



The Reverend Bob Farrow, Priest in Charge
Kevin Anderson, Organist

The 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

November 16, 2025

Holy Eucharist Rite II

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL | *Munich* O Christ, the Word Incarnate

Hymnal 632

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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.**

GLORIA | Hymnal S 280

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.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 | Isaiah 65:17-25

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord -- and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent-- its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE | Cantic 9 *The First Song of Isaiah* Ecce Deus
The Cantic is read responsively as indicated.

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Lector: A reading from the second letter to the Thessalonians.

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN | *Gardiner* Where cross the crowded ways of life Hymnal 609

THE GOSPEL Luke 21:5019

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

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

See the insert for this week's Gospel Reading and Stewardship Reflection.

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated for the sermon.

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 28

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

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

Holy Lord, be among us, hear us, and fulfill the hope of our prayers as we say, "Lord
of all, To you we pray."

Bestow your grace upon your church and lend us your strength so that we might
boldly proclaim and live out the good news of Jesus Christ. Lord of all,

To you we pray.

Shower wisdom on those who hold authority in our lives, that they might seek to lead
through service to the greatest good. Lord of all,

To you we pray.

Embolden us to be the body of Christ in our local community, that our presence might be a pledge of our commitment to love our neighbors. Lord of all,

To you we pray.

Arouse in us the desire to protect and sustain your abundant creation, that our world may remain a place of wonder and sustenance for future generations. Lord of all,

To you we pray.

Bring your healing power to bear in the lives of all who endure illness or injury, that they may know peace; and arouse us to be people of care and reconciliation. Especially we pray for Kenny and his family, Joan, Steve, Carson, Debbie, Ryder, Katherine, and the grieving family of Jewel. Lord of all,

To you we pray.

Take into your loving arms all those who have died that they might grow in love and devotion to you and bring us once again into the presence of those we have loved in your eternal kingdom. Lord of all,

To you we pray.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Blessed Lord, you have longed for the turning of every human heart and have showed us in word and deed the path of promise that leads to you. Hear and answer our prayers that we might see more fully your kingdom and so that your glory might be reflected and magnified throughout the world. **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

THE OFFERTORY

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

OFFERTORY HYMN | We're marching to Zion

1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord, and thus surround the throne

Refrain:

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;

We're marching onward to Zion, that beautiful city of God.

2 Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;
but children of the heav'nly King may speak their joys abroad. *Refrain*

3 The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heav'nly fields, before we reach the heav'nly fields. *Refrain*

4 Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground to fairer worlds on high. *Refrain*

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.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

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

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first line of the musical score is written for piano. It consists of two staves, treble and bass, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us." The word "God:" is followed by a colon and a slight pause in the melody.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second line of the musical score continues the melody from the first line. It also consists of two staves, treble and bass, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us." The word "sins:" is followed by a colon and a slight pause in the melody.



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 | Steal Away

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 | *Moscow* Thou whose almighty word

Hymnal 371

DISMISSAL

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

Response: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Join us for coffee and fellowship in The Gathering Room, to the left as you exit the nave. Please join us!

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 Kenny Hall and his family, Joan Johnson, Steve Morse, Carson Martin, Debbie Potts, Ryder Hughes, Katherine Johnson, and the grieving

family and friends of Jewel Wells. Continued prayers and loving thoughts for our beloved homebound congregants: Liz Dixon, Mike Sawyer, and Patricia Collins.

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.

Rose Brent, Senior Warden, was awarded the Bishop’s Cross at Annual Council this past week. Bishop Wright instituted the bishop’s cross to acknowledge and celebrate the ministries of exemplary clergy, and lay people throughout the diocese. See your Thursday newsletter to read more about Rose and her service to St. Nicholas.

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: Sheri Cody
Ushers: Sheri Cody
Virtual Minister: Katherine Johnson
Eucharistic Minister: Connie Blackmon
Crucifer: Riley-Anne Johnson

UPCOMING IN THE PARISH

TODAY: The Vestry meets after the service

Confirmation Class continues

Week 3 – Scripture, Creeds, and Prayer

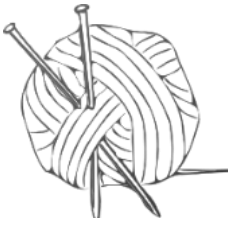
WED, NOV 19 6:00 p.m.

Theme: How we believe and live our faith

Week 4 – Mission, Ministry, and Confirmation

TBA

Theme: Living out our faith in the world



Cookies, Crafts, and Conversation – a new fellowship group will have its first meeting on Wednesday, **November 19** from 3:00 to 4:30. The church will provide coffee and tea and Erin will provide cookies. Bring your current handwork project (or not – the conversation is the best part!). We plan to meet third Wednesdays before Evening Prayer.

November 23: We will have a Share the Plate fundraiser on Christ the King Sunday to help with food insecurity in Harris County after interruptions in SNAP benefits. All cash (and checks designated for the purpose) in the offering plate will go to Pocket Change, a local food bank doing good work in our community. If you know of someone who needs immediate assistance, there is a list of local resources that can help on the bulletin board in the hall.

Advent begins November 30: Flowers & Music donation envelopes will go out November 30. This is a beautiful way to honor a loved one and ensure St. Nicholas has lovely flowers and special music for the holidays.

Adult Formation **December 14** after the service: "Being an Episcopalian."

It's Fall – Time to Recycle Those Shoes! October 1 – December 31, St. Nicholas will again participate in Keep Columbus Beautiful's Shoe Recycling drive. Bring any kind of shoes you're ready to get rid of. Rubberbanding them together is helpful, but condition does not matter. Those that can be worn will be sent to those who can use them; those that can't will be recycled – either way, they stay out of the landfill! Bin in the narthex.



Tell Out My Soul

Week 2

www.stnicholashamilton.org/stewardship-2026

THE GOSPEL | Luke 21:5-19

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

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

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE REFLECTION

by Connie Blackmon, Stewardship Chair

Luke's apocalyptic Gospel this week is even more intense than Mark's version of last year. These are Jesus' last words to his disciples prior to the Passion. They serve as a prophetic warning—hard words about what is ahead for the apostles and for early Christians as well as for the temple where they are standing.

When Luke wrote this Gospel, people following Jesus had already been arrested, persecuted, and handed over to prisons. The witness of the martyrs had already begun to rival and surpass the power of the temple, destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D.

The world still faces wars, disorder and devastation. There is likely no such thing as getting through unscathed. The question is how people of faith will respond and where we will find our refuge. We find our refuge in the enduring, loving presence of God and his son Jesus Christ. "By your endurance you will gain your souls." (Luke 21: 19.)

Through our collective stewardship, we do our part to endure -- by sustaining the ministries of St. Nicholas and helping to spread this Good News.

STEWARDSHIP FAQ OF THE DAY

by Erin Renfroe, Stewardship Team

Q: I don't know how much of a financial commitment to make. St. Nicholas is dear to me and I believe in our mission, but sometimes my income can be unpredictable.

A: Despite what we all learned about the necessity of "tithing" (10%) how much you pledge is something for you to prayerfully consider along with all of your household's giving. It should be an amount that makes you feel good about playing your part in the work of St. Nicholas, but which won't create an unmanageable burden on your budget. Every commitment, no matter how small, is valuable to the church and its mission; but especially one made during budgeting season. And know that if your financial circumstances change during the year, just communicate with the Parish Administrator or the Treasurer about your needs.