



ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
E P I S C O P A L

**The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost:
Proper 19
The Holy Eucharist:
Rite Two**

**The Season of Creation
September 17, 2023
8:00 a.m.**

Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith,
we welcome you and invite your full participation in today's worship.

Masks are no longer required but you're welcome to wear one if you wish.

As a courtesy to others, please silence electronic devices.

For the link to the webpage with the announcements and bulletins, use this QR code:

Services are regularly streamed and recorded and you can find them:

<http://www.stpaulcathedral.org/watch>

If you're interested in more information about the cathedral's ministries,

we would like to hear from you: <http://stpaulcathedral.org/im-new/>



St. Paul's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on unceded Kumeyaay land. We value the knowledge, culture, and worldview of Indigenous people. We commit to the vital work of educating ourselves, increasing community awareness, and promoting reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbors. As we examine actions and practices that perpetuate harm against Indigenous communities, we pledge to work toward a meaningful and respectful relationship as we follow their example in honoring this sacred land.

Approved by the Cathedral Chapter, May 2023

§ *Please stand as you are able at the tolling of the bell.*

The Word of God

§ *The Presider says*

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider

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.**

The Presider and people say together

**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 Presider says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The Presider says the Collect.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

§ *Please be seated.*

The Lessons

The First Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The

Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114 *In exitu Israel (said by all)*

BCP 756

1 Hallelujah!

**When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,**

**2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.**

**3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.**

**4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.**

**5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?**

**6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?**

**7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,**

**8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

The Second Lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Answer **Thanks be to God.**

§ *Please stand as able when the Presider stands.*

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18: 21-35

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

§ *Please be seated at the introduction of the sermon.*

The Sermon

The Very Reverend Penny Bridges

§ *After a moment of silence, please stand as able for the Nicene Creed.*

The Nicene Creed

Presider

Let us stand and proclaim our faith in the words of the 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:
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 for the Season of Creation

The Deacon bids the prayers.

Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.

During the silence after each bidding, the people offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Leader

Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Wise Creator, whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Divine Physician, heal our communities, especially those where neglect, greed, or violence inflict suffering upon people and other creatures.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people known to this congregation who desire or need your presence and help, especially...

The Intercessor offers prayers on behalf of the congregation and bids their prayers.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died, especially...

The Intercessor offers prayers on behalf of the congregation and bids their prayers.

Silence

God, Giver of life,

Hear our prayer.

The Presider says the concluding Collect.

Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

source: Anne Kelsey

Confession of Sin

The Deacon says to the People

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Deacon and People together

**Merciful and sustaining God,
we have sinned against you.**

**We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation:
teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.**

**We confess that we have misused your earth:
grant us amendment of life.**

**We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites:
strengthen us in self-control.**

**We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted:
make us urgent now for its protection.**

**Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
with whom you live and reign,
one God, now and for ever.**

Amen.

The Presider 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

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

§ *The People offer each other a sign of the Peace.*

§ *Please be seated.*

Welcome and announcements

The Offertory

You may give online now by using your phone's camera to scan the quick response code:



or text stpaulcathedral to 73256 using your cell phone. Thank you!

The Holy Communion

§ *Please stand as able for the offering to be brought forward and remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving.*

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 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 our thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues

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

Glory to you for ever and ever.

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.

By your will they were created and have their being.

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.

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

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.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

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 (*Presider and People*)

**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 continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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

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

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; Miriam, Deborah, and Ruth; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the worlds 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.

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

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. **AMEN.**

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

The Lord's Prayer (*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 Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence follows as the Bread is broken.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

The Invitation

This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him 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; come, not because the Church invites you; it is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

- *The Iona Community Worship Book*

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

After the Invitation has been given, please be seated until you are ushered to the communion stations at the Crossing. Please take your purse or valuables with you.

At Communion time we will offer the Host with the option to have it partially intincted (dipped) by the Eucharistic Minister into the wine and placed in the communicant's hand. For the time being we will not offer the option of drinking from the Common Cup. You may choose to receive only the dry Host or to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament.

As you come forward, please use one of these three gestures to indicate your preference:

- ❖ To receive the host with wine, extend both your hands, palm up.*
- ❖ To receive only the host, extend one hand, palm up.*
- ❖ To receive a blessing, cross your hands at your shoulders.*

If you need to receive a gluten-free wafer, please go to the station at the extreme left.

§ *After a moment of silence following the distribution of communion, please stand as you are able for the following prayer*

The Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

All **God our Creator,
you feed your people with the bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage
that we may come to that place
where your people hunger and thirst no more
and your creation is restored to its full glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Presider may bless the people.

Go forth confident in the hope in which you have been saved; praise God in all creation; follow Christ through whom all things are made; in the power of the Spirit become a beacon of hope to the world; and the blessing of the Creator God, ✠ the Eternal Father, the Risen Son and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you that you might be a blessing to others today and always.

Amen.

The Deacon dismisses them with these words

Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

§ *The clergy, altar party, and people depart.*

Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider: The Rev. Cn. Richard Hogue, Jr.

Preacher & Dean: The Very Rev. Penny Bridges

Deacon: The Rev. Cn. Brooks Mason

Head Verger: Cn. Lisa Churchill

Reader: Antonia Franco

Altar Servers: Jerry Coughlan, Dan Love

Altar Guild: Cn. Konnie Dadmun, Tom Barb, Julia Gorman, Steve Mater, Joyce Vogel,
Elaine Wolfe

Usher-in-charge: Rich Davis

Ushers: Christie Batten, Norm Friesen, Carl Mattina, Mary Rathbun

Cathedral Audio: Bo Anacta

In the unlikely event of an emergency requiring us to evacuate the cathedral please follow the directions of the ushers and vergers, and remain as quiet and calm as possible.

Please locate an exit nearest you.

The exit doors are:

- *South porch doors at Nutmeg Street and Fifth Avenue*
- *North porch doors to Fifth Avenue Courtyard*
- *South transept east and west doors to Nutmeg Street*
- *Northeast hallway door to Fifth Avenue breezeway*
- *West chapel (to the left of chapel altar) stairs leading down to landing.*

September 17, 2023 – Pentecost 16 (A)

Episcopal Service Corps Program Spotlight: Plainsong Farm & Ministry

Plainsong Farm & Ministry is an Episcopal Service Corps program in Rockford, Michigan, dedicated to cultivating connections between people, places, and God. By making a place that nurtures belonging and the radical renewal of God's world, Plainsong Farm is a living laboratory where fellows can experiment with how to pray, belong, grow, rest, serve, and play.



Plainsong Farm is currently recruiting Corps members between the ages of 21 and 32 for its 2023-2024 program year. Over nine months, Plainsong Fellows will experience:

- A balanced life of prayer, feasts, play, rest, study, conversation, retreats, and work
- Immersion in regenerative agriculture and conservation practices for health and healing of all creation
- Weekly evening formation gatherings which include cooking farm-fresh meals, Christian scripture, hands-on activities, contextual analysis of power, possession, people, and place, both in history and today, and doing the dishes
- Conflict resolution coaching
- Monthly field trips
- Life in community with one another and the various intergenerational communities of Plainsong Farm
- Lots of cucumbers
- And embodied practice

Dates of service: January 14, 2024 to November 1, 2024

Weekly commitment: 32 work hours per week, 8 formation hours per week

Compensation: \$425 monthly stipend, housing on the farm, utilities, end-of-service award, health insurance, spiritual direction, and seasonal vegetables. This leads to a total estimated value of \$12,000.

About Episcopal Service Corps

Now in its 23rd year, Episcopal Service Corps (ESC) is built on the belief that change happens when we bring together diverse teams of committed and passionate young leaders ages 21-32 and support them as they tackle some of our nation's most difficult challenges.

Find out more about Plainsong Farm at <https://www.plainsongfarm.com/>.

Learn about Episcopal Service Corps at <https://episcopalservicecorps.org>, and apply today at <https://episcopalservicecorps.org/apply/>.



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