# Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 30, 2023 8:00 AM Service Holy Communion: Rite I





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Services: Sunday at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM Our Sunday 10:00 AM service is livestreamed

# WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

**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.

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

**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.

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

# **GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remain seated.

## ACCLAMATION

Please stand.CelebrantPeopleBlessesd be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

All 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.

Celebrant	Lord, have mercy upon us.
All	Christ, have mercy upon us.
Celebrant	Lord, have mercy upon us.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy Spirit.

- *Celebrant* Let us pray... O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
- All Amen.

# THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated.

# THE FIRST READING

Genesis 29:15-28

Lector The First Reading is taken from Genesis chapter 29...

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Lector	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 128

We will read responsively from Psalm 128... Lector Happy are they all who fear the Lord, and who follow in his ways! Lector You shall eat the fruit of your labor; happiness and prosperity shall be People yours. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house, your children like olive Lector shoots round about your table. The man who fears the Lord shall thus indeed be blessed. People The Lord bless you from Zion, and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all Lector the days of your life. May you live to see your children's children; may peace be upon Israel. People

# THE SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-39

Lector The Second Reading is taken from Romans chapter 8...

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LectorThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Please stand.

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

# People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

*Deacon* Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

DeaconThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise be to thee, O Christ.

#### SERMON

#### NICENE CREED Please stand.

People 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.

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

*Lector* 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,

#### *People* We pray to you.

Lector Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Whitney, our Rector; Cindy, our Deacon; to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese; St. Mary's, Dade City; St. John's, Brooksville; St. Peter's, Plant City; St. John the Divine, Sun City Center; Grace Church, Tampa; St. Andrew's, Tampa; St. Chad's, Tampa; St. Clement's, Tampa, and St. Francis', Tampa; 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,

### People We pray to you.

*Lector* 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,

#### People We pray to you.

*Lector* 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,

#### People We pray to you.

Lector 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,

#### People We pray to you.

Lector 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 Penelope Statile, Pat Elmendorf, Nancy Campbell, Jason Hopwood, Phyllis Sipos, Garry Lumm, Kevin Matson, Cindy Huffman, and for the anniversary this week of Ted & Mary Anne Dorner. God of Light and Life,

#### People We pray to you.

Lector 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,

#### People We pray to you.

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

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.PeopleAMEN.

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Please kneel or stand.

- Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God. [Silence is kept.] Most merciful God,
- *People* 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.
- *Celebrant* 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.
- People Amen.

### THE GREETING OF PEACE *Please stand*.

- *Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- *People* And with thy spirit.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

Please be seated.

# **PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**

*Deacon* As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II

- Celebrant The Lord be with you.
- *People* And with thy spirit.
- Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
- *People* We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

*Celebrant* 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; according to whose true promise the Holy Ghost came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to thy Church the power to serve thee as a royal priesthood, and to preach the gospel to all nations. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

PeopleHoly, 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.

*Celebrant* 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.

*Celebrant and People* 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;

CelebrantBy whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honorand glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.PeopleAMEN.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

*People* 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**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to receive the Sacrament. If you would like to receive wine you may do so by sipping from the chalice or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to intinct (dip) the wafer for you.

If you desire a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.

### COMMUNION

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

People 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.Celebrant announces the blessing.PeopleAmen.DeaconLet us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.PeopleThanks be to God!

#### SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant The Rev. Whitney Burton Deacon The Rev. Cindy Roehl Crucifer/Chalicist Laura McGary Lector Diane Niford Prayers of the People Butch Niford Ushers Butch & Diane Niford

#### Prayers are requested for:

**The Week of July 23 –** Barbara S, Hazel, Scott, Colette S, Heather S, Andrea G, Bonnie L, Olena & family, Bob S, Milly L, Brooke, Arlene, Darci, Dustin, Tony B, Jim, Marilyn, Sue, Jason C, Diane M, Gail-Marie, Adriana P, Cam & Sherry B, Shontz Family, Norma H, Dan & Gloria S, Dick F, Michael M, Dan & Gayle M, Danielle M, Craig & Marge, Bob & Joy G, Jim & Dede, Martha K, Beth E, Mike F, Gary, Jay, Sandy G, Elliot T, Christopher J, Bill GW.

**Celebrations this week: Birthdays –** Penelope Statile, Pat Elmendorf, Nancy Campbell, Jason Hopwood, Phyllis Sipos, Garry Lumm, Kevin Matson, and Cindy Huffman. **Anniversaries** – Ted & Mary Anne Dorner.

#### Announcements

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Breakfast in July: We hope you will join us for a continental breakfast sponsored by the Vestry TODAY after each service.

**Blessing of the Backpacks:** Kids, Teachers, and Staff – Bring your backpacks, totes, and briefcases to church on Sunday, Aug 6<sup>th</sup> for a special, back-to-school blessing.

**Christian Formation Classes** are set to resume on Sunday, Aug. 20. Adult classes will be at 9:15 am, and the children's classes will be at 10:00 am. We hope you will join us!



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