

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the  
gospel of Christ.

Philippians 1:27a

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Eucharist  
September 20, 2020, 9:30 am

We worship today according to the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two, beginning on  
page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer. Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.

## The Word of God

*We will observe silence together to prepare for worship, which begins  
with the ringing of the bell. We stand.*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his 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.**

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

## The Collect of the Day

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but  
to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed  
among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those  
that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives  
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever  
and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons (*we sit*)

### The First Lesson – Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained  
against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites  
said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord  
in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate  
our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this  
wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread  
from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out  
and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them,  
whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth  
day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice  
as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron  
said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that  
it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt,  
and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord,  
because he has heard your complaining against the Lord.  
For what are we, that you complain against us?” And  
Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the  
evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the  
Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against  
him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but  
against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation  
of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard  
your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole  
congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the  
wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.  
The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the  
complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you  
shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill  
of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your  
God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to him, sing praises to him,  
and speak of all his marvelous works.**

Glory in his holy Name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.  
**Search for the Lord and his strength;  
continually seek his face.**

Remember the marvels he has done,  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,  
**O offspring of Abraham his servant,  
O children of Jacob his chosen.**

He led out his people with silver and gold;  
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.  
**Egypt was glad of their going,  
because they were afraid of them.**

He spread out a cloud for a covering  
and a fire to give light in the night season.  
**They asked, and quails appeared,  
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.**

He opened the rock, and water flowed,  
so the river ran in the dry places.  
**For God remembered his holy word  
and Abraham his servant.**

So he led forth his people with gladness,  
his chosen with shouts of joy.  
**He gave his people the lands of the nations,  
and they took the fruit of others' toil,  
That they might keep his statutes  
and observe his laws.  
Hallelujah!**

The Epistle Lesson – Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well -- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

Hymn: *Take My Life and Let It Be*

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose. Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take myself, and I will be ever, only all for thee.

The Gospel – Matthew 20:1-16 (*we stand*)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the



## The Offertory

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Hymn: *O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near (we sit)*

O God, unseen yet ever near, thy presence may we feel; and thus inspired with holy fear, before thine altar kneel. Here may thy faithful people know the blessings of thy love, and streams that through the desert flow, the manna from above.

We come, obedient to thy word, to feast on heavenly food: our meat the Body of the Lord, our drink his precious blood. Thus may we all thy word obey, for we, O God, are thine; and go rejoicing on our way, renewed with strength divine.

## The Holy Communion

### The Great Thanksgiving

*(Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP p 361) (we stand)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*(The priest says a Proper Preface)*

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, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*We stand or kneel*

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:

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. We keep a period of silence.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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.

*Being careful to maintain social distance and keeping our faces covered, we approach the table. Each of us takes a plate and returns to his or her seat. We consume the wafer when we are back in our seats.*

*After Communion, we stand or kneel.*

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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.**

## The Blessing

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

*Following the service, please place your plate in the receptacle provided.*

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### Serving at Epiphany this week:

Altar Guild: Lee Borden  
Lay Reader: Kathy Haynie

### And next:

Altar Guild: Elizabeth Harber  
Lay Reader: Betty Weldon