



# The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 21

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia

The Holy Eucharist Rite II

September 26, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

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

OPENING VOLUNTARY: Prelude on *Wer nur den lieben Gott* (Hymn 635)

Georg Philipp Telemann

## THE ENTRANCE

AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 546 “Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve”

*Siroë*

*Sung by all, standing.*

*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.**

BENEDICTUS ES, DOMINE, HYMNAL, S 236

John Rutter

*Sung by all.*

1. Glo - ry to you, \_\_\_\_\_ Lord  
God of our fa - thers; \_\_\_\_\_ you are wor - thy of praise;  
glo - ry to you. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Glo - ry to you \_\_\_\_\_  
\_ for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; \_\_\_\_\_ we will  
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Glo - ry to you \_\_\_\_\_ in the splen - dor of your  
tem - ple; \_\_\_\_\_ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to  
you. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -



ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and  
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

*Descant*

5. Glo - ry to you, be -  
5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the  
hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of  
depths; in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to  
hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you,  
you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will  
Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and  
high - ly ex - alt you Glo - ry to you!  
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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 LESSON** [*The people are seated.*]

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

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.**

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 635 “If thou but trust in God to guide thee”  
*Sung by all, standing.*

*Wer nur den lieben Gott*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-50

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to him, “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 to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Rev. Jackie Thomson

*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.*]

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

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

*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, ANTHEM: "God be in my head"

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding.  
 God be in mine eyes and in my looking.  
 God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
 God be in mine heart and in my thinking.  
 God be at my end and in my departing.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *[The people stand.]*

*Prayer C, Book of Common Prayer, p. 369*

*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 him thanks and praise.**

*Presider* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*People* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Presider* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their

courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Presider* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Presider* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Presider* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

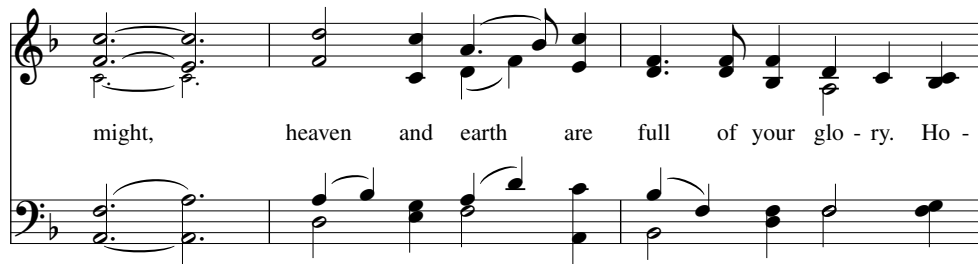
**SANCTUS, HYMN 858** [green hymnal]

*Land of Rest*

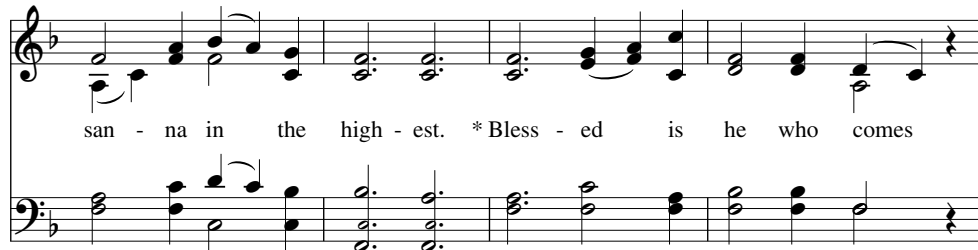
*Sung by all.*



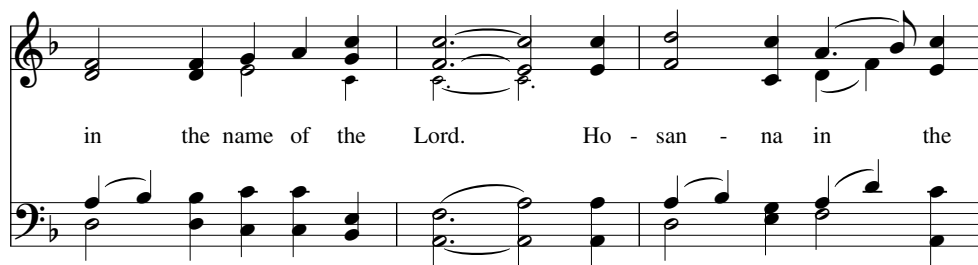
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and




might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. \* Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.*

#### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

*Presider* Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*People* **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

*The Presider continues*

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*People* **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

*Presider* Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

*People* **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 Communion. 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.*

**AT THE DISTRIBUTION, HYMN 819 *[green hymnal]* "Guide my feet Lord"**  
*Sung by all.*

African-American spiritual

#### 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 347 "Go forth for God; go to the world in peace"**  
*Sung by all, standing.*

*Litton*

#### DISMISSAL *[The people respond,]*

**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY:** Prelude on *Wer nur den lieben Gott* (Hymn 635)

Johann Sebastian Bach