

# The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

## St. Gregory's Episcopal Church

August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

PRELUDE.....Ann Klein, Music Director

### THE ANGELUS

*The Angelus is a traditional Christian devotion offered before Holy Eucharist and Morning and Evening Prayer in honor of the Incarnation. It is usually accompanied by the ringing of the church bell (in three sets of three for each versicle, response, and Hail Mary, followed by one set of nine for the concluding prayer). You may pray it as the bell rings, or use the silence to prepare for worship in your own way.*

*The first three bells*



V. The angel of the Lord announced unto Mary,  
R. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God  
pray for us sinners, now,  
and at the hour of our death.

*The second three bells*

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.  
R. Be it unto me according to your word.

Hail Mary, full of grace...

*The third three bells*

V. And the Word was made flesh.  
R. And dwelled among us.

Hail Mary, full of grace...

*The nine bells*



V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,  
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**HYMN IN PROCESSION.....***The God of Abraham praise*



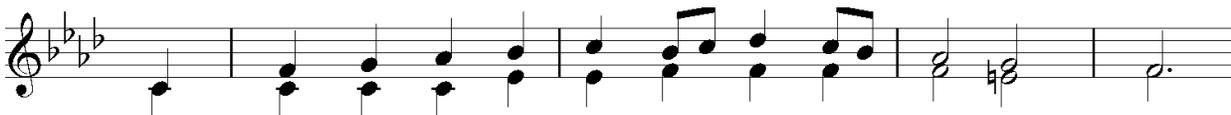
1 The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;  
 2 He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;  
 3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,  
 4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,  
 5 The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;



1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;  
 2 we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend:  
 3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;  
 4 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," cry, "Al - might - y King!  
 5 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry;



1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed:  
 2 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,  
 3 on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains,  
 4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be:  
 5 hail, A - braham's Lord di - vine! With heaven our songs we raise;



we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.  
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for ev - er - more.  
 and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.  
 e - ter - nal Fa - ther, great I AM, we wor - ship thee."  
 all might and ma - jes - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* 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

Spir - it of Life, Come un - to me. Sing in my  
heart all the stir - rings of com - pas - sion. Blow in the wind,  
Rise in the sea. Move in the hand giv - ing life the shape of  
jus - tice. Roots hold me close. Wings set me free.  
Spir - it of Life, come to me, come to me.

© 1981, Carolyn McDade. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## THE FIRST READING

*Genesis 15:1-6*

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."

But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

*Reader*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

**THE RESPONSE** (*chanted in unison*)

*Psalm 33:12-22*

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the | **Lord!** \*  
happy the people you have chosen to be your | **own!**
- 13 The Lord looks down from | **heaven,** \*  
and beholds all the people in the | **world.**
- 14 From where you sit enthroned you turn your | **gaze** \*  
on all who dwell on the | **earth.**
- 15 You fashion all the | **hearts of them** \*  
and understand all their | **works.**
- 16 There is no king that can be saved by a mighty | **army;** \*  
a strong man is not delivered by his great | **strength.**
- 17 The horse is a vain hope for de|**liverance;** \*  
for all its strength it cannot | **save.**
- 18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon the | **God-fearing,** \*  
on those who wait upon God's | **love,**
- 19 To pluck their lives from | **death,** \*  
and to feed them in time of | **famine.**
- 20 Our soul waits for you, O | **Lord;** \*  
you are our help and our | **shield.**
- 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in | **you,** \*  
for in your holy Name we put our | **trust.**
- 22 Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be u|**pon us,** \*  
as we have put our trust in | **you.**

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ALLELUIA**



**THE GOSPEL**

*Luke 12:32-40*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

**THE SERMON**

*The Rev. Matthew Wright*

**THE NICENE CREED**

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

*The leader introduces the prayers, saying*

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Holy One, singing:



© 1984, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

*(the above refrain is then repeated after each petition)*

For the peace of the world; for the welfare of this fragile earth, our island home; and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Holy One.

For the universal Church; for our Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement; for the Bishops of the Diocese of New York, Mary, Allen, and Andy; for Susan and Matthew, our priests, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Holy One.

For our local spiritual communities: the Woodstock Jewish Congregation, Christ's Lutheran, Zen Mountain Monastery, the Woodstock Reformed Church, KTD Monastery, Overlook Methodist, the Woodstock Christian Science Church, Mata Giri, the Way of the Rose, St. John's Roman Catholic Church, and any other communities we now name [*silent pause*], let us pray to the Holy One.

For our President, Joe; our Governor, Kathy; for our local town council, and for all who hold roles of servant leadership, that there may be peace and justice on the Earth, let us pray to the Holy One.

For the Earth we share, for this town of Woodstock, which sits on unceded Lanape territory, and for the indigenous peoples of this land, let us pray to the Holy One.

For those on our parish prayer list: Ebro, Kirk, Alex & Kaela, Robert, Zach, Nat, Jeremy, Stephanie, Eric, Pat, Frances, Larry, Susie, Charlie, Deb, Anna and Emmett, Lynda, Gini, Lorraine, Heather, Caleb Francis, Lynn, Tress, Charles & Doris, Ilfra, and any others we now name [*silent pause*], let us pray to the Holy One.

For all those touched by war, gun violence, and racism, and for deliverance from all danger, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Holy One.

For all who have died, in sure and certain hope that no one and nothing can ever fall outside the love of God, let us pray to the Holy One.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

*Minister and People*

**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 Priest 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.**

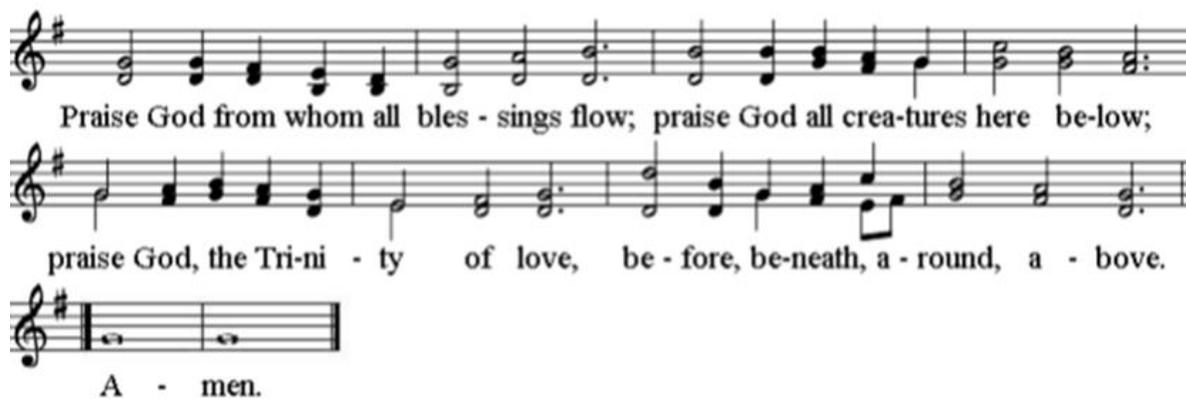
## **THE PEACE**

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

*The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. Parish announcements may be made.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** (*sung by choir*)

## DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all bles - sings flow; praise God all crea-tures here be-low;  
praise God, the Tri-ni - ty of love, be - fore, be-neath, a - round, a - bove.  
A - men.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
 might, hea - ven 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.\_\_\_\_\_

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.*

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.**

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.*

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,

**Our Father in heaven,  
 hallowed be your Name,  
 your kingdom come,  
 your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial,  
 and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours,  
 now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

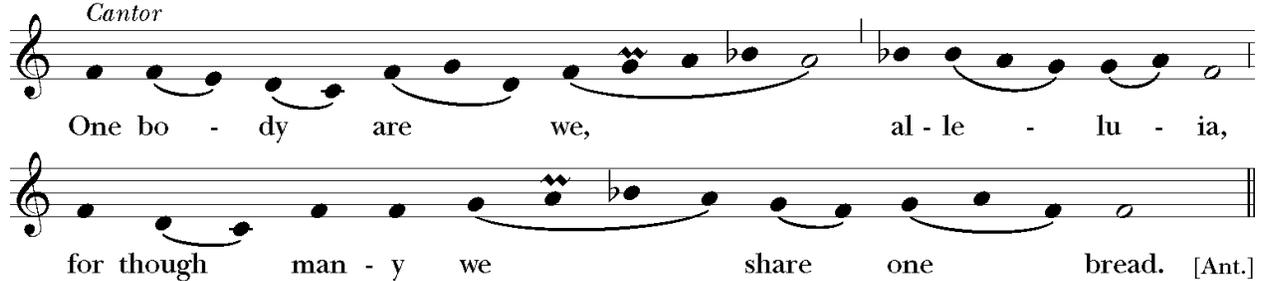
*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A brief silence follows. All then joining in singing*

*Antiphon:*



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

*Cantor*



One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,  
for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

*If you are unable to physically participate in Communion, you may offer a Prayer of Spiritual Communion during this time.*

### A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**.....*How firm a foundation*  
(see next page)



1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!  
3 "When through the deep waters 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,



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;



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,



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."

*Optional Interlude*



Words: K. in John Rippon's *Selection*, 1787, alt. Music: *Foundation*, melody from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844;  
harm. Calvin Hampton (1938-1984) Copyright ©1984, Calvin Hampton. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

*Celebrant* Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**