

Welcome to Saint Mary's Episcopal Church!
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost—September 26, 2021
Eucharist Service

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be the One Holy and Living God.
People **Glory to God forever and ever.**

SONG OF PRAISE

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Words/Music: Natalie Sleeth
Used by permission

OPENING COLLECT

Prayers for an Inclusive Church

Steven Shakespeare

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant God of welcome, your people are called to be distinct not by width of separation but depth of hospitality and peace within our lives; root out our resentment and free us to welcome all who work for life and liberation, whatever path they tread; through Jesus Christ, the companion of many ways. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST MESSAGE

James 5:13-20

Lay Leader Let us prepare ourselves to hear the Word of God.
People **Our hearts and minds are open.**

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Lay Leader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

#635—*If You but Trust in God to Guide You*

Words: Georg Neumark,
trans. Catherine Winkworth
Music: *Wer nur den lieben Gott*,
Georg Neumark

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-50

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

HOMILY

The Reverend Carol Arney

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH AND BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Iona Abbey Worship Book

Lay Leader Let us stand and affirm our faith.

People **We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity,
a feasting God.**

**We affirm a faith, that takes us beyond a safe place into action,
into vulnerability, into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, to take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of Hope. Amen.**

Lay Leader And now we join together with members of the worldwide Anglican/Episcopal Communion in translating the beliefs in our hearts into action in our lives, in these baptismal questions. Please respond to each promise by saying, "I will with God's help."

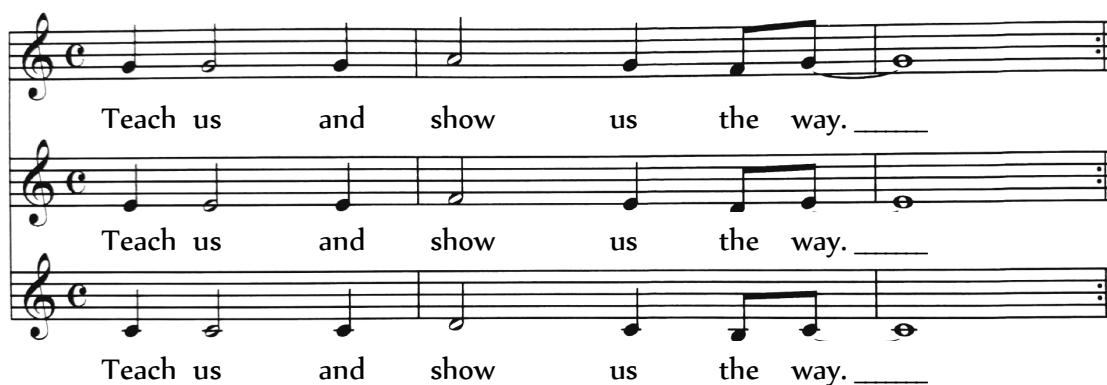
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Book of Common Prayer Form II

Lay Leader Please respond to each prayer by humming or quietly singing:

Teach Us and Show Us the Way

Conie Borchardt



Please be seated.

SAINT MARY'S COMMUNITY PRAYERS: CONCERNS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Everyone is invited to offer concerns and thanksgivings.

Lay Leader Hear our prayers most gracious God, for the people of St Mary's, who thank you for setting us at tasks that demand our best efforts, leading us to accomplishments that satisfy and delight us. As we regather, still in a time of transition and discernment, we seek the Spirit's guidance and wisdom for important decisions ahead. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Word and Wisdom of God. **Amen.**

O God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this in the name of Jesus, in whom we live and move and have our being. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

Eucharistic Prayer

OFFERTORY PRAYER

People God be in my head and in my thinking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
God be in my heart and in my loving.
God be in my hands and in my giving. Amen.

We are not passing the offertory plate at this time.

You are welcome to place your offering in the plate at the entrance to the sanctuary or make an online offering by pressing the "contribute" button on our website, saintmarysepiscopal.org

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Enriching Our Worship

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant and People worshipping virtually

Gracious God, You stand at the door of our hearts and knock. You wait for us and we only can let you in. We believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill us with your presence. Nourish us with your body and unite us in your blood, that we may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

People Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name.

your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN

Khudaya, rahem kar

Text/music: Traditional Pakistani

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Enriching Our Worship

Celebrant Let us pray together.

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. Amen.

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Words: Ruth C Duck
Music: JULION, David Hurd

DISMISSAL

Deacon <Deacon says the words of dismissal.>

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

In the Bulb (reprise)

SOCIAL TIME