

Welcome to Saint Mary's Episcopal Church!
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost—October 10, 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

Come, Come, Whoever You Are

Words: Rumi
13th century Sufi mystic
Music: Rev. Dr. Lyn Adair Unger

OPENING COLLECT

Prayers for an Inclusive Church

Steven Shakespeare

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

Celebrant God of the narrow way, you call us to shed all that burdens the lightness of life: help us to surrender false wealth, embrace our need for you and live for your kingdom above all things; through Jesus Christ the richness of God. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST MESSAGE

Wishful Thinking: A Seeker's ABC

Frederick Buechner
Harper & Row

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

We think of Eternal Life, if we think of it at all, as what happens when life ends.

We would do better to think of it as what happens when life begins.

Saint Paul uses the phrase Eternal Life to describe the end and goal of the process of salvation. Elsewhere he writes the same thing in a remarkable sentence in which he says that the whole purpose of God's slogging around through the muck of history and of our own individual histories is somehow to prod us, jolly us, worry us, cajole us, and, if need be, bludgeon us into reaching "mature [personhood], ...the measure of the full stature of Christ." (Ephesians 4:13).

In other words, to live Eternal Life in the full and final sense is to be with God as Christ is with [God], and with each other as Christ is with us.

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

GRADUAL

Celtic Alleluia

Music: Fintan O'Carroll, Christopher Walker

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL

Mark 10:17-31

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

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

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

Please be seated.

HOMILY

The Reverend Susan Moss

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."

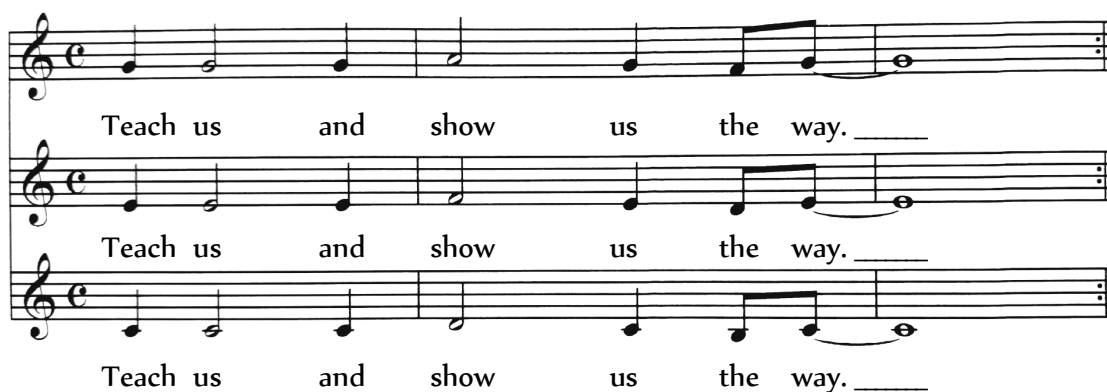
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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. In this season 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

#707–Take My Life

Words: Francis Ridley Havargal
Music: *Hollingside*, John Bacchus Dykes

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

#654–Day by Day

Words: Att. Richard of Chichester
Music: *Sumner*, Arthur Henry Biggs

DISMISSAL

Deacon <Deacon says the words of dismissal.>
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

SOCIAL TIME