



The Reverend Bob Farrow, Priest in Charge
Kevin Anderson, Music Director

The 17th Sunday After Pentecost

September 20, 2026

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Please be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is a house of prayer for all people.

PRELUDE

All stand as able and sing.

PROCESSIONAL | Hymnal 690

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
Cwm Rhondda

See insert.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. 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.**

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of the lessons.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON | Jonah 3:10-4:11

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very

happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

Lector: The word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM | Psalm 145:1-8



© 1956. Jerome Webster Meachen

The Psalm will be chanted by Kevin Anderson. You're welcome to join in. If you don't read music, the note changes on the italicized words.

1 I will exalt you, O God my *King*, * and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless *you* * and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be *praised*; * there is no end to his *greatness*.

4 One generation shall praise your works to *another* * and shall declare your *power*.

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your *majesty* * and all your marvelous *works*.

6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous *acts*, * and I will tell of your *greatness*.

7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great *goodness*; * they shall sing of your righteous *deeds*.

8 The Lord is gracious and full of *compassion*, * slow to anger and of great *kindness*.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE | Philippians 1:21-30

Lector: A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able and sing.

SEQUENCE HYMN |
See insert

All who hunger gather gladly *Holy Manna*
From *Wonder, Love and Praise* hymnal supplement

THE GOSPEL | Matthew 20:1-16

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

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated for the message.

THE MESSAGE

Rev. John Ray, Deacon

All stand as able.

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
for the 17th Sunday After Pentecost

From *Planning for Rites & Rituals, Year A: A Resource
for Episcopal Worship*

Please kneel or stand as you are able. The Intercessor and People pray responsively.

Sisters and brothers, turn for help to the Lord your strength and constantly seek God's presence. Let us pray to our generous God, saying, "Lead us with gladness, O God; cover us with shouts of joy!"

Generous God, you have chosen us to do the work of your kingdom; you have called us to labor in your vineyard. With grateful hearts, we offer to you the best of what we have. Lead us with gladness, O God,

Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, you hear the cry of the hungry. Give bread to all those who face starvation. Use us, as you will, to relieve suffering in our world. Lead us with gladness, O God,

Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, you make rivers run in dry places. You have blessed this earth with bountiful resources. Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Lead us with gladness, O God,

Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, you bring hope to the hopeless. Grant your mercy on the members of our diocesan family currently held in immigration detention and their families, and on the children held in detention across our nation. We pray for their release and for the restoration of humane and ethical immigration enforcement. Lead us with gladness, O God,

Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, there is enough kingdom work for everyone. Give us eyes to see the opportunities in our neighborhood. Guide us that we may live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Lead us with gladness, O God,

Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, you hear the cries of the desperate. Marvelous are your works, O God. May the sick and suffering rejoice in you. May the sorrowful call upon your name. Especially we lift up Renner, Linda, Nonie, Michael, Scott, David, and Hollis. Lead us with gladness, O God,

Cover us with shouts of joy!

Generous God, living is Christ and dying is gain. May those who now rest from their labors find their comfort in you. Let light perpetual shine upon them. Lead us with gladness, O God,

Cover us with shouts of joy!

CONCLUDING PRAYER

All this we ask in the name of your embodied love, Jesus the Christ, our only strength and advocate, who lives and reigns with your and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Together

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.

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 the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CELEBRATIONS

OFFERTORY HYMN | Booklet 19

Heavenly Sunlight

THE DOXOLOGY | *Old 100th*

Please stand as you are able for the presentation of the offering.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

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 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.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord

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. _____

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

The people stand or kneel as able.

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:

Together

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. 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

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -

deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my

flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them. My

flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

Setting: Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950)

THE SHARING OF BREAD AND WINE

Celebrant:

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All people are invited to receive Communion. The ushers will come stand by your pew, at which time you may go kneel or stand at the railing. If you do not wish to receive, please cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. If you have mobility challenges and need communion brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know. Gluten-free wafers are available.

COMMUNION HYMN

King of glory, King of Peace *General Seminary*

The hymn will be performed by Kevin Anderson.

BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

RECESSIONAL | Hymnal 541

Come, labor on *Ora Labora*

DISMISSAL

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

**Please come to the Gathering Room for coffee and fellowship,
and to greet Rev. John Ray.**

St. Nicholas' mission is to actively share Christ's love for all people.

Our vision is to strive to be a welcoming community who worships a caring and merciful God, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Your prayers are asked for Renner Loney, Linda Wilson-Sterling at Christian Valley Church, Nonie Bueche, Michael Davis, Scott Jarrette, David Mullins, and Hollis Hale. Continuing prayers and loving thoughts for those who have ongoing needs and struggles: Liz Dixon, Hudson Garrett, and Mary Butcher.

We pray for wisdom for those in authority, for guidance for those who feel called to action, and for safety and peace for those who feel fear in these times. We continue to pray for all those in need within our community and those in the world who have suffered due to war and natural disaster.

VESTRY

Drucye Cox, *Senior Warden*
Linda Pace, *Junior Warden*
Sheri Cody, Kathy McMurtry,
and Steve Morse
Alex Garrett, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Jim Gilliam, *Treasurer*

SERVING THIS WEEK

Lector: John Brent
Ushers: William Morgan & Steve Morse
Virtual Ministers: Katherine Johnson
Eucharistic Minister: Drucye Cox
Crucifer: Martha Dimon
Flowers: Margaret Zachry

UPCOMING IN THE PARISH

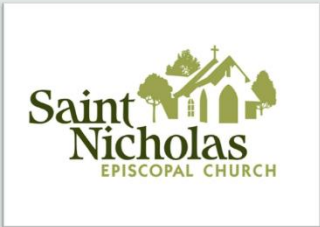
SEP 20: Vestry meeting
SEP 23-29: Erin Vacation (office closed)
SEP 30: Game Day! 3:00 p.m.
OCT 4: 1st Sunday Brunch
Blessing of the Animals
OCT 17: Low Country Boil
OCT 22: Harris County Trunk-or-Treat

OCTOBER's **1st Sunday Brunch** does not have a host. Grab a friend and sign up in the narthex!

The St. Nicholas Book Club has chosen Alison Larkin's *The People We Keep* for their next selection. (From *GoodReads*) A lyrical coming-of-age novel about a young woman's journey through heartbreak, chosen family, self-discovery, and creative resilience in 1990s upstate New York. See your newsletter for more! The book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month after Evening Prayer at 5:00 p.m.



Get all the news: Use this QR code to go to the most recent newsletter!



Blessing of the Animals	
69 MOBLEY ROAD • HAMILTON, GA	OCTOBER 4, 2026 5:00 P.M.

LOW COUNTRY

LET THE GOOD TIMES



*Let the Good Times Boil
at St. Nicholas Church!*

**Good food. Live music. Family fun.
And the warmth of community spirit.**

Join us as we share stories, make new
friends, and come together to raise
funds for St. Nicholas!

\$65 per adult.

Low Country Boil Buffet Dinner

Saturday, October 17

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church (outdoors)

69 Mobley Road, Hamilton

5:00 Family Fun & Fellowship
Games for kids and big kids!
Live Music with Lee Daniel
50/50 Raffle

6:00 Dinner catered by Chef Chris
of J's Catch Market & Grill

Traditional Low Country Boil

Shrimp, Sausage, Corn on the Cob, and Seasoned Potatoes
or Pork Tenderloin, Corn on the Cob, and Seasoned Potatoes
Fresh, warm Beignets for dessert!
Tea and Lemonade. Cash bar.

\$5 Kids Plate: Hot dog, Chips, Fruit and Ice Cream



**Make your reservations online
at www.stnicholashamilton.org
or by phone: 706-587-3243
Reservation deadline: October 12**

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.

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993) © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: *Holy Manna*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835

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