook*]. Please add names of those on your heart, silently or aloud. [*Leave time...*] We beseech thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. God of Light and Life,

**☞ We pray to you.**

ℒ Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

*(The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.)*

**☞ Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*[Please kneel or stand.]*

ℒ Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God. [*Silence is kept.*] Most merciful God, . . .

**Al** We confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

### **THE GREETING OF PEACE**

*[Please stand.]*

**P** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**C And with thy spirit.**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*[Please be seated.]*

### **PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS**

*[Please stand when invited by the Deacon.]*

**D** As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge

**C All things come from thee, O Lord and of thine own have we given thee.**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And with thy spirit.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**C It is meet and right so to do.**

**P** It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, Creator of the light and source of life, who hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**C Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]*

**P** All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

- Ⓟ For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
- Ⓟ Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."
- Ⓟ Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.
- ☩ **And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;**
- Ⓟ By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.
- ☩ **AMEN.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Ⓟ And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

- Ⓟ Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
- ☩ **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**
- Ⓟ The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
[*You may be seated.*]

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]*

**P** Let us pray.

**C** Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*[Please stand.]*

- P**
- C** Amen.
- D** Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
- C** Thanks be to God!

## SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Whitney Burton
Deacon	The Rev. Cindy Roehl
Acolyte	Rhiannon Sharpe
Lector	Pat Brinsko
Prayers of the People	Rhiannon Sharpe
Ushers	Betty Lombardo & Dick Smedley
Building & Grounds	Cheryl Sharpe
Welcome Table	Robyn Harker & Nancy Fisher