

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2026
Holy Eucharist, Rite II
The Reverend Canon Mark A. Scheneman, presiding

The People Gather (please keep a rule of silence)

Organ Prelude

Processional Hymn *"O worship the King, all glorious above!"* **Hymn 388**

Salutation and Response **p. 355 BCP**

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

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

Collect for Purity (Celebrant) **p. 355 BCP**

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**

Gloria (sung in unison) **Hymn S-280**

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 for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of
your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and
ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God (be seated for the readings)

The Old Testament Reading **Exodus 17:1-7**

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the
Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people
quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with
me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained
against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with
thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone
me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you;
take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you
on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses

did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 25:1-8 (said responsively)

- To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * **let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- Let none who look to you be put to shame; * **let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- Show me your ways, O Lord, * **and teach me your paths.**
- Lead me in your truth and teach me, * **for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * **for they are from everlasting.**
- Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * **remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**
- Gracious and upright is the Lord; * **therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**
- He guides the humble in doing right * **and teaches his way to the lowly.**

The Epistle

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Gradual Hymn

"What wondrous love is this, O my soul"

Hymn 439

The Holy Gospel (standing)

Matthew 21:23-32

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Reverend Canon Mark Scheneman

The Nicene Creed (in unison, standing)

p. 358 BCP

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.

The Prayers of the People (respond after each petition)

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Parish Intercessions (Celebrant)

The Prayer of St. Francis (in unison)

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Confession (kneeling, in unison)

p. 360 BCP

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.

The Absolution (Celebrant)

p. 360 BCP

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 Exchange of the Peace (standing)

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

People: And also with you.

Announcements (be seated)

Offertory Hymn

"Rock of ages, cleft for me"

Hymn 685

Reception of Gifts (sung in unison)

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

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

p. 361 BCP

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

Sanctus & Benedictus (sung in unison)

Hymn S-129

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

Prayer of Consecration A (kneeling, and concluding with AMEN)

p. 362 BCP

Memorial Acclamation (in unison)

p. 363 BCP

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer (traditional words)

p. 364 BCP

The Breaking of the Bread

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

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

Angus Dei (sung in unison)

Hymn S-163

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The Administration of Holy Communion

THE HOLY TABLE around which we gather is the Lord's, not our own. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you with my own faith community, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you live in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

p. 365 BCP

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 (Celebrant)

Recessional Hymn:

"All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine"

Hymn 477

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Today's altar flowers are given by Alan W. Benton in loving memory of his wife, Katherine R. Benton, on her birthday, who is safely in God's care.