

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, August 10, 2025



Welcome to St. Simon's

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)

St. Simon's exists so that everyone can experience the abundant life Jesus came to bring. While there are many, many ways God's abundance comes to us, here at St. Simon's we understand our call to help each other and our neighbors...

- ...experience delight and joy as a way to connect with God.
- ...have basic needs met as a way to be safe.
- ...enjoy connection to community as a way to avoid loneliness.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. St. Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites everyone to this abundant life, doubts and questions included. Please feel free to participate as fully in the worship of God as you wish. Lift your voice in praise, respond to the prayers and readings, and come to the altar for communion or a blessing. Or, if you prefer, sit back quietly and allow God's Spirit to speak to you in the way that feels most comfortable.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here.

May you encounter God in this community.

The Holy Eucharist

* Indicates the assembly stands, if able.

All portions of the service in **Bold** are spoken by the assembly.

Prelude Words of Welcome



Blessed be God: the Author, the Only-Begotten, and the Gift. And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.



The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The Assembly is seated

The First Lesson Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom!

Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand?

Trample my courts no more; bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation-- I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them.

When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.



The Lord, greater than all gods, summons the earth from east to west, makes light shine from Zion, beauty beyond com-pare.

The Lord will not be <u>silent</u> but comes in fire and <u>storm</u> to summon earth and <u>heaven</u> as witness to our <u>trial</u>:

"Gather the <u>faithful</u> who seal my covenant with <u>sacrifice</u>." The heavens will <u>testify</u> that God, our judge, is <u>just</u>.

Listen, my <u>people</u>, hear what I <u>say</u>. I, your judge, indict you, <u>Israel</u>. I, your <u>God</u>.

"Despite your offerings, despite your daily gifts, I bring charges a-gainst you.

"Think hard about these things, you who ignore <u>God</u>, for if I rip you apart you have no one to <u>save you</u>.

"Who thanks me, <u>honors me</u>. Who keeps my way, I <u>save</u>." A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Assembly stands as they are able to face the Gospeler.

*The Gospel Procession

All join in singing both before and after the gospel.



*The Holy Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Jenny Hulen

A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

*An Affirmation

We believe that Jesus took the form of a slave, so we commit ourselves to serve others.

We believe that God is love, so we commit ourselves to reconciliation.

We believe that Jesus gives us his Spirit, so we commit ourselves to his work in the world.

We believe that God is the light of life, so we commit ourselves to bearing God's light in our world. We believe that the Spirit speaks through us, so we commit ourselves to proclaim the good news of abundant life in the world God loves.

*The Prayers of the People

Friends in Christ,
God invites us to hold the needs of our siblings as dear to us as our own needs.
Loving our neighbors as ourselves,
we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions on behalf of the church and the world.

Come Holy Spirit, take and transform our societies That your beloved may find justice, equity, and community.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, take our world's leaders and bring renewal That your beloved may have safety, peace, food, water, education, and medicine.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, fill your Church

That your beloved would be changed in prayer, grow in faith, serve in your name, and partner with you.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, cleanse us of all violence in thought, word, and deed That your beloved may live together in right relationship.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, strengthen and heal all who suffer, especially Jan Becker, Mike Bruce, Lindy Camardella, Deborah Filipek, Sharon Grieger, Sandra Janowski, Sunita Johnston, Bonnie Liess, Jerry Shields, Charlotte Weber, and Maria Whelan

That your beloved may turn again to thank and praise you.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, console all who mourn

That your beloved may not be overwhelmed by loss, but find comfort and strength.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, guide us through change and the unknown That your beloved may rest in your eternal changelessness.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Hear our prayers, God of power, And through the ministry of your Son fill us with your Spirit, That we may desire you as the fullness of life and proclaim your saving deeds to all the world.¹

Amen.

The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Ministers and Assembly stand to greet one another in the peace of Christ.

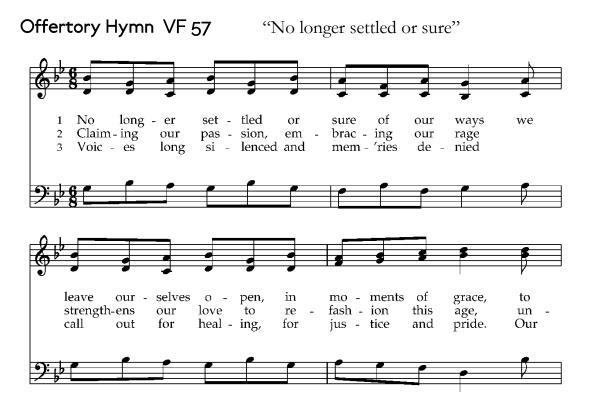
Blessing Birthdays and Anniversaries

All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Engagement Opportunities

Offertory Text 73256 to give. In the body of the text type saintsimons





*Presentation of the Gifts



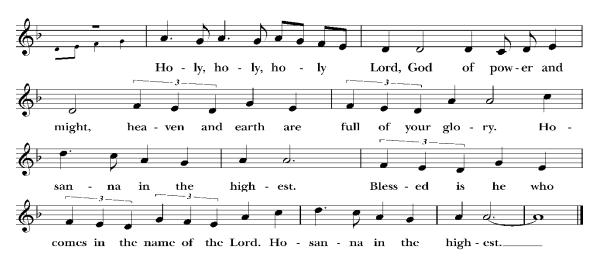
*The Great Thanksgiving

BCP form A



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:



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.

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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.

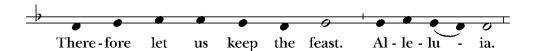
And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:



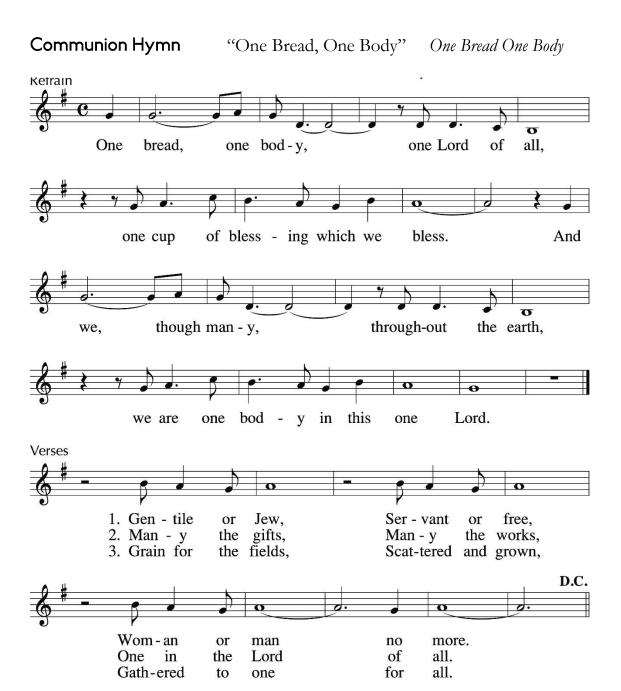
A period of silence is kept.

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 Presider and those worshipping online consume the host together with these words: The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

Everyone has a place at God's table and all are invited to share in communion. You may stand or kneel at the rail. Wine is offered in individual cups around the outside of the tray. Grape juice is offered in the middle. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you would like to participate but do not wish to receive the bread and wine, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing instead.

Both the common cup (chalice) and individual cups are offered. Join the line for the chalice on the left (pulpit) side or the line on the right (screen) side to receive the individual cups. Grape juice is available in the individual cups.



*Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

In gratitude for this moment, this place, those around us, Christ among us, we give ourselves to you our God.

Take us out to live as changed people because we have met the risen Christ and cannot be the same.

Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.

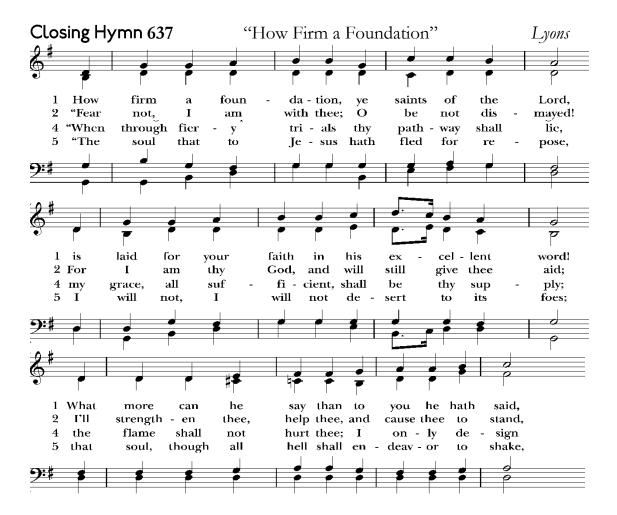
So may we live to your glory both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Through Jesus our brother, with the aid of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.²

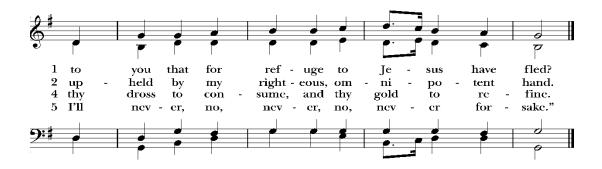
When members of the community are unable to attend the service, representatives of the people are sent with bread and wine to extend our communion with them.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

*The Blessing

Now may God, who gives seed to the sower and grain to the reaper, provide all that we need so that we may produce a rich harvest of faith, love, justice and joy for the good of the earth and its people and to the glory of God. **Amen**.³





Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

IVE-STREAM NOTICE

A reminder, this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

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- ¹ Adapted from *Daily Prayer for all Seasons*, p.84, © 2014 The Office of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church;
- ² Iona Abbey Worship Book, p 131-2
- ³ Iona Abbey Worship Book, p 132

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St. Simon's Episcopal Church

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Parish Office Hours ~ Monday—Thursday ~ 9:00am—3:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago

The Rev. Jennifer Hulen, Rector Jo Gantzer, Associate for Parish Ministry

Today's Service Leaders

Presider & Preacher The Rev. Jenny Hulen

Crucifer Dave Howley

Chalice Minister René Schreiner

Readers Bob Arnold

Rachel Jarosik

Intercessor Dianne Shields

Ushers Allison Newhouse

Altar Guild Bari Flores

Porter Myk Snider

Organist Carl Chadek

Technical Production Team Mike Krause