

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Protestant church in the worldwide Anglican Communion.

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

All are welcome to this service of communion; All are wanted at the table of the lord.

Before the Service — Speak quietly to God During the Service — Let God speak to you After the Service — Speak to one another

TO JOIN SERVICES ONLINE OR BY PHONE

To join the 8:30 service online, visit our website at gracechurchmtclemens.org and follow the links.

To join the 8:30 service by phone, call 312-626-6799 8:30 am Service: Meeting ID: 881 8016 9300 Password: 246040

Follow the link on our website to watch the 10:30 livestream on our Facebook page.

Officiant: The Rev. Steven Steinberger-Domienik
Cell: 203-641-2068
Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan
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Visit us on the web at
www.gracechurchmtclemens.org

Opening Hymn: Come, Thou Almighty King



OPENING ACCLAMATION: from Feasting on the Word

Celebrant: Praise the Lord, for God is great indeed! Let us sing praises for God's glorious works.

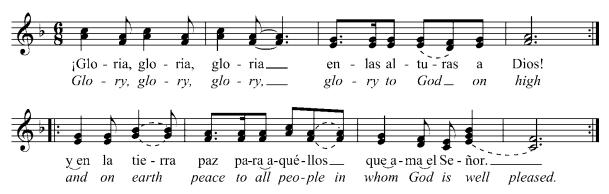
People: We give glory, honor and thanksgiving to the Lord, who makes and sustains all things.

GLORIA

At the early service:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

At the later service:



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Proverbs 1:20-33

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 19 Caeli enarrant

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, * and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, * and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, * and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, * and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; * it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; * nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; * the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; * the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; * the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, * sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, * and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? * cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; * then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
 O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

THE SECOND READING

James 3:1-12

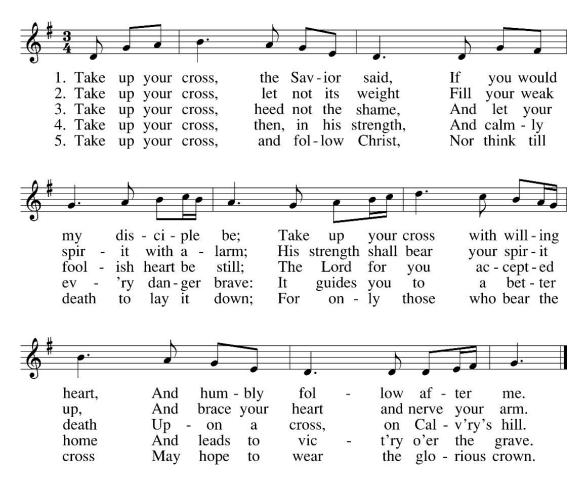
Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Hymn: Take Up Your Cross



The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, Mark 8:27-38

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you Lord Christ

The Homily: The Rev. Steven Steinberg-Domienik

We observe a brief silence for reflection.

The Affirmation of our Faith

At the early service:

The Nicene 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.

At the later service:

The Apostles' Creed

I give my heart to God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I give my heart to Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried,

And descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I give my heart to the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic and apostolic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace we pray to you, O God.

We pray today for all people who struggle for survival: may you bless, comfort and strengthen them. We pray to you, O God.

For our state, country and world during this changing time of the pandemic, may we continue to work for the safety of all people as we revise and end social regulations. We pray to you, O God.

For the spirit of peace in the world that all regional and national violence may end so that all people, groups and nations in conflict may live in harmony. We pray to you, O God.

For the world's poor, destitute and homeless: may our political, business and religious institutions work to provide all people with the food, shelter and hope that they need. **We pray to you, O God.**

For the spirit of unity, forgiveness and reconciliation in our country, that our diversity may make us strong and our pluralism make us rich. We pray to you, O God.

For all people of minority cultures and ethnic groups in the United States who continue to be trivialized and endangered by the pervasiveness of racism. **We pray to you, O God.**

For all those who are sick or infirmed and for those suffering because of COVID – 19, And for all who have asked for our prayers: Ena, Cindy, Michelle, Jeff, Samantha, Thor, Rosy, Liz, Janice, Carol, Jennifer, Nina, Frank, Barbara, Helen, Matthew, Jennie, Katherine, Reggie, Pam S, Roy, Karen, Martha, Ollie, Jasmine, Allen, Donna, Tom, Darrell, Marcie, Mark, Annette, Michelle, Frankie, Margaret, Sue, Jeff, Lyndsy, Mary, Dominique, Lianne, Lori, Michael, Amber, Marilee, Eric, Lelsie, Elliott.

Are there others?

That they may receive your healing touch. We pray to you, O God.

For those whose lives are approaching death, and for those who have died, that they and their loved ones may receive the comfort of your loving embrace. We pray to you, O God.

Concluding Collect

Good and gracious God, send forth your Holy Spirit upon your people throughout the world. Tear down the walls that divide us, and make us one through Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

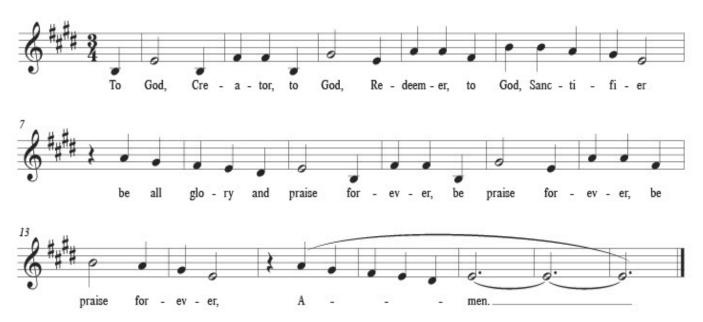
ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

The Offering Song: Is There Anybody Here



Doxology: To God, Creator



OFFERTORY BLESSING

Awesome God, Jesus fed thousands of people with seemingly little effort. Yet, we have grave difficulty feeding children in our own country — let alone the entire world. Even while we are praying this prayer, someone has died from starvation and the lack of food. When we share resources with care-giving ministries, your hand is upon our shoulders, just like it was upon Jesus' shoulders the day he fed his followers. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to change lives by becoming generous caregivers of the resources that you first gave to us. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN. (John 6:1-21)

Everyone: Which we are blessed, we offer our gifts to our God, to carry on the works of Jesus Christ our Lord for all he has given us.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Season After Pentecost

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Everyone And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

Everyone We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Everyone It is right to give our thanks and praise.

<u>Celebrant</u> 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 say/sing:

Everyone at the Early Service

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

At the Later Service

SANCTUS:



The Celebrant continues

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:

Everyone: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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*.

And now as our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray.

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, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN.

BREAKING OF BREAD

At the Early Service

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

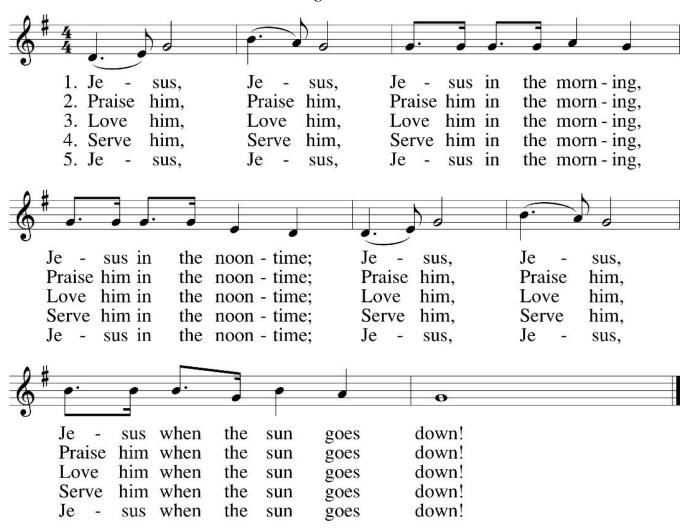
Everyone: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

At the Later Service



Celebrant: Celebrant The Gifts of God for all of us, the Holy People of God.

Music for Communion: Jesus in the Morning



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Everyone

Gracious God, we thank you for nourishing us with the food of our savior. Now send us out in the power of your Spirit to be beacons of hope and love in your world. For it is through Christ and with all your saints that we offer ourselves and our lives to your service O God. We humbly pray in the name of Jesus your Christ, AMEN.

BLESSING

Celebrant

May Christ who is human and divine, who is of heaven and earth, give you strength, courage and boldness to do God's will in this world; and may the blessing of God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier be with you this day and forever. AMEN.

Closing Hymn: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus



DISMISSAL

Priest Our worship has ended, let our service begin, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

The Prayers of this Congregation

For all refugees, especially those at our southern border; for the farmers across our country who are struggling; for Bonnie Perry, our Bishop, for Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop; Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr., our retired bishop; Moises Quezada Mota, Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA Presiding Bishop; Donald P. Kreiss, ELCA Bishop, SE Michigan Synod; Craig Satterlee, ELCA Bishop, NW Lower Michigan Synod; Stewart Wood, our retired bishop; and our whole diocesan household, including Holy Comforter in Dajabon DR, St. John's in Clinton, Holy Cross in Novi; for Gretchen, our Governor; Joseph, our President; Kamala, our Vice President; and all members of Congress.

For Ena Pederson, Cindy, Michelle, Jeff, Samantha, Thor, Rosy, Liz Moorehouse, Janice Kibler, Carol Bales, Jennifer Holland, Nina DiGaetano, Frank & Barbara Davenport, Donna Hanes, Helen Stein, Matthew Bishop, Jennie Berube, Katherine Domienik, Reggie Chrzanowski, Pam Sherry, Roy Lawrence, Karen Blackburn, Ollie Denham, Jasmine Gardner, Allen David Clay, Tom Krell, Martha Houser, Darrell Banks, Marcie Griffin, Mark Hall, Annette Leone, Michelle Grabowski, Frankie Dion, Margaret Marchionda, Sue Schlanbusch, Jeff Lepkowski, Lyndsy O'Malley, Mary Duda, Dominique Czupski, Lianne Neumann, Lori Dodge, Michael Thomas, Amber Bean, Marilee Racine, Eric & Leslie Mix, Elliott, The Seewald Family.

Please note: Names will remain on the prayer list for one month.
In order to add someone or keep someone on the prayer list, please call the office.
Do you know someone who is ill? Please contact the office and we will add them to the prayer list.

FLOWERS FROM GRACE'S GARDEN

If you would like to take home some flower cuttings from our garden, please contact Lori Simon.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, September 23, 11 am until 5 pm, here at Grace. To schedule your donation, visit RedCrossBlood.org/donate, enter Sponsor Code "grace" and scroll to Grace Episcopal Church.

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 7 pm on Zoom (Meeting info will remain as follows each week)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89732417015?pwd=Z0NkeFQ4L2FFSExYelB3WXoyUmFvZz09

Meeting ID: 897 3241 7015 Password: 683930 Or call: 312-626-6799

The MINISTRIES of GRACE CHURCH Currently

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, online 8:30 & 10:30 am. Visit our website for more information. Bible Study: Thursdays at 10 am.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Community Suppers: Wednesdays at 4:00

Food Pantry:

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 am -12 noon, curbside pickup Serving from 250 - 350 people every month

All outreach ministries welcome volunteers, financial donations, or food and clothing donations.

Call the office to learn about helping or giving: 586-465-4573