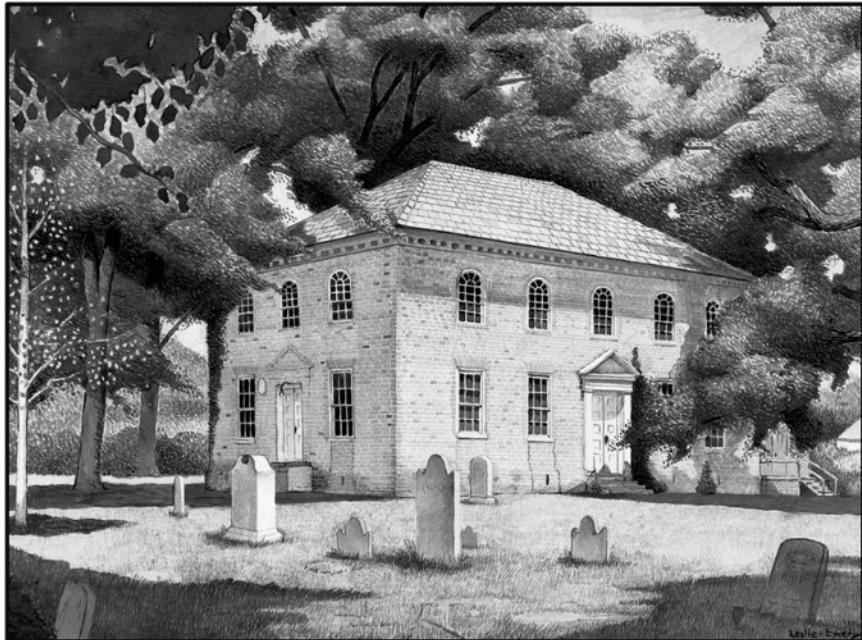


# THE FALLS CHURCH

*an Episcopal congregation*

*A welcoming community called to be an enduring  
beacon of faith, hope, and love to all.*



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 20, 2023

## Prelude

## THE WORD OF GOD

*The people stand.*

**Opening Hymn 470**

There's a wideness in God's mercy

*Beecher*

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant*      Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People*      **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

*Celebrant*

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**

Glory to God in the Highest

Alfred V. Fedak  
(b. 1953)

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al -  
migh - ty God\_ and Fath - er, we wor-ship you, we give you\_ thanks, we  
praise you for\_ your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Son of the Fath - er,      Lord God,      Lamb of God, you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on  
 us;      you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fath - er:  
 re - ceive our prayer.      For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord,      you a - lone are the Most High,  
 Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fath - er.      A - men.

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      And also with you.

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The people sit.*

## The First Lesson

Genesis 45:1-15

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God

The Psalm

Psalm 133

*Ecce, quam bonum!*

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
when kindred live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there has God ordained the blessing: \*  
life for evermore.

The Second Lesson

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*      Thanks be to God

*The people stand.*

Sequence Hymn 529

In Christ there is no east or west

McKee

## The Gospel

Matthew 15: 21-28

*Gospeler*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*        **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

*Gospeler*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*        **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Rev’d. Matthew Machowski

*The people sit at the invitation of the preacher.  
A period of silence follows the homily.  
Please stand when the Celebrant stands for the 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.

## **The Prayers of the People**

*The Leader and People pray responsively while standing.*

In peace and in faith, let us offer our prayers, saying, “Christ, have mercy.”

For peace and tranquility in the world, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of all, let us pray.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Mark, and Gayle, our own Bishops, and for all the People of God, let us pray.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For those returning to school, for the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, for the victims of fire in Hawaii, and for the sick and the suffering, especially Aliceann, Arthur, Brian, Jean, Joanna, Lara, Rhonda, and Stacy, let us pray.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray.

**Christ, have mercy.**

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**To you, O Christ Our God.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## Confession of Sin

(EOW p. 56)

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins to God.

*All kneel.*

*Celebrant and People*

God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through  
the grace of 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.

*The people sit.*

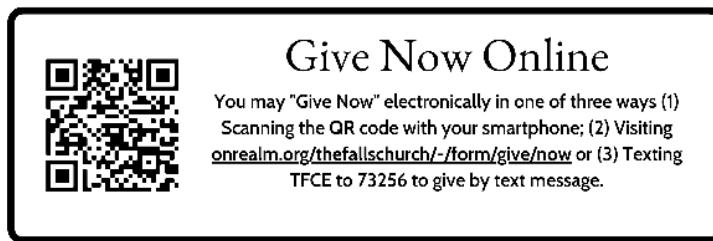
## Welcome and Announcements

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on BCP page 376, or with some other sentence of Scripture.*

### The Offertory

*During the offertory you are invited to make a gift to God's mission at The Falls Church through Realm (see QR code), on the website, by texting TFCE at 73256, or by using the plate.*



*The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

### Presentation Hymn

We the Lord's people,  
heart and voice uniting

*Decatur Place*

Musical notation for the hymn "We the Lord's people" in G major, 2/4 time. The lyrics are as follows:

We the Lord's peo - ple, heart and voice u - nit - ing, praise him who  
In the Lord's ser - vice bread and wine are of - fered, that Christ may  
called us out of sin and dark-ness in - to his own light,  
take them, bless them, break, and give them to all his peo - ple,  
that he might a - noint us a roy - al priest-hood.  
his own life im - part - ing, food ev - er - last - ing.

Sursum Corda S-120

Lift up your hearts

*Celebrant*

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

*Celebrant*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

## Sanctus S-130

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Franz Peter Schubert  
(1797-1828);  
arr. Richard Proulx  
(1937-2010)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Then the Celebrant continues.  
The people may kneel or stand.*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*  
Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

*The Celebrant then continues*

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

*People and Celebrant*

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

*A period of silence is kept.*

Fraction Anthem S-164

Jesus Lamb of God

Franz Peter Schubert

(1797-1828);

arr. Richard Proulx

(1937-2010)



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

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

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

## The Invitation to Communion

*All those who seek the Lord are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion at this time. Should you desire to receive, the ushers will direct you to one of the stations where the priest will offer you the host by placing the wafer in your outstretched palms. To receive the wine, guide the base of the chalice to your lips, tipping it slightly toward your lips, take a sip of wine, then tip chalice back toward the minister and release your fingers from the base of the chalice. If you do not wish to receive the wine, but would like to partake in this sacramental act, simply touch the chalice with your finger as the minister pronounces the words. Alternatively, simply fold your arms across your chest, and the minister will refrain from offering you the chalice. After receiving Communion, you may return to your seat.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available. Should you desire a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know as you approach them for communion.*

Hymn 439

What wondrous love is this

*Wondrous Love*

Hymn 649

O Jesus joy of loving hearts

*Dickinson College*

Hymn

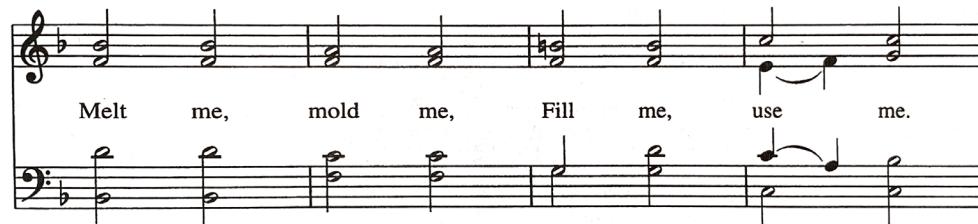
Spirit of the living God    *African-American Spiritual*



Music for the first line of the hymn. The notation consists of two staves: a soprano staff in treble clef and a bass staff in bass clef. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The melody begins with a dotted half note followed by an eighth note, then a quarter note, and a series of eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me,"



Music for the second line of the hymn. The notation consists of two staves: a soprano staff in treble clef and a bass staff in bass clef. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The melody continues with a dotted half note followed by an eighth note, then a quarter note, and a series of eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me."



Music for the third line of the hymn. The notation consists of two staves: a soprano staff in treble clef and a bass staff in bass clef. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The melody continues with a dotted half note followed by an eighth note, then a quarter note, and a series of eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me."



Music for the fourth line of the hymn. The notation consists of two staves: a soprano staff in treble clef and a bass staff in bass clef. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The melody continues with a dotted half note followed by an eighth note, then a quarter note, and a series of eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me."

*The people stand.*

### Postcommunion Prayer

(EOW, p. 69)

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People and Celebrant*

God of abundance,  
you have fed us  
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us  
with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth  
in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever  
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

### The Blessing

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

### Closing Hymn 539

O Zion Haste

*Tidings*

### Dismissal

(BCP, p. 366)

*Gospeler* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

### Postlude

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**Celebrant**  
The Rector

**Preacher**  
The Rev'd. Matthew Machowski

++ + + +

### **The Parish Prayer List**

**For Healing in Body, Mind, and Spirit**  
*Immediate Needs*

Aliceann, Arthur, Brian, Jean, Joanna, Lara, Rhonda, Stacy

*Long Term Prayers*  
Anne, Michael, Tom

*Family and Friends*  
Chris, Gareth, George, Kendall, Kent, Wilma

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The Falls Church is a parish of The Episcopal Church, a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We share ministry with Christians in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.

The Most Rev'd. and Rt. Hon. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury  
The Most Rev'd. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church  
The Rt. Rev'd. E. Mark Stevenson, Bishop Diocesan, Diocese of Virginia  
The Rt. Rev'd. Gayle E. Harris, Assistant Bishop, Diocese of Virginia

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[vestry@thefallschurch.org](mailto:vestry@thefallschurch.org)

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