

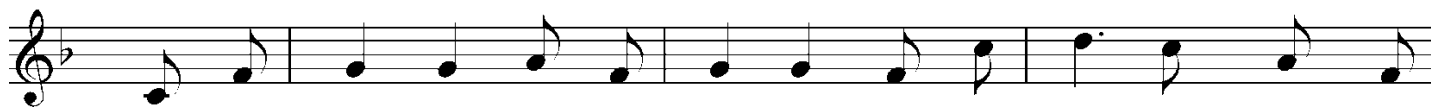
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Chester Vermont
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 26, 2025



Musical prelude Selected and played by Karlaine Livingston

*Following the prelude, the bell is rung ten times, summoning all within range to come join us for worship.
Then a moment of silence is observed.*

Entrance Hymn 507 *The Hymnal* 1982



1 Praise the Spi - rit in cre - a - tion, breath of God, life's or - i -
 2 Praise the Spi - rit, close com - pan - ion of our in - most thoughts and
 3 Praise the Spi - rit, who en - light - ened priests and pro - phets with the
 4 Tell of how the a - scend - ed Je - sus armed a peo - ple for his
 5 Pray we then, O Lord the Spi - rit, on our lives de - scend in
 6 Praise, O praise the Ho - ly Spi - rit, praise the Fa - ther, praise the



1 gin: Spi - rit, mov - ing on the wa - ters, quick - ening
 2 ways; who, in show - ing us God's won - ders, is him -
 3 word; his the truth be - hind the wis - doms which as
 4 own; how a hun - dred men and wo - men turned the
 5 might; let your flame break out with - in us, fire our
 6 Word, Source, and Truth, and In - spi - ra - tion, Trin - i -



1 worlds to life with - in, source of breath to all things
 2 self the power to gaze; and God's will, to those who
 3 yet know not our Lord; by whose love and power, in
 4 known world up - side down, to its dark and fur - thest
 5 hearts and clear our sight, till, white - hot in your pos -
 6 ty in deep ac - cord: through your voice which speaks with -



1 breath - ing, life in whom all lives be - gin.
 2 lis - ten by a still small voice con - veys.
 3 Je - sus God him - self was seen and heard.
 4 cor - ners by the wind of hea - ven blown.
 5 ses - sion, we, too, set the world a - light.
 6 in us we, your crea - tures, call you Lord.



Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and people

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.

Song of Praise S-280 The Hymnal 1982 Service Music



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



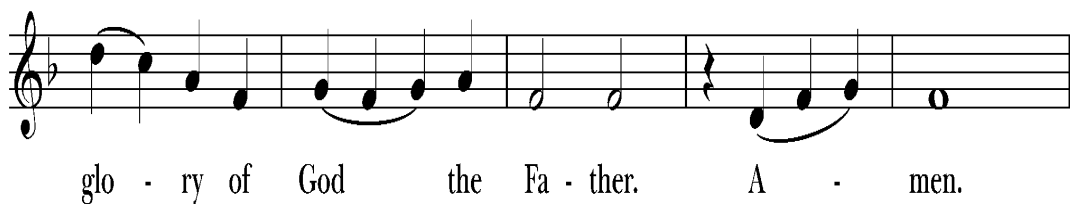
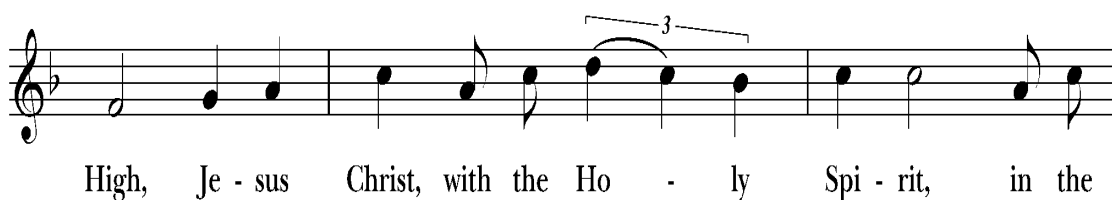
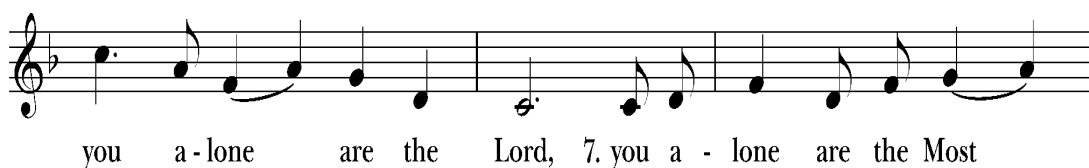
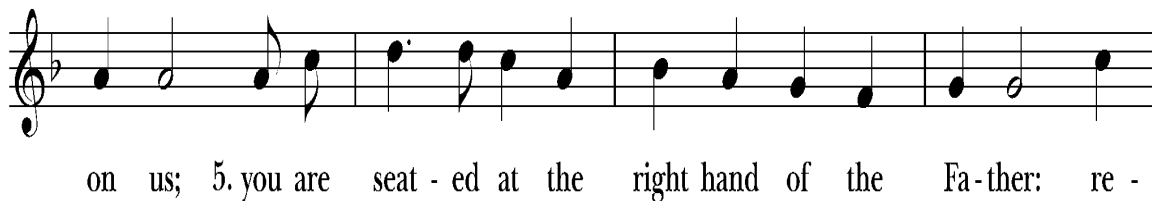
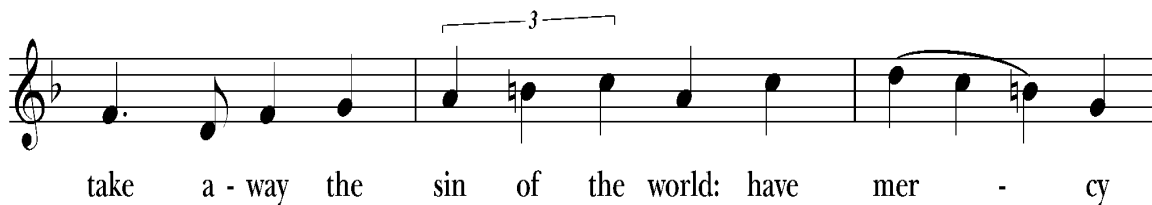
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



The Collect for the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People: O Wellspring of salvation, we come to you in joy, for you have heard the prayers of the poor and raised up the lowly. Pour out your Spirit on young and old alike, that our dreams and visions may bring justice and peace to the world. Amen. (Revised Common Lectionary Prayers)

The First Reading Joel 2:23-32

Reader A Reading from Joel

23 O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the Lord your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.
24 The threshing floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

25 I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.

26 You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the Lord your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
27 You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

28 Then afterward
I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.
29 Even on the male and female slaves,
in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

30 I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. 32 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount

Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 65

1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; *
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, *
because of their transgressions.

3 Our sins are stronger than we are, * but you will blot them out.

4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell
there; *they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the
holiness of your temple.

5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our
salvation, * O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that
are far away.

6 You make fast the mountains by your power; *
they are girded about with might.

7 You still the roaring of the seas, * the roaring of their waves, and the
clamor of the peoples.

8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your
marvelous signs; * you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very
plenteous; * the river of God is full of water.

10 You prepare the grain, * for so you provide for the earth.

11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

12 You crown the year with your goodness, *and your paths overflow
with plenty.

13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing *
and the hills be clothed with joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks and the valleys cloak
themselves with grain; * let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Reader A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy

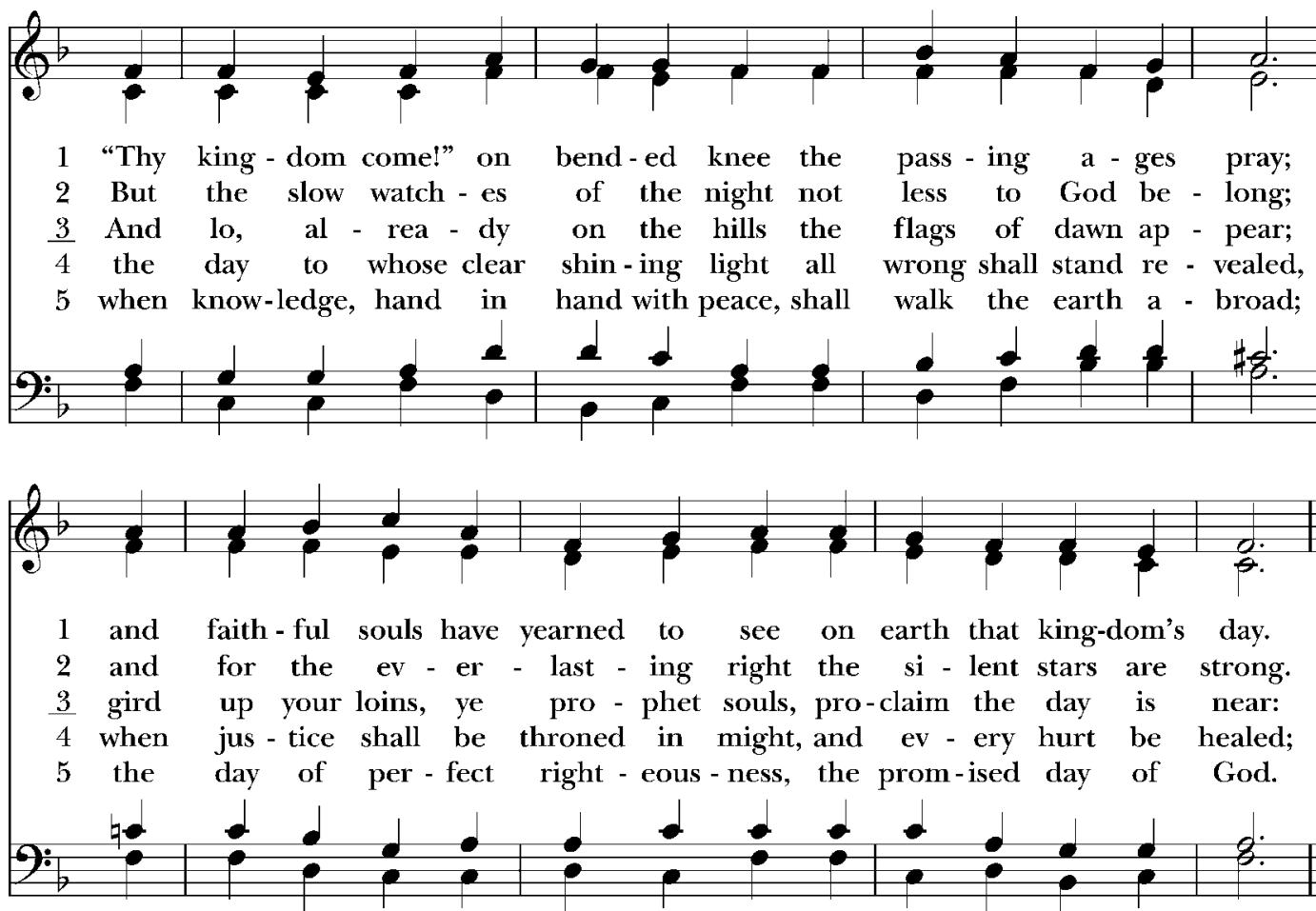
6 As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

16 At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! 17 But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 615 *The Hymnal 1982*



1 "Thy king - dom come!" on bend - ed knee the pass - ing a - ges pray;
 2 But the slow watch - es of the night not less to God be - long;
 3 And lo, al - rea - dy on the hills the flags of dawn ap - pear;
 4 the day to whose clear shin - ing light all wrong shall stand re - vealed,
 5 when know - ledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth a - broad;

1 and faith - ful souls have yearned to see on earth that king - dom's day.
 2 and for the ev - er - last - ing right the si - lent stars are strong.
 3 gird up your loins, ye pro - phet souls, pro - claim the day is near:
 4 when jus - tice shall be throned in might, and ev - ery hurt be healed;
 5 the day of per - fect right - eous - ness, the prom - ised day of God.

The Holy Gospel Luke 18:9-14

Reader **A Reading from the Gospel of Luke**

⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon *Rev. Dr. Bruce L. MacDuffie*

Nicene Creed Presider and 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

DEACON OR PRESIDER

LET US CRY OUT TO GOD FOR PEACE AND A TIME OF HEALING.

LEADER

FOR *SEAN*. OUR PRESIDING BISHOP, FOR *SHANNON*., OUR BISHOP, FOR OUR PARISH CLERGY; FOR THIS HOLY GATHERING, AND FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN EVERY PLACE.

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

FOR *DONALD*. OUR PRESIDENT, *PHILIP*. OUR GOVERNOR, AND *FOR ALL SERVING BY APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION IN PUBLIC OFFICE IN OUR COMMUNITIES*, FOR MERCY, JUSTICE, AND PEACE AMONG ALL PEOPLES.

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

FOR GOOD WEATHER, ABUNDANT FRUITS OF THE EARTH, AND PEACEFUL TIMES.

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

FOR OUR CITY AND THOSE WHO LIVE IN IT, AND FOR OUR FAMILIES, COMPANIONS, AND ALL THOSE WE LOVE. (HERE NAME THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES)

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

FOR ORPHANS AND WIDOWS, THE SICK AND THE SUFFERING, TRAVELERS AND STRANGERS, AND ALL WITH HEAVY BURDENS. (NAME THOSE FROM OUR PRAYER LIST, ESPECIALLY RYAN ERENHOUSE AND OTHERS)

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

FOR THOSE WHO REST IN CHRIST AND FOR ALL THE DEAD, WE PRAY.

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

FOR OUR DELIVERANCE FROM ALL AFFLICTION, STRIFE, AND NEED.

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

LIFTING OUR VOICES WITH ALL CREATION, WITH THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AND ALL THE SAINTS, LET US OFFER OURSELVES AND ONE ANOTHER TO THE LIVING GOD THROUGH CHRIST.

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

LET US PRAY FOR OUR OWN NEEDS AND FOR THOSE OF OTHERS, SILENTLY OR ALOUD.
SILENCE

PRESIDER

GOD OF SINNERS, HEAR THE PRAYERS WE OFFER THIS DAY, RESCUE US FROM EVERY EVIL, AND SAVE US FOR YOUR HEAVENLY KINGDOM; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins to God. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister and People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace *Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

"Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
 They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the fruitfulness
 shared in your presence.(Psalm 66)

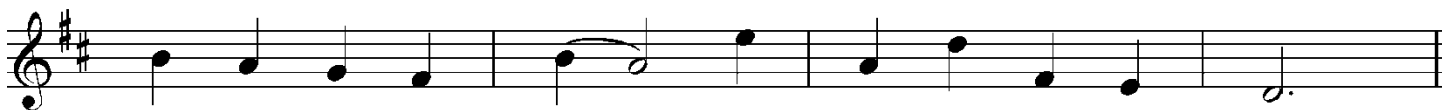
Offertory Hymn 546 *The Hymnal 1982*



1 A - wake, my soul, stretch ev - ery nerve, and press with vi - gor
 2 A cloud of wit - ness - es a - round hold thee in full sur -
 3 'Tis God's all - an - i - mat-ing voice that calls thee from on
 4 Then wake, my soul, stretch ev - ery nerve, and press with vi - gor



on; a heaven - ly race de - mands thy zeal, and
 vey; for - get the steps al - read - y trod and
 high; 'tis his own hand pre - sents the prize to
 on; a heaven - ly race de - mands thy zeal, and



an im - mor - tal crown, and an im - mor - tal crown.
 on - ward urge thy way, and on - ward urge thy way.
 thine as - pir - ing eye, to thine as - pir - ing eye.
 an im - mor - tal crown, and an im - mor - tal crown.

Presentation of the offering "The Doxology", vs. 3, #380 *Hymnal 1982*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him all creatures here below;
 Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

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.

Presider All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; through Jesus Christ our Lord; For you, O Father, are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. And so as the stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

(S -125 Service Music, The Hymnal 1982)

The musical score is written on five staves in G-clef (treble clef) with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,'. The second staff contains 'heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The third staff contains 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'. The fourth staff contains 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -'. The fifth staff contains 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' and ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed 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 people stand or kneel, or sit if that is most comfortable for you.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you,

and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and
said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his
friends and said:

"Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ's coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and people

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of
time gather us with blessed Luke, the patron of this congregation, and all
your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

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

Presider and 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.

S-164 Agnus Dei

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



Presider The Holy Gifts of God for the Holy People of God.

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here. All are welcome to receive communion. (Special COVID precautions may be voiced here.)

Communion Hymn 819 Wonder, Love, and Praise

1. Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
 2. Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
 3. Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
 Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
 Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I
 Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I
 Stand by me Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I

don't want to run this race in vain.
 don't want to run this race in vain.
 don't want to run this race in vain.

Post-communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Closing Hymn 637 *The Hymnal 1982*

Descant

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,

2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!

3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,

4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!

2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;

3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;

4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, _____ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign,
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

Closing Blessing

The blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. The Lord God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the holy and undivided Trinity, guard you, save you, and bring you to that heavenly City, where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Postlude Selected and played by Karlaine Livingston

Announcements

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PLEASE!! Take this service leaflet with you. Read the scriptures again. Learn a hymn or two. Use the prayers of the people all this coming week. Blessings! Next Sunday, November 2, All Saints Sunday The Rev. Adowa Wilson will preside and preach.

Worship Schedule

Midweek Eucharist October 29 5:30-6:00 PM commemorating James Hannington and his companions

Other Events

Reading Group after Coffee Hour approximately 11:30-12:30 Sept 21, 28, October 26, and on Nov. 2, Rev. Adwoa Wilson as preacher and presider and reading group leader.

Continuing to share in the exploration of Julian of Norwich

Memory Café November 6 Thursday 11AM-1PM in Willard Hall