

Saint Matthew Episcopal Church

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The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 11 July 23, 2023



The Liturgy of The Holy Eucharist II

Procession to the Altar Hymn #536

Open your ears

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy

Spirit.

People 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 Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from Isaiah (44:6-8)

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

Reader The Word of the Lord. People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 86:11-17

- 11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
- 12 I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, and glorify your Name for evermore.
- For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.

- **14** The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.
- But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of 15 compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

A Reading from Romans

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of the Lord. Reader Thanks be to God. People

Gradual Hymn

On Eagle's Wings

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord. 1. who abide in this shadow for life, Say to the Lord, "My Refuge, My Rock in Whom I trust."

Refrain: And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn. make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand.

2. Snares of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear; under God's wings your refuge, with faithfulness your shield. Refrain

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The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ **According to Matthew** (13:24-30, 36-43)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

(8:12-25)

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while evervbody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, `An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil: the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire. so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man

will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gradual Hymn

On Eagle's Wings

3. For to the angels God's given a command, to guard you in all of your ways, upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Refrain

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The Sermon

Silence for reflection

The Nicene Creed (Standing, as able.)

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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for the Anglican Communion, especially for the Dioceses of Venezuela - (The Episcopal Church), Vermont - (The Episcopal Church), Victoria Nyanza - (Tanzania), Virgin Islands - (The Episcopal Church), Virginia - (The Episcopal Church), Southern Virginia - (The Episcopal Church), and The Church of the Province of Central Africa; our diocese, especially for St. John's, Snohomish; and for our parish.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, especially Joseph our President, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for our armed forces, their families, and those who are deployed, especially for those we now name;

Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We thank you for all the blessings of this life, especially for those we now name.

Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for those on our prayer list and those in our hearts, praying especially for Lyn, Areewa, Marisa, Rico, Saray, Leif, Kari, Kathryn, Milana, Jackie, Elianny, Gary, Marilyn, Justin & Kendra, Alex, Janae, Travon, Debbie, Cindy, Scott, Mike, Kim,

Mike, Michele, Bob, Garry, Emerson, Robert, Sean and for those we now name;

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled. We pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Leader and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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. *Amen*

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with

you.

People And also with you.

Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

Offertory

Our Sunday loose cash offerings go to our Emergency Aid Fund, which directly serves families and individuals in need within our community. Your generosity makes saying "yes" to those who need help the most possible.



The Great Thanksgiving - C

The Celebrant faces the people and says

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and

praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Celebrant and People

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.

The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues
And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him,
and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now
bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy
Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.
On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the

blessing, broke the bread, 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." After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN*.

Lord's Prayer

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our father in heaven hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. 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 Breaking of the Bread and Holy Communion

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

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

All persons are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion in one <u>or</u> both of the elements or receive a blessing. Gluten-free hosts and alcohol-free wine are available upon request at the rail. If you have yet to be baptized and are interested in learning more about this sacrament, please see one of the clergy following the liturgy.

If you do not wish to come forward for Communion or a blessing, or if you are attending the liturgy virtually, you are invited to pray the following from The St. Augustine's Prayer Book.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive Communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, 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*.

Procession to the Neighborhood Hymn #302 Father, we thank thee

St. Matthew Mission Statement

To be a church that passionately embraces and values all people, growing in the love of Christ through word and action.

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

People Thanks be to God.