



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Proper 18  
Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia  
The Holy Eucharist Rite II  
September 5, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

*The liturgy follows the Book of Common Prayer, beginning at page 355.*

OPENING VOLUNTARY: Andante tranquillo from Sonata III

Felix Mendelssohn

## **THE ENTRANCE**

AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 429 “I’ll praise my Maker while I’ve breath”  
*Sung by the choir.*

*Old 113th*

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

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Presider says the Collect for Purity*

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *[Said by all.]*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; 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**

THE FIRST LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.” Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 146 *Lauda, anima mea*

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul! \*

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.
- 7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The LORD loves the righteous;  
the LORD cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- 9 The LORD shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

#### THE SECOND LESSON

James 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 603 "When Christ was lifted from the earth"  
*Sung by the choir.*

*St. Botolph*

#### THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 7:24-37

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE SERMON** The Rev. Ann Gillespie

*A brief period of silence is observed for reflection on the sermon. The people stand for the Creed.*

**THE 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: 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.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *[All remain standing.]*

*Form III, Book of Common Prayer, p. 387*

*Intercessor* Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

*People* **That we all may be one.**

*Intercessor* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*People* **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*People* **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*People* **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

*Intercessor* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*People* **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

*Intercessor* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*People* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

*Intercessor* Give to the departed eternal rest;

*People* **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Intercessor* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*People* **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Intercessor* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

**THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*The Presider says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *[All kneel in silence.]*

**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.**

*The Presider stands and says*

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**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.** *[The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.]*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.*

**AT THE OFFERTORY, HYMN 773 [green hymnal]** "Heal me, hands of Jesus"  
*Sung by the choir.*

*Sharpe*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *[The people stand.]*

*Prayer 2, Enriching Our Worship*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The Presider proceeds*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. *[The Presider continues.]*

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

**SANCTUS** *[Said by 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 gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.*

*The Presider continues*

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Presider* And now, as our Savior Christ has 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.**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

**INVITATION** *[The People are seated.]*

*As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Comforter. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.*

**HEALING PRAYERS**

*Anyone wishing for healing prayers—whether for yourself or for another or for our hurting world—is invited to come to the prayer station in the back of the nave after receiving communion. You need only say as much as you wish, and anything said will be held in confidence.*

AT THE DISTRIBUTION, HYMN 602 (stanzas 1-3) "Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love"  
*Sung by the choir.*

*Chereponi [Jesu, Jesu]*

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *[Said by 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

AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 567 "Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old"  
*Sung by the choir.*

*St. Matthew*

DISMISSAL *[The people respond,]*

**Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Prelude and Fugue in A Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach