St. Peter's at the Light Episcopal Church

Barnegat Light

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Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 21
Saturday evening September 26 & Sunday September 27, 2026

We are grateful to The Reverend Susanna Cates
for her service as the celebrant of today's Eucharist

SINCERE THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY:

DON MANN, *WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY*
BRUCE ALLEN, *GREETER*
PASCUAL RODRIGUEZ, *LECTOR 1 & PSALM LEADER*
MARIBETH MCGROVER, *LECTOR 2*
NANCY HENNESSEY, *LITANIST*
SARAH SULLIVAN, *ACOLYTE & EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OF THE SIPPING CHALICE*
TOM MACARTHUR, *EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OF THE INTINCTION CHALICE*
SUSAN FLANIGAN BUKOSKY, *ORGANIST*
MARIA RODRIGUEZ & BOB SCHMIDT, *COUNTERS*

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Entrance Hymn *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* ***Hymnal #450***

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

All: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.

All: Amen.

Glory to God ***Hymnal #S 280***

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

The Collect of The Day **BCP page 234**

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

All: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Lector 1: A reading from the book of Exodus *Exodus 17:1-7*

1From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as
the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to
drink. 2The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to
them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" 3But the people thirsted there
for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of
Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" 4So Moses cried out to the Lord,
"What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." 5The Lord said to Moses,
"Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the
staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6I will be standing there in front of you on the rock
at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did
so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the
Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Lector 1: We will read *Psalm 78 verses 1-4, 12-16* responsively by half verse.

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, *
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
he made the waters stand up like walls.

14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from the great deep.

16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

Lector 2: A reading from Paul to the followers of Jesus in Philippi *Philippians 2:1-13*

1If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, 2make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. 5Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.9Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and

on earth and under the earth, 11and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

12Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Tell Out My Soul* ***Hymnal #438***

Celebrant: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew *Matthew 21:23-32*

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ

23When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" 24Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' 26But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." 27So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 29He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. 30The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. 31Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

~ Sermon ~

<u>Nicene Creed</u> **BCP page 358**

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.

Prayers of the People — BCP page 392

Celebrant: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Litanist: For all people in their daily life and work;

All: **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Litanist: For this community, the nation, and the world;

All: **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Litanist: For the just and proper use of your creation;

All: **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Litanist: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

All: **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Litanist: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

All: **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Litanist: For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Sally, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

All: **For all who serve God in his Church.**

Litanist: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. Let us begin by lifting up all who are on our parish prayer list, represented today by these names:

Ed Davis**, Mary Ellen & Caroline** Foley**, Eugene R**., **Chris** Reedel, **Macy** Robbins, **Kay** Roberts, **Tomm** Robinson, **Judy** Rosenberg, **Nancy** Rudko, **David** Rulli, **Barbara S**., **Carol** Schmitt, **Catherine** S., **Chris** S., **Joan** S., **Bob & Cynthia** Shull, **Baby Charlie** James Smith, **Susie** T., **Candy** Turner, **Cameron** Valez, **Marilyn** W., **Linda** White **and the White Family**, **Rita & Ken** Woodfield, **Terry** Woods, **Dave** Worden, **Lily, Michaela and the St. Peter's Community that we may be guided by the Holy Spirit in this time of transition.**

Silence

People may add petitions either silent or aloud.

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

<u>Confession of Sin</u> **BCP page 393**

Priest: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: 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.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Hymn *Take My Life and Let It Be* ***Hymnal #707***

Eucharistic Prayer A **BCP page 361**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Priest: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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, Holy, Holy Lord ***Hymnal #S 129***

Priest: 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. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

Priest: 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 all 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.

The Great Amen ***Hymnal #S 146***

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All:

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.

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!
All: **Therefore, let us keep the feast.** Alleluia!

Instructions for Receiving Holy Communion

If you wish to receive only a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

If you need a gluten free host, inform the Priest.

If you wish to receive communion host and dip it in the consecrated wine, remain at the altar rail and hold the bread or host in your hand until the gold chalice comes to you. Then dip the host into the wine and consume the communion bread and wine.

If you wish to consume the host and then sip from the chalice, leave the altar rail after you consume the bread or host and move to the Eucharistic Minister with the silver sipping chalice at the left side of the altar rail.

Celebrant: The gifts of God, for the People of God.

Post-Communion Hymn *The King of Love My Shepherd* ***Hymnal #645***

Celebrant*:* Let us pray

All: **Eternal God, heavenly Father** **BCP 365**
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you

with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Please stand for the final blessings of this service

The Celebrant's Blessing

All: **Amen**

Closing Hymn: *Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing* ***Hymnal #344***

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ, Alleluia, alleluia!

All: **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia!**

Thank you for worshiping with us this morning!
Join us, if you can, in the parish house for a short time of fellowship after this service.
You are always welcome here.