

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 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.

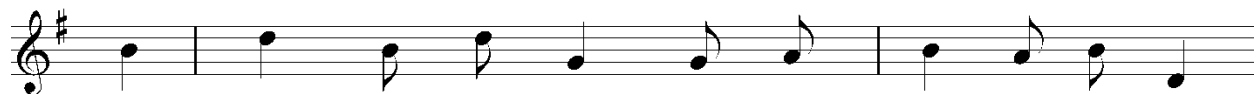
PROCESSIONAL HYMN.....*The Hymnal 1982, #636*



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,



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."



Words: K. in John Rippon's *Selection*, 1787, alt. Music: *Foundation*, melody from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. Calvin Hampton (1938-1984); alt. acc. Eugene W. Hancock (b. 1929).

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 Erney © 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.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE (*chanted in unison*)

Psalm 124

- 1 If the Lord had not been on our | **side**, *
let Israel now | **say**;
- 2 If the Lord had not been on our | **side**, *
when enemies rose up a|**gainst us**;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up a|**live** *
in their fierce anger | **toward us**;
- 4 Then would the waters have over|**whelmed us** *
and the torrent gone | **over us**;
- 5 Then would the raging | **waters** *
have gone right | **over us**.
- 6 Blessed be the | **Holy One**! *
who has not given us over to be a prey for their | **teeth**.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the | **fowler**; *
the snare is broken, and we have es|**caped**.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the | **Lord**, *
the maker of heaven and | **earth**.

THE EPISTLE

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

<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 16:13-20

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

People **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **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

Following each petition, the people sing in response



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.

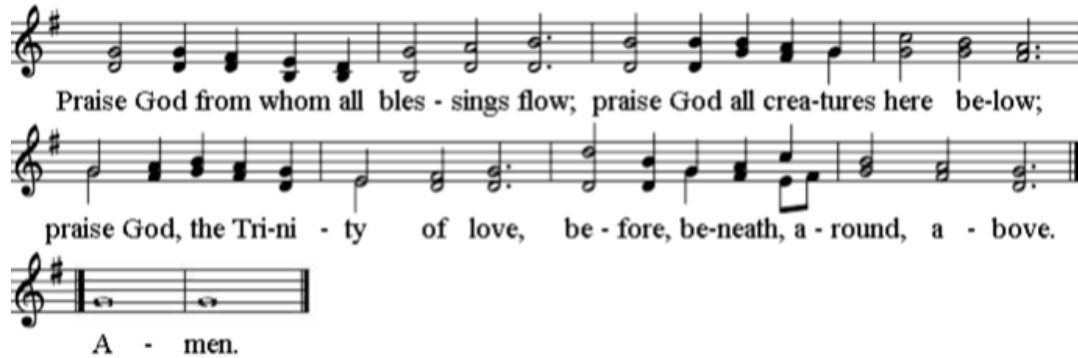
THE PEACE

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 *(sung by choir)*

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

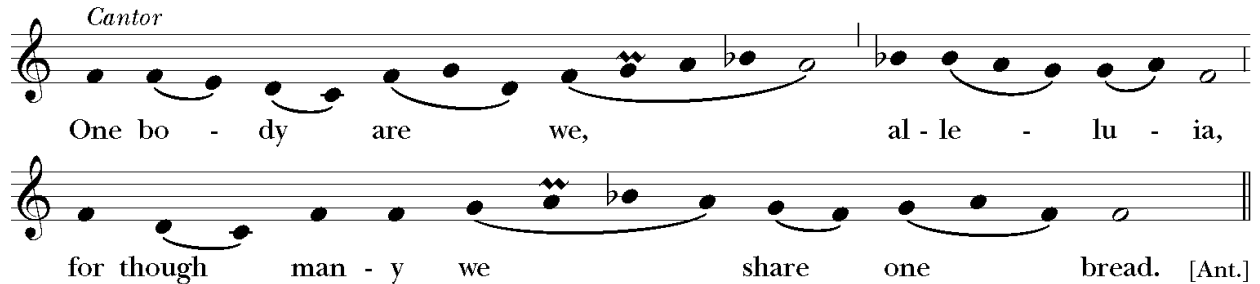
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A brief silence follows. All then joining in singing

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.

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.....*The Hymnal 1982, #665*



1. All my hope on God is found - ed who doth still my
2. Mor - tal pride and earth - ly glor - y, sword and crown be -
3. God's great good - ness e'er en - dur - eth, deep in wis - dom,
4. Dai - ly doth the al - might - y giv - er bount - eous gifts on
5. Still from earth to God e - tern - al sac - ri - fice of



trust re - new. Me through change and chance thou guid - eth on - ly
tray our trust; though with care and toil we build them, tower and
pass - ing thought: splen - dour, light, and life at - tend thee, beau - ty
us be - stow; thy de - sire our soul de - light - eth, pleas - ure
praise be done, high a - bove all prais - es prais - ing for the



good and on - ly true. God un - known, thou a - lone, call my
tem - ple fall to dust. But God's power hour by hour is my
spring - eth out of naught; ev - er - more from thy store new - born
leads us where to go, love doth stand at thy hand; joy doth
gift of Christ the Son. Christ doth call one and all: ye who



heart to be thine own.
tem - ple and my tower.
worlds rise and a dore.
wait on thy com - mand.
foll - low shall not fall.

Robert Bridges

Herbert Howells

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