## St. Francis' Episcopal Church Sunday, September 22, 2024

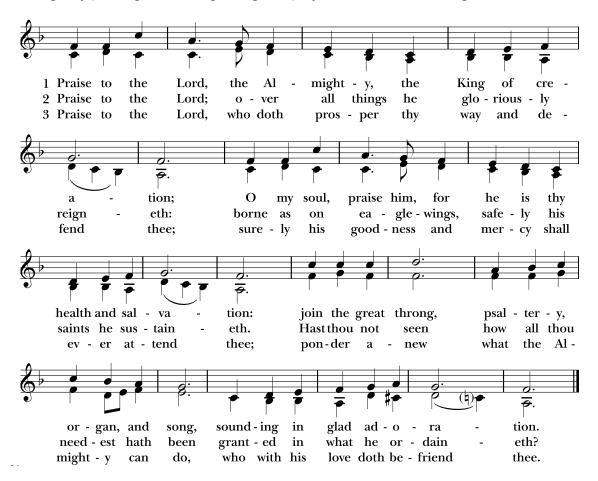
Service begins here at both 8am and 10:30am.

#### GATHERING SONG

#### PRAISE TO THE LORD THE ALMIGHTY

H 390

We begin by praising God through song and prayer. Stand. At 8am, sing verse 1. At 10:30am, sing all.



#### **GREETING**

Standing before the assembly, the Presider welcomes the community to worship.

Presider Blessed be the One, Holy and Living God.

People Glory to God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Presider 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.

People Amen.

#### **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

As we enter in to worship we ask God's forgiveness for things done and things left undone and things done on our behalf so that we may be reconciled to each other and to God.

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept for a time.

People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,

opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,

and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,

and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,

that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Presider 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.

People Amen.

### **Song of Praise: Glory to God** 8am + 10:30am



#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

The Presider continues with the prayer appointed for the day, called the collect.

The collect is written to go along with both the season of the church year and the readings for the day. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scripture for 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.

People Amen.

## WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES Sit.

We hear the stories of the experience of God from our spiritual ancestors. Reading and commenting on scripture goes back to the earliest services of Christianity. Following the pattern of Jewish synagogue worship, readings follow a set pattern for what will be read when.

#### THE FIRST LESSON: A READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Reader A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

31:10-31

A capable wife who can find?

She is far more precious than jewels.

The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.

She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.

She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.

She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from far away.

She rises while it is still night and provides food for her household and tasks for her servant-girls.

She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

- She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong.
- She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.
- She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.
- She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- She is not afraid for her household when it snows, for all her household are clothed in crimson.
- She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- Her husband is known in the city gates, taking his seat among the elders of the land.
- She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes.
- Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.
- She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her:
- "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all."
- Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
- Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM OF THE DAY**

1

The psalms are a part of the poetry of the Hebrew people. They express joy and sadness; loneliness and thanksgiving as part of the human longing to be united with God.

At 8am, the congregation reads the antiphon together. At 10:30, the congregation sings the antiphon together.



- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on his law day and night. ANTIPHON
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away. **ANTIPHON**
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is doomed. ANTIPHON

#### THE SECOND LESSON: A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT WRITINGS

Reader

A reading from the letter from James.

3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in

disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

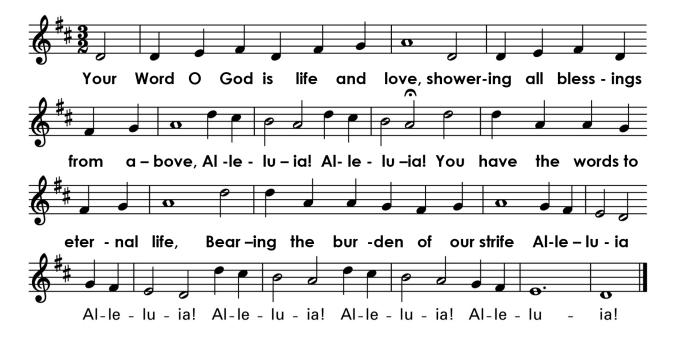
Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL HYMN: PREPARING TO HEAR THE GOSPEL Stand.

We stand, as we are able, for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance we place on Jesus' words and actions, and sing the Gospel Hymn.



#### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

Deacon God is with you.

People And also with you.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark. 9:30-37

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had

argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

At the end of the Gospel the Deacon says

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

**GOSPEL HYMN** The music on the previous page is sung one time through.

THE SERMON Sit.

MR. JIM SPARKS

We remain seated for the sermon. Having someone comment on the scriptures read goes back to the earliest days of Christianity and to the Jewish Synagogue worship which preceded it.

#### THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Stand.

Deacon Please stand, as you are able, as we affirm our faith.

Silence is kept for a time.

Deacon We are not alone; we live in God's world.

People We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word

made flesh, to reconcile and make anew, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

Deacon We trust in God.

People We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in

Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God

is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer changes people. Prayer is not about changing God but about changing us more into the likeness of God. Collectively and individually we offer the hopes and desires of our hearts to God. The Deacon offers the prayers for those who are sick or have asked our prayers.

Deacon: God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to

you in faith with thanksgiving. Therefore we come to you with grateful hearts asking you,

God of Love, grant our prayer.

After each prayer, the people reply, "grant our prayer."

Presider: Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you. Hear the prayers of your

people. Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive; through

Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

As we enter the most sacred portion of our worship we exchange a sign of God's promised peace. There are no set words to use in greeting each other, but "Peace be with you," "God's peace," and "Shalom" are all commonly used.

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us offer each a sign of Christ's peace.

As a community of reconciliation and peace, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Sit.**

## **GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE**

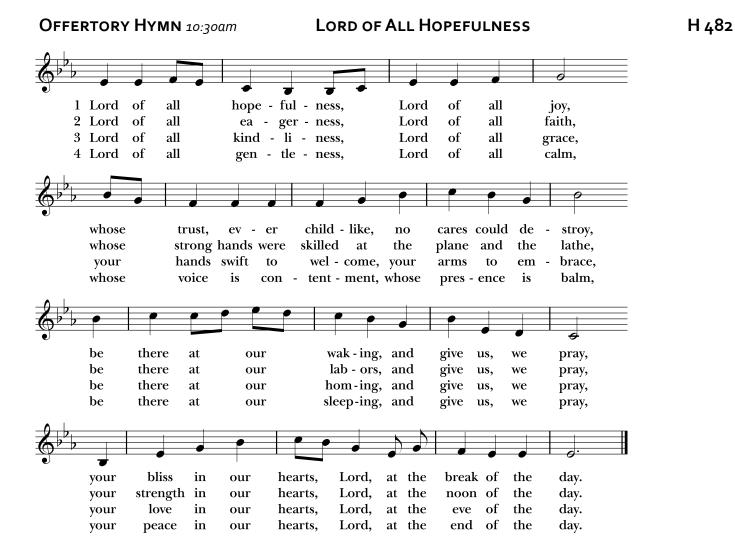
Having been nourished from the richness of God's love in sacred story and reconciled to each other through prayer and peace, we gather at Christ's table to offer ourselves to be transformed for service in the world. We listen to or sing a hymn to continue to prepare our hearts and minds for the Eucharistic Prayers to come.

### \*THE OFFERTORY 10:30 only

The gifts of bread, wine, money and other gifts are offered by the assembly to be set apart or consecrated as a reminder of Christ's sacrificial love and life. Once the Holy Table or Altar is prepared, the Presider and people give thanks to God for the many gifts we have been given by standing and singing our praise.

## LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS

#### **OCP CHOIR**

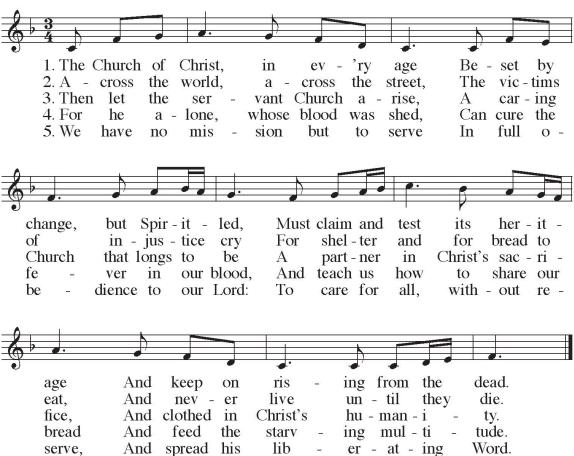


From here, continue to the yellow bulletin labelled "An Order for The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist," page 4, and return to this green insert for Communion Hymn and Sending Hymn.

# THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE OCP CHOIR

## COMMUNION HYMN 10:30am





From here, continue to the yellow bulletin labelled "An Order for The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist," page 10, for the Post-Communion Prayer.

#### **SENDING HYMN**

#### GO MY CHILDREN WITH MY BLESSING

At 8am, sing verse 1.



Continue to the yellow bulletin labelled "An Order for The Celebration of The Holy Eucharist," page 11.

You are welcome to take this green insert home with you for prayer or pondering.