

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

The 17th Sunday After Pentecost

October 5, 2025

Holy Eucharist Rite II

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL Forest Green I sing the almighty power of God

Hymnal 398

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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.



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; 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 OLD TESTAMENT | Lamentations 1:1-6

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people!

How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations!

She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal.

She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies.

Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress.

The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter.

Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe.

From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty.

Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

Lector:

The word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 137 Super flumina

The Psalm is read responsively as indicated.

- 1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, when we remembered you, O Zion.
- 2 As for our harps, we hung them up on the trees in the midst of that land.
- 3 For those who led us away captive asked us for a song, and our oppressors called for mirth: "Sing us one of the songs of Zion."
- 4 How shall we sing the Lord's song upon an alien soil.
- 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its skill.
- 6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.
- 7 Remember the day of Jerusalem, O Lord, against the people of Edom, who said, "Down with it! down with it! even to the ground!"
- 8 O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, happy the one who pays you back for what you have done to us!
- 9 Happy shall he be who takes your little ones, and dashes them against the rock!

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

2 Timonthy 1:1-14

Lector: A reading from the second letter to Timothy.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus.

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God-- whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did-- when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN | Jesus! There's something about that name

See insert

We'll sing this through twice.

THE GOSPEL Luke 17:5-10

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated for the sermon.

THE SERMON Rev. Bob Farrow

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 *Proper 22*

from Planning for Rites and Rituals: A Resource for Episcopal Worship (Year C)

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

Dear Household of God, grace, mercy, and peace from God our Parent and Christ Jesus our Lord. Let us pray together, saying "Lord, you are our portion, therefore will we hope in you."

Give to your Church, O Lord, the strength to hold to sound teaching, the grace to treasure the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus, and the help of the Holy Spirit to please you in all things. Lord, you are our portion,

Therefore will we hope in you.

Liberate the nations and kingdoms of this world from the ways of violence and war. Have mercy on the victims of war- especially those who are considered collateral damage – and on those who perpetrate violence that they might be converted to the ways of love. Lord, you are our portion,

Therefore will we hope in you.

Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, O God. Bless the earth and its creatures. May we be good and worthy stewards. Lord, you are our portion,

Therefore will we hope in you.

Great Governor, you mercies are new every morning: We pray today for all those who are negatively affected by our political processes and partisan divisions. We pray that you would inspire our leaders to act selflessly and with generosity. Lord, you are our portion,

Therefore will we hope in you.

Everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more that we either desire or deserve: through your Son Jesus, comfort, heal, and deliver

your people, especially those we name now: Ashely, Katherine and Patricia. Lord, you are our portion,

Therefore will we hope in you.

Loving God, in your Christ you abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: bless the dying and the dead, and give to us all eternal life. Lord, you are our portion,

Therefore will we hope in you.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who gives us a spirit of love, hear our prayers for mercy and guard your people in time of trial; though Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CELEBRATIONS

October Birthdays: Bobo Morgan, Charles Norris, Judy McCracken, John Brent, Libby Horne, William Morgan, Liz Dixon, Suzy Eidson, and Liza Price.

October Anniversaries: Gene & Christie Wells, Bob & Judy McCracken, Mike & Linda Sawyer.

THE OFFERTORY

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

It's the first Sunday of the month! All cash in the offering plate (unless otherwise designated) will go to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. This fund is one of the ways we share the love of Christ for all people, by assisting our Harris County neighbors with rent and utilities — and the need has been great this year.

OFFERTORY HYMN | Sweet by and by

Booklet 72

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

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

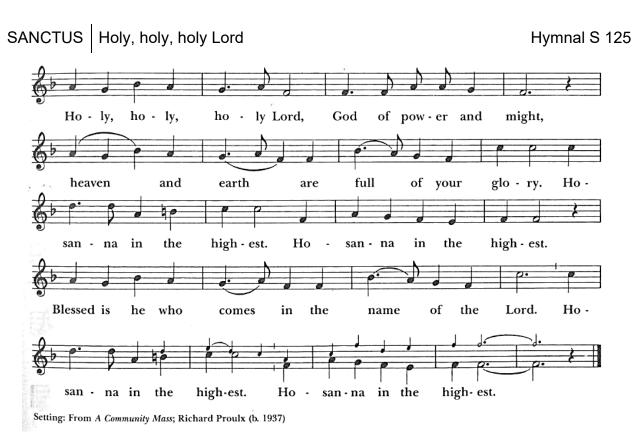
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

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:



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

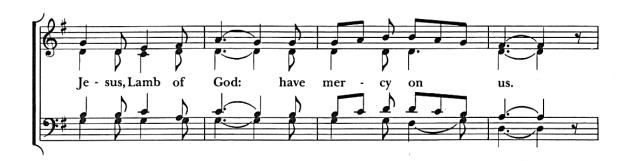
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

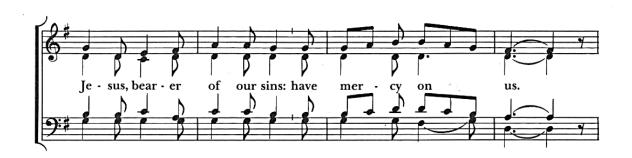
People:

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM | Agnus Dei Jesus, Lamb of God

Hymnal S 164









Setting: From Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

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

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

After taking communion, you are welcome to remain kneeling at the front of the church for special prayer and blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN Just when I need Him

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

Ora Labora Come, labor on

Hymnal 541

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 Ashley Patel, Katherine Johnson, and Patricia Striplin. Continued prayers and loving thoughts for our homebound congregants: Liz Dixon, Mike Sawyer, and Jewell Wells.

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

Rose Brent, Senior Warden
Martha Dimon, Junior Warden
Carolyn Cox, Sheri Cody,
Kathy McMurtry
Alex Garrett, Clerk of the Vestry
Jim Gilliam, Treasurer

MINISTERS THIS WEEK

Lector: Alex Garrett
Usher: Alex Garrett & Jim Gilliam
Virtual Ministers: William Morgan & Steve
Morse

Eucharistic Minister: Connie Blackmon Crucifer: Riley-Anne Johnson

UPCOMING IN THE PARISH

TODAY: First Sunday Brunch

Directory photos: See Lynn Hall

Directory Photo Days: If you no longer look like your directory photo – or if the toddlers posed with you are now starting college – see Lynn Hall after the service on October 5 and 26 to have a new picture made. If you are not in the directory and would like to be, or if you have lost your log-in information, contact Erin in the office.

A **Hospitality Committee** is being formed and needs members. This team will welcome visitors and coordinate Sunday coffee, 1st Sunday Brunch, and the Christmas meal, along with other special events. Contact Erin or Rose if you are interested in this ministry.

Do you feel called to serve your church at a deeper, more spiritual level? **Licensed Lay Eucharistic Ministry** may be what you're looking for. <u>Eucharistic Ministers</u> serve the members of the congregation who minister to their fellow congregants by

assisting the priest with Eucharist on Sunday morning. <u>Eucharistic Visitors</u> bring communion to homebound members of our church family. See Father Bob if you would like to explore this ministry.

Adult Formation: This fall there are a new Adult Formation opportunities. Adult Forum is held after the service and will be in The Gathering Room unless otherwise publicized.

OCTOBER 12: Confirmation Class Kickoff

How the class will meet – whether in-person or via Zoom, and what day and time, will be decided on this day

OCTOBER 19: Guest Speaker Paul Pierce of the Springer Opera House will talk abut his work with the Muscogee Indian Tribe.

NOVEMBER 9: Sainthood in the Episcopal Church

On **Sunday, October 19**, St. Nicholas will host guest speaker **Paul Pierce**, known for his many years as Artistic Director of the Springer Opera House in Columbus, Georgia. Mr. Pierce will deliver the homily: "Storytelling - The Eighth Sacrament." Following the service, Mr. Pierce will provide an Adult Formation class on his work with the Muskogee Indian tribe.

Our Parish Life team has reserved our spot at the **Harris County Truck & Treat** on October 23, 5-8 p.m. It's always a good time to go to the Ag Center and meet the youth of Harris County and hand out candy and goodies. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you'd like to attend.

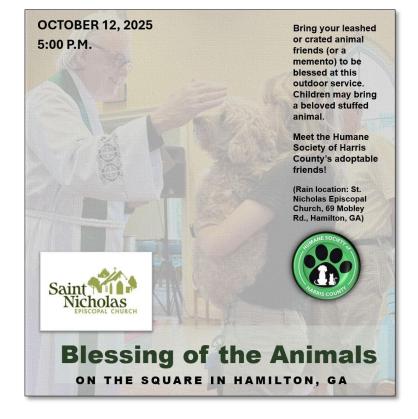
If you can't make it, donations of candy or other handouts are always welcome – bring them to Erin in the church office.



Words: Gloria (b. 1942) and William Gaither (b. 1936)

Music: William J. Gaither

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Sign up in the narthex to attend.

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