



Apostles

Anglican Church

The Sunday after Ascension Day

May 12, 2024

Liturgy for the Contemporary Service

The Anglican Church of North America

About Participating in the Eucharist

This altar is God's altar. This is a family table. All baptized Christians are invited to come forward to receive the Sacrament. If you are not baptized you are still invited to the table for prayer.

We believe in something called "the real presence of Christ" which means that we know he is present in communion, but we aren't going to require you to speculate on exactly how he does that.

To receive, come forward to the rail, and kneel to receive unless you are unable. Kneeling or standing, place your hands flat, and in a cruciform shape, palms up. The clergy will place the bread on your palm.

A chalice bearer will follow with a small cup with the wine. At present we are not drinking from the chalice but "intincting" from the small cup. You take the bread between your fingers, and dip it slightly into the wine, before placing it in your mouth.

If you only take the bread and want to by-pass the wine, that is still a valid sacrament. You don't need to wait for the cup to come by but you may remain at the rail as long as you want.

Adults who are not baptized, or who are not going to receive, can come forward to receive a blessing. If you would like to do so, as you are kneeling, cross your arms over your chest, hands by your shoulder and the clergy will pray for you.

Baptized children are welcomed to receive communion, but parents can choose to allow their child to receive. If your children are not baptized, or will not be receiving, they can receive a blessing, by crossing their arms.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE BELL

OPENING SONGS

Desert Song

(Verse 1)

This is my prayer in the desert
When all that's within me feels dry
This is my prayer in my hunger and need
My God is the God who provides

(Verse 2)

This is my prayer in the fire
In weakness or trial or pain
There is a faith proved of more worth than gold
So refine me Lord through the flame

(Chorus)

I will bring praise, I will bring praise
No weapon formed against me shall remain
I will rejoice, I will declare
God is my victory and He is here

(Verse 3)

This is my prayer in the battle
When triumph is still on its way
I am a conqueror and co-heir with Christ
So firm on His promise I'll stand

(Bridge)

All of my life in ev'ry season
You are still God
I have a reason to sing
I have a reason to worship

(Verse 4)

This is my prayer in the harvest
When favor and providence flow
I know I'm filled to be emptied again
The seed I've received I will sow

Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace)

(Verse 1)

All these pieces, Broken and scattered
In mercy gathered, Mended and whole
Empty handed, But not forsaken
I've been set free, I've been set free

(Pre-Chorus)

Amazing grace, How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
Oh, I once was lost, But now I am found
Was blind but now I see

(Chorus)

Oh I can see You now
Oh I can see the love in Your eyes
Laying Yourself down
Raising up the broken to life

(Verse 2)

You take our failure, You take our weakness
You set Your treasure, In jars of clay
So take this heart Lord, I'll be Your vessel
The world to see Your life in me

Minister: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: *The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

Minister: The Lord be with you

People: ***And with your spirit,***

Minister: Let us pray

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. ***Amen***

THE LESSONS (*congregation seated*)

Acts 1:15-26

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, ¹⁶ ‘Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷ for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.’ ¹⁸ (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹ This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰ ‘For it is written in the book of Psalms,

“Let his homestead become desolate,
and let there be no one to live in it”;

and

“Let another take his position of overseer.”

²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.’ ²³ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed and said, ‘Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.’ ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 68:1-20

- ¹ Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered;*
let those who hate him flee before him.
- ² As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;*
as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.
- ³ But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God;*
let them be jubilant with joy.
- ⁴ Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds*
his name is the LORD, be exultant before him.
- ⁵ Father of orphans and protector of widows*
is God in his holy habitation.
- ⁶ God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,*
but the rebellious live in a parched land.
- ⁷ O God, when you went out before your people,*
when you marched through the wilderness,
- ⁸ the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God,*
the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- ⁹ Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;*
you restored your heritage when it languished;
- ¹⁰ your flock found a dwelling in it;*
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.
- ¹¹ The Lord gives the command;*
great is the company of those who bore the tidings:
- ¹² The kings of the armies, they flee, they flee!'*
The women at home divide the spoil,
- ¹³ though they stay among the sheepfold,*
the wings of a dove covered with silver, its pinions with green gold.

¹⁴ When the Almighty scattered kings there,*
snow fell on Zalmon.

¹⁵ O mighty mountain, mountain of Bashan;*
O many-peaked mountain, mountain of Bashan!

¹⁶ Why do you look with envy, O many-peaked mountain, at the mount that God desired for his abode,*
where the LORD will reside for ever?

¹⁷ With mighty chariotry, twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands,*
the Lord came from Sinai into the holy place.

¹⁸ You ascended the high mount, leading captives in your train and receiving gifts from people,*
even from those who rebel against the LORD God's abiding there.

¹⁹ Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up;*
God is our salvation.

²⁰ Our God is a God of salvation,*
and to GOD, the Lord, belongs escape from death.

All: *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.*

1 John 5:6-15

⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ There are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. ⁹ If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰ Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

¹⁴ And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Gospel (*congregation standing*)

*In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand*

Minister: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

John 17:11-19

¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify

them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ*

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (*congregation stand*)

We believe in one God,

***the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.***

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

***the only-begotten 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(congregation standing or kneeling)*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "hear our prayer."

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: *Hear our prayer.*

For Foley, our Archbishop, and Mark, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation. We pray for the election of a new Archbishop, for his family and for his diocese.

Father, we ask that you continue to bless our search process for a new rector. Raise up for us, we pray, a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion, that we may be a home for spiritual orphans and seekers.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: *Hear our prayer.*

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: *Hear our prayer.*

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service especially Joe, our president, Andy, our governor, and Linda, our mayor.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: *Hear our prayer.*

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE (*congregation standing*)

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

People: ***And with your spirit.***

THE OFFERTORY

The Doxology (*congregation standing*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

THE SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And with your spirit.***

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 him thanks and praise.***

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

***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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in 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, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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 forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And 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 forever. Amen.*

THE FRACTION

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

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

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.

THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. **Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food

of the most precious Body and Blood

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

that we are living members of the body of your Son,

and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,

to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE RECESSIONAL *(congregation standing)*

CLOSING SONG *(next page)*

Great Are You Lord

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken
Great are You, Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
To You only

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken
Great are You, Lord

[x2]

(Bridge)

All the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry
These bones will sing
Great are You, Lord

[x3]

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth in name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

