St. Andrew's Parish Church

established in 1706



THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST The Holy Eucharist with Holy Baptism at 11:00 a.m. 28 October 2018



OLD ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

The Clergy & Staff

The Vestry

THE REVEREND MARSHALL HUEY, Rector
THE REVEREND JOE VELLA, Assistant to the Rector
THE REVEREND LEE HERSHON, Deacon
DAVID ACRES, Director of Music
KIRSTEN HOLLEY, Organist/Pianist
BRAD NETTLES, JR., Director of Youth Ministry
ANNE SHAUL, Children's Christian Education Director
AMY AUSTEN, Parish Administrator
JEANNE GERHARDT, Parish Bookkeeper
GILLIAN BAGLEY, Administrative Assistant
WALTER STANLEY, Sexton

THE RT. REV. WILLIAM J. SKILTON
Bishop Suffragan, South Carolina, Ret.
Assistant Bishop, The Dominican Republic, Ret.

Robert Beard, 2019 Senior Warden Roxanne Erskine, 2020 Junior Warden Dean Bays, 2020 James Beardsley, 2021 Danielle Butler, 2020 Clay Chandler, 2021 Dale Finkbine, 2019 Margaret Gossett, 2019 James Little, 2021 Earl Smalley III, 2019 Doug Bostick, 2021 James Wilson, 2020 John Steinmeyer, Treasurer Sally Hartnett, Clerk Andy Lacour, Chancellor Paul Porwoll, Historian

THE RT. REV. MARK J. LAWRENCE, Bishop of South Carolina, XIV

SERVING TODAY

The Rev. Marshall Huey PREACHER

Deborah Sharer LECTOR

Leslie Fry Chalice Bearer Jackson Mackey McLeod Keenan Lacey Ahlers Will Johnson ACOLYTES

Rob Beard Dean Bays Robert Blitch USHERS Regina Gennaro GREETER

Nan Crist Prayers of the People Dale Finklbine Margaret Gossett James Little VESTRY IN CHARGE

Lilian Foigel Daphne Simons Darla Wier Carol Steinmeyer ALTAR GUILD

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

28 October 2018

The Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m.

This service may be found in the red Book of Common Prayer beginning on page 355

THE INTROIT

Let Thy merciful ears, O Lord

Music: Thomas Mudd (c.1575-1623) Words: Collect for 10th Sunday after Trinity

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open unto the prayers of thy humble servants:

And that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please Thee:

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN (Please stand)

Tidings (Hymnal 539)



:TIDINGS, James Walch (1837-1901)

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;

People: There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: One God and Father of all.

Welcome!

to our historic, living church where the saints have gathered to worship since 1706!

If you are visiting with us today, please take a **wel-come brochure** (located in the card rack on the back of each pew) and fill out the **visitor card**. Please place it in the offering plate or leave it with an usher.

Hearing aids are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Please **silence** your cell phone.

Did you remember to **lock** your car?

A **nursery** is available. Please ask an usher for directions.

Frontispiece: Healing of the Blind man Brian Jekel (b.1951)

The Liturgy begins with an **Acclamation**, which is an eager expression of praise. Here we identify the Triune God in whose Name we gather to worship.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The **Collect** is a prayer that touches on the theme of the Scripture readings and transitions us from speaking and singing God's praise to listening to his Holy Scriptures.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin: Grant that we, being reborn to new life in him, may live in righteousness and holiness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

Please be seated for the Lessons

The Liturgy of the Word

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 59:9-20

The Scriptures teach that much of our spiritual renewal is by the washing of the Word of God, which cleanses our minds and purifies our hearts. This portion of the service is known as the Liturgy of the Word, and it consists of the readings, the sermon, the creed, and the prayers of the people.

Therefore justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; we hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom. We grope for the wall like the blind; we grope like those who have no eyes; we stumble at noon as in the twilight, among those in full vigor we are like dead men. We all growl like bears; we moan and moan like doves; we hope for justice, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far from us. For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities: transgressing, and denying the Lord, and turning back from following our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words. Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. The Lord saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice. He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him. He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak. According to their deeds, so will he repay, wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies; to the coastlands he will render repayment. So they shall fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come like a rushing stream, which the wind of the Lord drives "And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(How long, O God)

- 1. How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord, for ever : how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?
- 2. How long shall I seek counsel in my soul, and be so vexed in my heart: how long shall mine enemies triumph over me?
- 3. Consider, and hear me, O Lord my God: lighten mine eyes, that I sleep not in death.
- 4. Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him: for if I be cast down, they that trouble me will rejoice at it.
- 5. But my trust is in thy mercy: and my heart is joyful in thy salvation.
- 6. I will sing of the Lord, because he hath dealt so lovingly with me : yea, I will praise the Name of the Lord most Highest.

THE SECOND LESSON

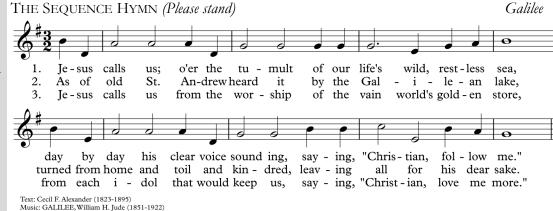
Hebrews 5:11-14 & 6:1-12

About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And this we will do if God permits. For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt. For land that has drunk the rain that often falls on it, and produces a crop useful to those for whose sake it is cultivated, receives a blessing from God. But if it bears thorns and thistles, it is worthless and near to being cursed, and its end is to be burned. Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, we feel sure of better things things that belong to salvation. For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do. And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Scriptures tell us that Jesus is the Word that became flesh and dwelled among us. In the reading of the **Holy Gospel**, the ministers process with the Gospel Book to the Crossing of the church to read the selected passage and symbolize the Word dwelling among us. The ministers process to the Crossing during this hymn.



THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 10:46-52

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Mark

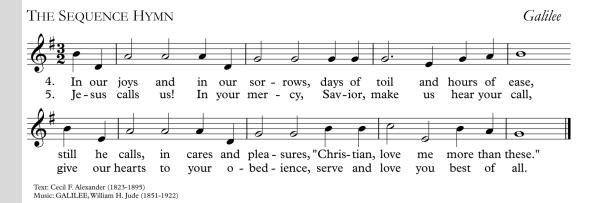
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The word **Gospel** comes from the Old English word, gōd-spell, which means "good news" or "glad tidings." That word developed from the Latin word, evangelium, and Greek, evangelium, which also literally means "good news." These are the source of the English words "e v a n g e l i s t" a n d "evangelism"

And they came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you." And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.



THE SERMON The Rev. Marshall Huey



Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Celebrant says

The Candidate(s) for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present Elsie Allen Harding to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness

that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt

and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love

of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People: We will.

The Celebrant then says

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and

earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conce-

ived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand

of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the

dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the comm-

union of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the

body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship in the

breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into

sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God

in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neigh

bor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and

respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

The Celebrant then says

Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Deacon: Deliver her O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Open *her* heart to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Fill *her* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Keep *her* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Teach *her* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Send *her* into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen*.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *People:* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen*.

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

Elsie Allen Harding, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Bishop or Priest prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *this* your *servant* the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *her* to the new life of grace. Sustain *her*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *her* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen*.

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying to each one Elsie Allen, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. Amen.

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

At this time the Rector will welcome all to the Lord's Table and share the announcements of the day.

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM - SUNG BY OUR PARISH CHOIR

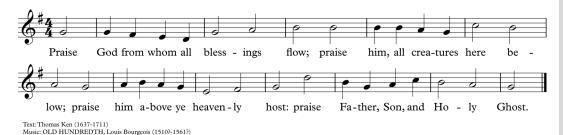
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy Music: Maurice Bevan (1921-2006) Words: F W Faber (1814-1863)

- 1. There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven; there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given.
- 2. For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind; and then heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify his strictness with a zeal he will not own.
- 3. There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head. There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss. If our love were but more simple we should take him at his word; and our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.

"There's a wideness in God's mercy" originally had eight stanzas and appeared under the title "Come to Jesus" in Faber's *Oratory Hymns* (1854). In a later collection, the hymn expanded to 13 stanzas, beginning with "Souls of men, why will ye scatter/ Like a crowd of frightened sheep?" That version was included in a posthumous collection, *Hymns Selected from F. W. Faber* (1867). Maurice Bevan studied at Magdalen College, Oxford. After serving in the military during World War II, he worked in Germany in broadcasting for a time. He returned to England in the late '40s to accept a post as vicar choral at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN (Please stand)

Old Hundredth



Celebrant: All things come of thee, O LORD, *People:* And of thine own have we given thee.

Our altar is The Lord's Table and all baptized Christians (baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are welcome to receive Holy Communion here.

In the Anglican tradition, Communion is received in two kinds: in the Bread and in the Wine. The Bread is offered first and is typically placed in one's open palm. After hearing the words "The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven," the bread is ready to be consumed. A chalice bearer will then offer the Wine. As he or she presents the cup, please gently take hold of the base of the chalice, helping the chalice bearer to guide it toward your lips.

If you or your children are not baptized, you may receive a blessing at the altar rail from the Priest. Simply cross your hands over your chest as you kneel at the rail.

Ladies, please "blot" your lipstick prior to receiving communion, as this will help preserve our beautiful altar linens.

The **Sanctus** is the song of the seraphim contained in the great vision that the prophet Isaiah experienced while worshipping in the Temple in Jerusalem. This vision is recorded in the 6th chapter of Isaiah. It is inspired by Isaiah's vision of the heavenly court "Holy, holy, holy" acknowledging the transcendence of God.

The Holy Communion

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

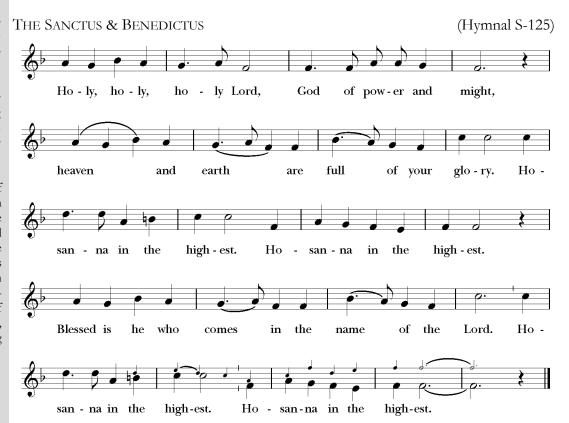
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. 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:



Please 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:

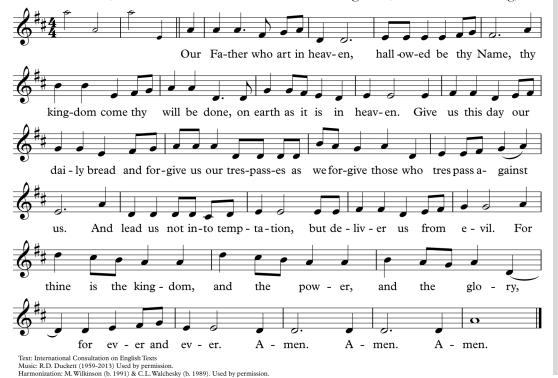
Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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, in the words our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,



When we gather together, we remember the presence of Jesus. By repeating the words and actions of Jesus' last meal with His disciples, we join the story and make it our own. We don't just watch the drama or listen to it unfold, we enter into the story as we, too, take the bread and wine and eat and drink and participate in the victory Christ has won for

This **AMEN** is often called the "Great Amen" because it is the apex of our liturgy, the powerful ending to the Eucharist Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer, so called because Jesus gave this prayer to His disciples as an example of how to pray, has been a part of Eucharistic liturgies since the fourth century. The link between "our daily bread" and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is very ancient. In the Lord's Prayer, we ask for daily bread, meaning the things we need to get through each day. But as a part of that, the sacramental bread is Jesus Christ, truly present in this bread. When we eat of this bread, we most certainly receive our daily bread.

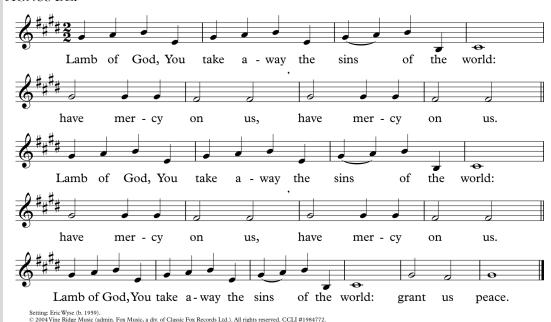
This setting was composed by the late Dr. Ricky Duckett, former music director at Old St. Andrew's.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus dei



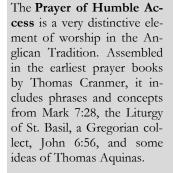
THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

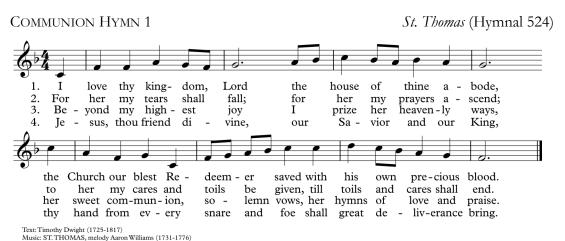
The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.





If you require a gluten-free wafer, please ask the priest at the altar rail when you kneel for Communion.

COMMUNION ANTHEM:

O Lord, give Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts Music: Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585) Words: from Lidley's Prayesr (1566)

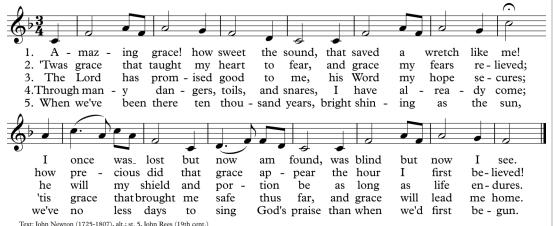
O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, and lighten our understanding,
That we may dwell in the fear of thy Name, all the days of our life,
That we may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.

The career of the English composer Thomas Tallis spans the troubled period of the reign of Henry VIII, with the sequestration of monastic property, the Protestant regime of his successor, the re-establishment of Catholicism under Queen Mary, and the subsequent changes under Queen Elizabeth. These political and religious upheavals had an obvious effect on music and musicians. Tallis began his career as organist at the Benedictine Priory at Dover, followed by similar service at Waltham Abbey until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1540. He was then organist at Canterbury Cathedral and in 1543 became a Gentleman of the Chapel Royal, a position he retained until his death. Like Byrd, his pupil, he seems to have remained loyal to the old religion while nevertheless continuing to enjoy royal favour.

The Christian life is deeply personal yet is essentially corporate by nature, not private. Every act of worship is intended not only to glorify God for His own sake, but to lift up and build up one another in Christ for His sake as well. The word "liturgy" literally means "the work of the people." A central function of liturgy is to send the message that in a worship community there are no bystanders. It is corporate through and through and from one end to the other. Singing is also a form of prayer that can help carry the heart to God not only in the words being sung but beyond the reach of words.

COMMUNION HYMN 2

New Britain (Hymnal 671)



Text: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, John Rees (19th cent.) Music: NEW BRITAIN, from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921) At Old St. Andrew's, we encourage you to continue to pray by singing both before and after you come to the Communion Rail. In this way, all of us are helping each other to lift our hearts continuously in the midst of receiving the greatest gift ever given: the life of Jesus Christ.

We have been blessed by being here. Now, at the end of the service, we are reminded that God takes loving delight in blessing us abundantly. We leave in peace, forgiven, fed, and sent out with a purpose in the name of Jesus Christ.

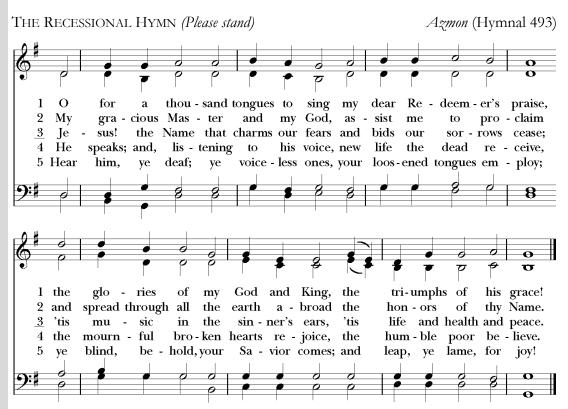
After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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



6 Glory to God and praise and love be now and ever given by saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music; Azmon, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Lacashire (Lead on O King Eternal) , Shurtleff

As the Eucharistic celebration ends, we are charged to "go forth." The Holy Eucharist is therefore not an exclusive gathering that separates us from the world but a charge to reach out beyond our own walls to the world around us.

The Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version of the Bible, Collects and Psalter translation are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.