



PROPER 17

A Eucharistic Liturgy for the Thirteenth Week after Pentecost

August 30, 2020
All Saints' Episcopal Church
Saugatuck, Michigan

God seeks the full thriving of God's creation and the full flourishing of all God's creatures. The Christian Church participates in that divine work as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love.¹ The core purpose of **All Saints' Episcopal Church**, therefore, is to receive and share the power of God's love to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

To find out more about the mission and ministry of All Saints, find us on the Web (www.saugatuckallsaints.org). Contact us with questions or to sign up for our twice-weekly E-news Bulletin (we never share your contact information!) by sending an email to allsaintswmich@gmail.com or by calling us at (269) 857-5201.

¹ From the Catechism of *The Book of Common Prayer* (p. 855).

WELCOME!

The work of the Church continues during the coronavirus pandemic even though we are not gathering inside our physical sanctuary for worship. We invite your participation from home in this Eucharistic liturgy during this season of the Church year after **Pentecost**, often referred to as “ordinary time,” a season of ordering our lives according to the faith, hope, and love of all the other seasons. We will continue this pattern of Eucharistic liturgy in the sanctuary for August as we assess how to ensure our safety while also engaging effectively in our shared life of worship. We welcome everyone’s feedback as we continue to explore how to enrich our lives of prayer and service.

The Word of God

✦ Gathering

An organ prelude invites a time of preparation for worship.

Presider 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 following hymn of praise is sung:

“Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise” (Hymnal 1982, #423, verses 1-2)

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

✦ Collect of the Day and Readings from Scripture

Presider May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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 3:1-15 (reader: Christi Allen)

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A portion from the Psalms or other Canticle

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45C

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 23 Israel came into Egypt, *
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- 24 The LORD made his people exceedingly fruitful; *
he made them stronger than their enemies;
- 25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, *
and dealt unjustly with his servants.
- 26 He sent Moses his servant, *
and Aaron whom he had chosen.
- 45 Hallelujah!

☞ **The Second Reading**

Romans 12:9-21 (reader: Christi Allen)

Reader Here ends the reading.

People **We give thanks for God's word.**

☞ **The Gospel**

Matthew 16:21-28 (Deacon Francis)

The Deacon says

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel reading, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, O Lord Christ.

☞ **The Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Jay Emerson Johnson

✦ **The Nicene Creed**

Presider and People together

**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.**

✦ **Prayers of the People**

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who
are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the
needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Whayne our Bishop; and
for the Standing Committee of this diocese and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in
your eternal kingdom.
Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider offers words of absolution

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.**

✦ **Announcements**

The Holy Communion

*Honoring both the restrictions outlined by Governor Whitmer concerning public gatherings and the guidance of our own bishop in this diocese for the sake of public health and safety, we are not sharing the physical elements of the Eucharist (the bread and wine). We are, however, consecrating these elements at the Table on Grand Street as a way to visualize the blessing of God's own self-offering to us in the body and blood of Christ. We invite your responses to the Eucharistic prayer and to pray with us for the rich blessings of **spiritual communion** until we are able to gather in person again.*

✦ The Offertory

*The Deacon sets the table while the following hymn is sung:
"Take My Life and Let it Be" (Hymnal 1982, #707, verse 1)*

1 Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise.
Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

✦ The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Presider continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:

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

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 faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

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. *Amen.*

✦ **The Lord's Prayer**

The Presider

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

The 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 Breaking of the Bread**

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

✦ **The Invitation to Holy Communion**

Even though we are not consuming the physical elements of the Eucharist, we do affirm its blessings for a “spiritual communion.” A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but because of particular circumstances they are prevented from actually receiving Holy Communion.

☞ **A Prayer for Spiritual Communion²**

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

✦ **A Blessing and Dismissal**

The Presider
Live without fear:
Your creator has made you holy,
has always protected you,

² A prayer attributed to St. Alphonsus de Liguori from the 18th century.

and loves you as a mother.
Go in peace to follow the good road,
and the blessing of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always.³
Amen.

The following hymn is sung

“Take Up Your Cross” (Hymnal 1982, #675, verses 1-2, 4)

1 "Take up your cross," the Savior said,
"if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart,
and humbly follow after me."

2 Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,
and calmly ev'ry danger brave:
it guides you to abundant life
and leads to vict'ry o'er the grave.

The Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
People Thanks be to God!

An organ postlude sends the Assembly into the world for service.

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Commended by the church-wide leadership of The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

³ A blessing attributed to St. Clare, companion of St. Francis.

