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*Our Mission is Growing Disciples of Jesus Christ*

**The Liturgy of the Word**

Opening Voluntary

Prelude On Holy Manna

David Lasky

Opening Hymn 546

Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve

Acclamation *(also on page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer)*

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

**People:** And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.**

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his  
 peo - ple on earth. Lord God, Hea - ven - ly King, Al - might - y God and  
 16 Fath - er, We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your  
 24 *p* glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
 32 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 40 on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our  
 48 prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, *crescendo*  
 57 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, *ff* with the Ho - ly Spi -  
 66 rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

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

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The Old Testament Lesson: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22**

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me~ that is my petition~ and the lives of my people~ that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
**People**            **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 124** (*said responsively by half verse*)

If the Lord had not been on our side, \*  
    **let Israel now say;**

If the Lord had not been on our side, \*  
    **when enemies rose up against us;**

Then would they have swallowed us up alive \*  
    **in their fierce anger toward us;**

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \*  
    **and the torrent gone over us;**

Then would the raging waters \*  
    **have gone right over us.**

Blessed be the Lord! \*  
    **he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of  
    the fowler; \*  
    **the snare is broken, and we have escaped.**

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, \*  
    **the maker of heaven and earth.**

## **The New Testament Lesson: James 5:13-20**

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel Hymn 635    If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee**

**Gospel**            **Mark 9:38-50**

*Reader:*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

*Reader:*            The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon, Dr. Brandon Dasinger**

The Nicene Creed *(on page 358 in the Book of Common Prayer)*

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 *(please kneel as you are able)*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for Rob and Don our Bishops, Tom and Nathan, our priests, and we pray for all bishops, priests and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for our nation and its people

**That we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will.**

We pray for Joseph, our President and Brian, our Governor, and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble,

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest,

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and for those of others. *(please add your prayers)*

We thank you, Lord, for the blessings of this life. *(please add your thanksgivings)*

*The priest adds a concluding Collect.*

The Confession

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 Absolution

### The Exchange of the Peace of Jesus Christ

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*People* And also with you!

## The Liturgy of the Table

*The congregation offers to God gifts of bread and wine, as well as gifts of money and music.*

### The Offertory Music Invitation to the Table

F. P. Green/A. C. Lovelace

**Presentation (5:30)** All things come from you, O Lord  
And from your own have we given to you. Amen

### Presentation Hymn: (8 & 10:30) Doxology (Lasst Uns Erfreuen)

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

### The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A (page 361 in the Book of Common Prayer)

*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.

*People:* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly. ho - ly. ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en 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.

*The people remain standing (as you are able). The Celebrant continues. (in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 362)*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

***Celebrant & People:*** Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

*The people respond: AMEN!*

### The Lord's Prayer

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

Saturday (5:30) Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia

### Fraction Anthem S-155 (8am & 10:30am)

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is  
sac - ri - ficed for us; There-fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## The Communion

All are welcome at the table either to receive the blessing of the church if you are not baptized (please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest), or to share in communion with Christ and his church if you are a baptized Christian of any age or any denomination. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

If you would like prayer for yourself or others, come to the side altar where trained intercessors will pray for you.

## Communion Music

Hymn 343

WLP 761

Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1. All who hun - ger gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na  
2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers, seek - er, be a  
3. All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is



is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring.  
wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.  
liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing.



Here in truth we will be fed. You that yearn for  
Here, in joy we keep the feast. We that once were  
Here, in peace, we have been fed. Blest are those who



days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.  
lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.  
from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.



Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see that God is good.

Eucharistic Visitor Blessing

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. Go with the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation to our sisters and brothers who cannot be with us in this place, bringing refreshment to those who are weary, and all for God's glory in the Communion of Saints. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer (*Book of Common Prayer, page 366*)

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn 448 O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love & serve the Lord

*People* Thanks be to God!

Closing Voluntary Andante

John Stanley

**Thank you for worshipping with us!**



# PRAYER



*the Episcopal Church of*  
**St. Peter  
& St. Paul**

## TUESDAY PRAYER

Join us every Tuesday at 2 p.m. as we pray for the needs and concerns of our Parish. **We will also be praying for individuals during prayer time.**

We will meet in the north side alter of the sanctuary.

Please contact **Camie Schade** if you have any questions.

## MORNING PRAYER

Morning Prayer is held every Monday at 7a.m in the Garden Room followed by Bible study on the passage of the day. In person or by Zoom.

## EVENING PRAYER

Join us for Thursday Evening Prayer September 19th and running each Thursday until October 24th. This 30-minute service will begin at 7:00 p.m., held in the Creation Chapel and led by Vestry members.

## HEALING SERVICE

**October 2nd, 11:30 a.m** -In a world full of struggle and pain, the church is called to be a part of Jesus' ministry of healing. At Saint Peter and Saint Paul, we offer a healing service each month where we come together to pray for those who need healing.

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Provided at 5:30 p.m. Saturday services and 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday services in the North Transept. One on one prayers after receiving communion.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members specifically trained to provide non-judgmental, confidential, one-to-one care for those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation.

## LECTIO DIVINA

Learn to listen for the voice of God in the words of Scripture, in prayer, in silence, and in community. We will gather to learn an ancient spiritual practice based on Lectio Divina (Holy Reading). Using the ears of our hearts, we will read selected Scripture, meditate, and reflect on how the Holy Spirit is speaking to us individually in the present moment. Don't miss this opportunity to Find God at Home. Contact: Amy Stillwell.



# GOD'S BLESSINGS

# OUR REFLECTION

At the end of every calendar year, Stuart and I receive a report that shows by Pie Chart, where we spend our money with a credit card. It's very helpful for letting us know how we are doing with our budget and where our money is going.

Now, a recent software upgrade to my cell phone shows me on a weekly basis the amount of time I spend on various apps and games that I enjoy. I was shocked to see how many hours I spend playing Words with Friends, my favorite.

This reminded me of a woman I enjoyed speaking with on a plane trip years ago. She told me she spent all day every Sunday doing volunteer work at her church. Wow! When I expressed my surprise, she reminded me that the Bible tells us to tithe our talent, treasure, and time. I have always volunteered for various ministries at church, but I had never calculated how much time I was giving. It never occurred to me.

When I thought of Stewardship, I always thought in terms of money. But there is value in the time we give as well. The Bible also tells us we will receive ten-fold for what we give. That is certainly true for me. By working with many of you I have been blessed with your friendship, your encouragement, your wisdom, and your love. What a blessing you are to me! What a loss it would have been had I never had the chance to get to know you by working with you.

The ministries where I have served have appealed to me because of an interest I have and maybe a little talent. But mostly, I have stayed with them because of the friendships I have made. When you are not there, I miss you. I believe this connection is how I sense God in my life. So, is it a burden to volunteer at church? Not for me. It's God's blessing to me.

Anne Wright



## PLANNED GIVING

As mentioned previously in the Enews and bulletin, when we make a provision in our will to remember the church, we call these financial provisions "planned giving" because they involve a method for distributing assets in the future.

People who make arrangements in their wills to benefit St. Peter and St. Paul become members of our legacy society, The Arches Society. Members of The

Arches Society will be recognized (if you so choose-otherwise you may give anonymously) and included in special events and communications to honor its members for their generosity.

Planned giving is an act of stewardship showing our love for Jesus Christ and all that He has generously given to us. Most often, these gifts are made through provisions for St. Peter & St. Paul in the estate of a person or a family and are gifts to our endowment to be used in the future for our mission of Growing Disciples of Jesus Christ.

Anyone can make a planned gift and all are equally welcomed. Planned gifts can be in any dollar amount or a percentage of assets. They can be as simple as naming St. Peter & St. Paul as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or can include many other types of financial arrangements. If you have remembered St. Peter and St. Paul in your will, we would love to know so you can be included as a keystone member of The Arches Society.

If you would like more information about how you can become a keystone member of The Arches Society, or if you would like to know how to make a planned gift, please feel free to contact JoAnn Gotschall at [tjgotschall@comcast.net](mailto:tjgotschall@comcast.net) or 678-232-1892. Over the next several months you will be hearing about ways to acknowledge our love and gratefulness to God through planned giving in all the ways He has blessed us.

## Events & Announcements for the Week of September 29

**Stewardship Packets** have been mailed to all parishioners, and we encourage you to have your pledge returned on or before October 27, 2024. Pledges can be submitted online at <https://bit.ly/sppledge25>, in person with our Financial Administrator, Charlene Smith, or by mailing in your pledge card. The financial and spiritual support of our parish's mission is faithfully provided for by your generosity!

**Blessing of the Animals** - Join us in the Memorial Garden Sunday, October 6, at 4pm for the annual Blessing of the Animals service, commemorating the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi who was known for his love of animals and the gift of God's creation given to our care. Bring your pet or a photo of your pet to receive a blessing and a treat!

**Firepit Fridays!** - Join us after dinner (or bring it with you!) fireside at 6:30 p.m. Starting Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> for S'Mores & fellowship! The location is at the firepit by the pavilion at St. Peter & St. Paul.

**Trunk or Treat** - Coming to a parking lot near you! Save the date for October 27<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm. Last year was a HUGE outreach success! We need cars to meet our goal of at least 30!! Register your 'Trunk Team' at [www.peterandpaul.org/trunktreat](http://www.peterandpaul.org/trunktreat). Invite your friends! If you can't make it, please consider donating candy!

**Congratulations to Judy Alexander!** Judy is retiring from her service in our Nursery after 41 years of caring for our children. Join us for a special reception for Judy after the 10:30 service today in the Parish Hall.

### *Our Mission is Growing Disciples of Jesus Christ.*

God has a vision for us as a Christian Community, empowered by the Holy Spirit, active in:

#### Worship of God

**Tuesday Prayer in the Sanctuary** - Join us every Tuesday at 2pm as we pray for the needs and concerns of our Parish. We will meet in the north side altar of the sanctuary. Please contact Camie Schade if you have any questions.

**Evening Prayer** - Join us for Thursday Evening Prayer October 3rd and running each Thursday until October 24th. This 30-minute service will begin at 7:00 p.m., held in the Creation Chapel and led by Vestry members. The service will be followed by fellowship and refreshments.

**Nametags** - Let's all please wear our nametags as we welcome The Rev. Nathan Webb and his wife, Kristiane and son, Theo. If you don't have a pre-made nametag, there will be single use tags available in the Narthex. If you cannot find your nametag, please contact Greg Went in the church office.

#### Discipleship for All Ages

**Domestic Monastery: Parent Seminar** - October 20<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM in the Garden Room. A monastery is a place set apart where monks and nuns create rhythms and practices as a way of growing closer to Christ and to one another. What would it look like to see our homes and families as a place where we can be formed in the image of Christ? In this seminar, we will look at some ways we can create a spiritual life in the home. Lead by Dr. Brandon Dasinger

**Holy Living, Holy Dying: A Future Planning Workshop.** Please join us for an encore presentation of this important information during four October lunch sessions. Presented by Father Tom and guest specialists, information to be discussed will include funeral and estate planning, advance directives, hospice, and other considerations for ourselves and our families. The workshop will be held in Creation Chapel for four Wednesdays in October (October 9, October 16, October 23, and October 30) from 12:00-1:45 in order to include those who work remotely and those who are home during the day. Lunch will be provided by Justin Streeter and Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. It is strongly encouraged that you attend all four sessions. Register for your sessions today at : <https://bit.ly/holyliving24>

#### Serving Christ in the World

**St. Jude International Festival** - Mark your calendar for the 2024 International Festival at St. Jude Episcopal Church in Marietta on October 13th. Drop in from 12-5pm to enjoy wonderful food from the Caribbean, many areas of Africa, and the Americas!



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Clergy & Musician  
The Rev. Thomas C. Pumphrey, Rector  
George Chesnut, Director of Music