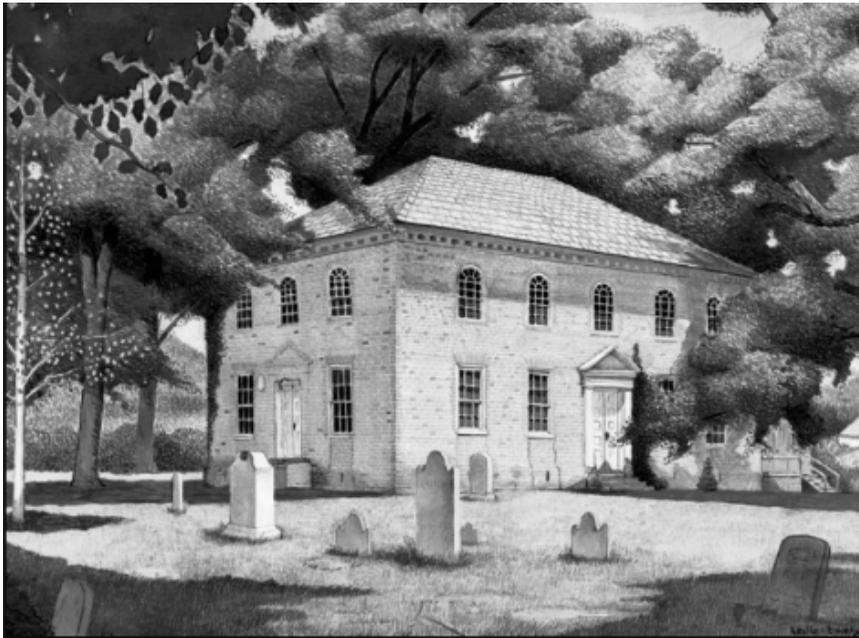


# THE FALLS CHURCH

*an Episcopal congregation*

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



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
November 19, 2023  
9:00 a.m.

**Prelude**      *O God of Love: A Meditation for Organ*      John Corigliano (b. 1938)  
arr. R.W. Dirksen

## THE WORD OF GOD

*The people stand.*

**Opening Hymn 433**      We gather together      Tune: *Kremser*

**Opening Acclamation**      (EOW, p. 50)

*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

# Gloria

Robert J. Powell  
(b. 1932)

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.

*Celebrant*

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.**

*The people sit.*

### The First Lesson

Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-hagoiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

*Reader*       The Word of the Lord.

*People*       **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 123

*Ad te levavi oculos meos*

- 1 To you I lift up my eyes, \*  
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \*  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the Holy One our God, \*  
until God shows us mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O God, have mercy, \*  
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent  
and of the derision of the proud.

*The people stand.*

*Children are invited to follow the Crucifer into Nicolson Hall for Children's Chapel.*

Sequence Hymn 707

Take my life, and let it be

Tune: *Hollingside*

The Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

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

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

The Sermon

The Rev'd. Burl Salmon

*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.*

Gracious God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; for Michael, Mark, and Gayle, and  
for Burl and Matthew,  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world,  
especially for the leaders of Palestine and Israel, and those who live within their  
jurisdictions.  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially Al,  
Ashley, Krista and Jennifer.  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Brenda.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*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.

## 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.*

**Offertory**

*The Eyes of All*

Carol Doran  
(1936-2023)

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



### Give Now Online

You may "Give Now" electronically in one of three ways (1) Scanning the QR code with your smartphone; (2) Visiting [onrealm.org/thefallschurch/-/form/give/now](https://onrealm.org/thefallschurch/-/form/give/now) or (3) Texting TFCE to 73256 to give by text message.

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

**Presentation Hymn 380** From all that dwell below the skies      Tune: *Old 100th*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer 1

(EOW, p. 57)

*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 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-129**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord**

**Robert J. Powell**  
(b. 1932)

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.

*Then the Celebrant continues.*

*The people may kneel or stand, as able.*

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-155**

**Christ our Passover**

**Gerald Near**  
(b.1942)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is  
sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast.







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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