



# The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

## Proper 20

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia  
The Holy Eucharist Rite II

September 24, 2023 at 9:30 A.M.

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

**OPENING VOLUNTARY:** Introduction in F Major

James Nares

### THE ENTRANCE

**AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 9** (stanzas 4-6) “Not here for high and holy things”  
*Sung by all, standing.*

*Morning Song*

*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, HYMN 899** [*green hymnal*]  
*Sung by all.*

Carl Haywood

Glo - ry,  
Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo - ry,  
Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. —  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. —  
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we  
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for — your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of  
 God. Glo - ry, Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name,  
 — Glo - ry, Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name.

You take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are

seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our — prayer. For

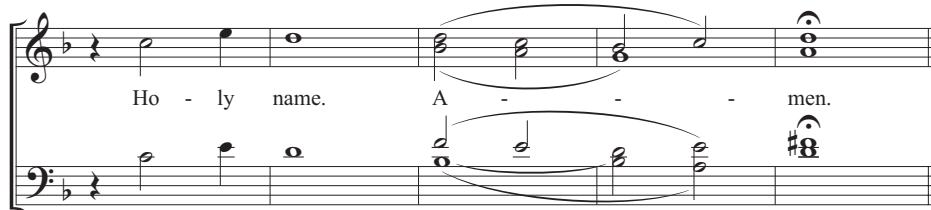
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are — the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of — the Fa - ther. Glo - ry,

*Descant*

Lord, — Lord — we praise — you, —  
 Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name,

— Lord, — Lord, — hal - le - lu - jah.  
 — Glo - ry, Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your



**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

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

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 WORD OF GOD**

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

Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 105:1-6, 37-45** *Confitemini Domino; Et intravit Israel*

David Kelley

*The cantor sings the refrain, which is then repeated by all. Thereafter, the cantor sings the verses, and all join on the refrain, as indicated.*



- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face. [*Ref.*]



- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 37 He led out his people with silver and gold; \*  
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, \*  
because they were afraid of them. [Ref.]
- 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering \*  
and a fire to give light in the night season.
- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, \*  
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.
- 41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, \*  
so the river ran in the dry places. [Ref.]
- 42 For God remembered his holy word \*  
and Abraham his servant.
- 43 So he led forth his people with gladness, \*  
his chosen with shouts of joy.
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, \*  
and they took the fruit of others' toil,
- 45 That they might keep his statutes \*  
and observe his laws. Hallelujah! [Ref.]

## THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 617 "Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round"

Song 1

*Sung by all, standing.*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

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

**Glory to you, Lord 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, 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.*]

*Form IV, Book of Common Prayer, p. 388*

*The leader of the Prayers will begin with prayers for the church and the world. Throughout you are invited to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

**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: "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree"

Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
Laden with fruit, and always green;  
The trees of nature fruitless be  
Compar'd with Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought;  
I miss'd of all; but now I see  
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:  
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see  
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,  
Here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be  
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be  
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

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.**

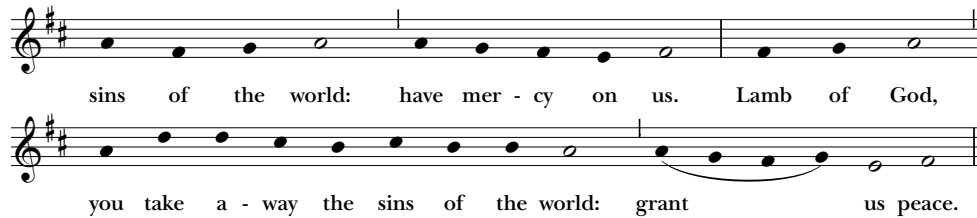
#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD, HYMNAL, S 161

*Sung by all.*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:

have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

David Hurd



**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 and unfermented grape juice as alternatives—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.*

**COMMUNION MUSIC** [*Sung by all.*]

HYMN 761 [*green hymnal*] "All who hunger gather gladly"  
 HYMN 343 "Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless"

*Holy Manna*  
*St. Agnes*

**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 541** "Come, labor on"  
*Sung by all, standing.*

*Ora Labora*

**DISMISSAL** [*The people respond,*]  
**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY:** Prelude in G Major

Johann Sebastian Bach