



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

The 8th Sunday After Pentecost

July 19, 2026

Holy Eucharist Rite II

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

This morning we welcome our guest speaker, Malinda Shamburger, Executive Director of Chattahoochee Valley Episcopal Ministry (CVEM)

PRELUDE

All stand as able and sing.

PROCESSIONAL | *Ein feste Burg* A mighty fortress is our God

Hymnal 688
vv. 1-2

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 - might - y 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.

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.**

Please be seated for the reading of the lessons.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON | Isaiah 44:6-8

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

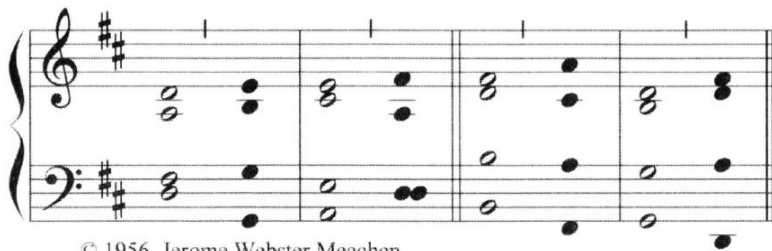
Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM | Psalm 86:11-17



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.

11 Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your *truth*; * knit my heart to you that I may fear your *Name*.

12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my *heart*, * and glorify your Name for *evermore*.

13 For great is your love toward *me*; * you have delivered me from the nethermost *Pit*.

14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men seeks my *life*; * they have not set you before their *eyes*.

15 But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of *compassion*, * slow to anger, and full of kindness and *truth*.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon *me*; * give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your *handmaid*.

17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be *ashamed*; * because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted *me*.

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 | Romans 8:12-25

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

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.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able and sing.

SEQUENCE HYMN | *East Acklam* For the fruit of all creation

Hymnal 424

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.**

Please be seated for the message.

THE MESSAGE

Malinda Shamburger, CVEM

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 8th Sunday After Pentecost

From *Hear Our Prayer: Prayers of the People for the
Revised Common Lectionary*

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

Almighty God, to know you is joy, to follow your will is true life; hear now our
prayers and respond that we might know and follow you more as we pray, "Hear
us, good Lord."

Inspire your church to be the wellspring of hope for all people; refine and perfect it so that we may be known only for our love.

Hear us, good Lord.

Come and dwell in the hearts of our leaders and those with authority in our lives; lead them to desire justice and peace that we might fully live into our liberty and be a beacon of hope to the world.

Hear us, good Lord.

Embolden us to be agents of your love in our community, that it might be a place of promise and possibility where all people might grow and thrive in the light of your grace.

Hear us, good Lord.

Enliven our minds that we might creatively, effectively, and sustainably respond to the crises we face, that we might build a way of life that more fully reflects the kingdom of God.

Hear us, good Lord.

We ask for 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.

Hear us, good Lord.

Mend what is broken, heal what is sick, comfort what is disturbed in our lives and in the lives of all who suffer, that we might know peace and vitality. Especially we pray for Charlotte, Bob, David, Woody, Sandra, and Armani.

Hear us, good Lord.

Welcome the dying into your love; allow us growth into your kingdom even in death, so that we and all whom we love might one day rise again in your eternal reign.

Hear us, good Lord.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

All this we ask through Christ, our example, our advocate, and our Lord, who stands over all creation and who abides with you and the Holy Spirit now and always. **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 | *Torah Song* Open your ears, O faithful people Hymnal 536

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

Hymnal S 129
See next page.

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.**

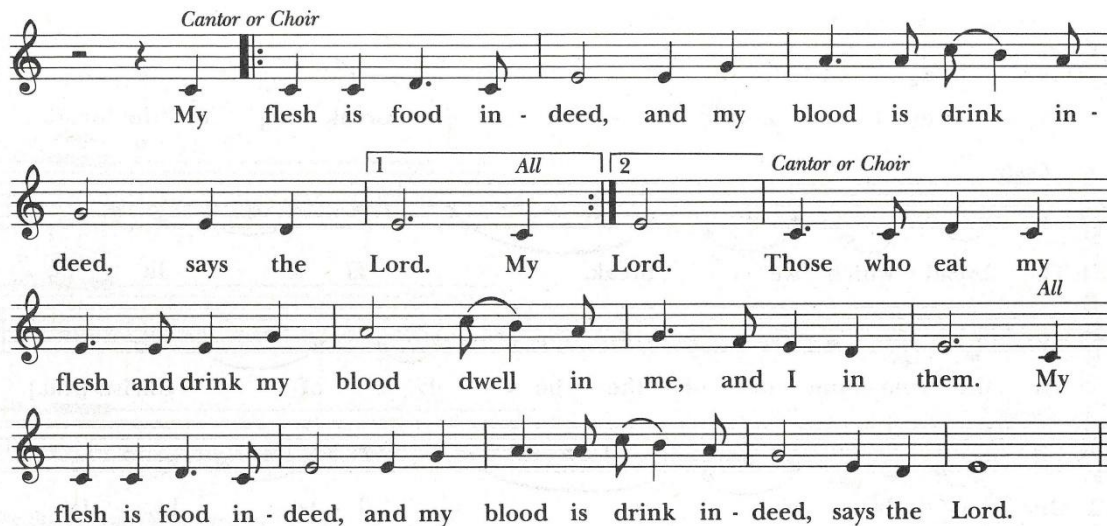
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

**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 -

1 *All* 2 *Cantor or Choir*

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

All

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)

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.

THE SHARING OF BREAD AND WINE

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 | Nearer my God to thee

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

Ein feste Burg A mighty fortress is our God

Hymnal 688

vv. 3-4

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 join us for coffee and fellowship in the Gathering Room,
to the left as you exit the nave.**

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 Charlotte Winsness, Rev. Bob Farrow, David Mullins, Rev. Woody Barnes, Sandra Carey, and Armani Butzon. Continued 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*

MINISTERS THIS WEEK

Lector: Margaret Zachry
Usher: John Brent
Virtual Ministers: Bob & Judy McCracken
Eucharistic Minister: Martha Dimon
Crucifer: Riley-Anne Johnson
Flowers: Margaret Zachry

UPCOMING IN THE PARISH

- JUL 20: The Vestry meets via Zoom at 7 pm (contact Erin for the link if you'd like to attend)
- JUL 26: Guest Speaker: Mr. Harold Tarpley, Lay Minister
- JUL 29: St. Nicholas Game Day! 3 p.m.
- AUG 2: Annual Parish Picnic at Blue Springs
Sign up to bring a side or dessert in the kitchen pass-through

Annual Parish Picnic August 2

Our tradition continues with outdoor worship at the Callaway family's Blue Springs on Sunday, August 2 at 10 a.m., followed by a covered-dish picnic. There is a food sign-up sheet on the kitchen pass-through for sides and desserts. It is fine to bring

friends, swimsuits and towels! On the off-chance that it is raining Sunday morning, the service will move back to the church.

Rector’s Discretionary Fund is Dry – This fund is one of the ways we share the love of Christ by assisting our Harris County neighbors with rent and utilities. Demand is always high – we have helped almost 40 households this year alone. If you feel so moved, please drop a few dollars in the plate to rehydrate the well!

The **St. Nicholas Book Club** chose *Oh, William!* by Elizabeth Strout for their next read. See details in your current newsletter. The Book Club meets August 5 after Evening Prayer at 5:00 p.m.

Get all the news: Use this QR code to access the weekly newsletter.



Look what we did!

We got to \$73,761!

Isn’t St. Nicholas *amazing*?

We have already received almost 75% of pledged funds and we have used it to begin paying down our debt – the sooner we pay down the principal and the more we pay, the more interest we save over time. So if you were thinking of giving to this campaign but haven’t yet, it’s never too late and it’s always welcome.

Thanks to everyone who has given to this campaign to reduce our mortgage principal and free our pledge funds to do more meaningful work.