

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026

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. Amen.

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



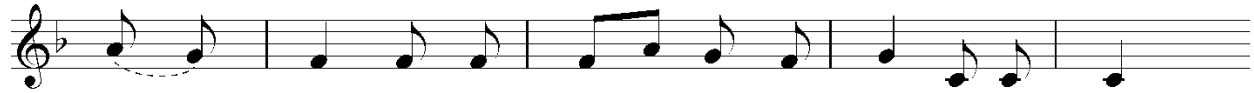
*V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

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.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN



1 As Ja - cob with tra - vel was wea - ry one day,
 2 The lad - der is long, it is strong and well - made,
 3 Come, let us a - scend! All may climb it who will,
 4 And when we ar - rive at the ha - ven of rest,



at — night on a stone for a pil - low he lay;
 has stood hun - dreds of years and is not yet de - cayed;
 for the an - gels of Ja - cob are guard - ing it still;
 we shall hear the glad words, "Come to me all the blest,



he — saw in a vi - sion a lad - der so high,
 man - y mil - lions have climbed it and reached Zi - on's hill,
 and re - mem - ber, each step that by faith we pass o'er,
 here are re - gions of light, here are man - sions of bliss."



that its foot was on earth and its top in the sky:
 man - y mil - lions by faith now are climb - ing it still:
 man - y pro - phets and mar - tyrs have trod it be - fore:
 Who would not want to climb such a lad - der as this:

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia to Je - sus, who died on the tree



and has raised up a lad - der of mer - cy for me.



and has raised up a lad - der of mer - cy for me.

Words: English carol, ca. 18th cent. Music: *Jacob's Ladder*, English folk melody; harm. Jack Noble White (b. 1938). Copyright © 1971 Walton Music Corporation, International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

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



I will kin - dle my fire in the morn of the day, in the pres - ence of ho - ly
an - gels. With - out mal - ice or jeal - ous - y, en - vy or fear, with - out
ter - ror of an - y - one un - der the sun, but the Ho - ly Be - lov - ed to shield me.
O Ho - ly one, kin - dle thou here in my heart, a flame of pure love to my
neigh - bor, to my foe, to my friend, to my kin - dred all, to the
brave, to the knave, to the thrall. O child of the love - li - est Ma - ry, from the
low - li - est thing, to the Ho - ly Name, the be - lov - ed of all.

Words: *Carmina Gadelica*, alt.

Music: Mary Truly Ermev © 1998 St. Hildegard's Community. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE (*chanted in unison*)

Psalms 139: 1-11, 22-23

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and | **known me**; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from a|**far**.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my | **resting-places** *
and are acquainted with all my | **ways**.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my | **lips**, *
but you, O Lord, know it alto|**gether**.

- 4 You press upon me behind and be|fore *
and lay your hand u|pon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too | wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot at|tain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your | Spirit? *
where can I flee from your | presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are | there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there | also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the | morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the | sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will | lead me *
and your right hand hold me | fast.
- 22 Search me out, O God, and know my | heart; *
try me and know my restless | thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness | in me *
and lead me in the way that is ever|lasting.

THE EPISTLE

Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<i>Reader</i>	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ALLELUIA



Words and Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker (b.1947) © 1985 OCP Publications

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

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

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

THE SERMON.....*The Rev. Susan Auchincloss*

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

Following each petition, the people sing in response

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains two identical phrases of the response: "Lord, hear our prayer." Each phrase is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The second staff contains a longer phrase: "Lord, in your mer - cy, Lord, hear our prayer." This phrase is also written on a single staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Text and Music: Liam Lawton, b. 1959; © 1995

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

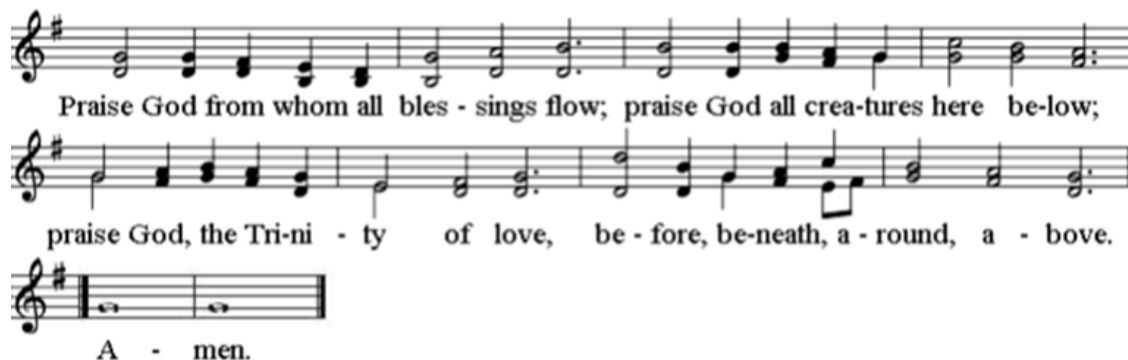
Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (*led by choir*)

We are climbing Jacob's ladder (3x), we are climbing on.
Ev'ry round goes higher, higher (3x), we are climbing on.
If I stumble, will you help me? (3x) We are climbing on.
Though the road is steep and rugged (3x), we are climbing on.

DOXOLOGY (*sung in unison*)



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 (*Enriching Our Worship*, Prayer 2)

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.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

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.

Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Blessed Mary the God-bearer, Blessed Gregory our patron, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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

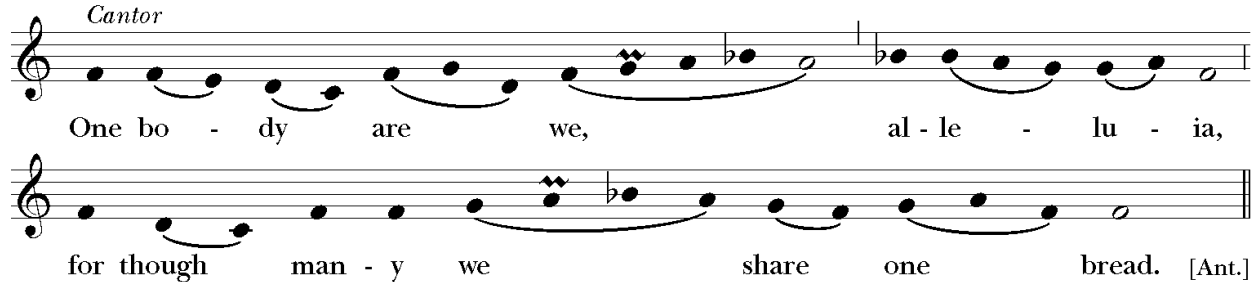
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A brief silence follows. All then joining in singing

Antiphon: Cantor; then All



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.]

Music: Mode 6 melody; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

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.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

Sure - ly the pres-ence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel God's might-y pow-er and grace.

I can hear the brush of an - gels' wings,

I see glo - ry on each face; sure - ly the

pres - ence of the Lord is in this place.

WORDS: Lanny Wolfe, 1977

MUSIC: Lanny Wolfe, 1977

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WOLFE
11 11.9 7 12

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 (*see following page*)



1. Christ, faith - ful Sow - er, scat - ter - ing the good seed,
2. Where ston - y ha - tred makes the heart's soil bar - ren,
3. Teach us dis - cern - ment as the quick - ened seeds sprout,
4. Gird us with pa - tience when no har - vest ri - pens,

God's word of prom - ise, full of truth and grace:
may we sow love that roots in hid - den earth;
when weeds and good plants have to - geth - er grown,
lest we de - spair and think our la - bors vain;

give us, your peo - ple, cour - age, strength, and wis - dom,
where thorns of doubt, de - spair, and dis - cord threat - en,
to tell temp - ta - tions from the worth they mim - ic,
though it seem slow, your word of life will pros - per:

that we may serve you in this time and place.
help us bring faith, new hope, and peace to birth.
to seek your pur - pose rath - er than our own.
seed - time at length will yield a - bund - ant grain.

WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr.
MUSIC: Frederick G. Russell

LOMBARD STREET
11.10.11.10.

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!