



**The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
with the Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi
and the Blessing of Animals**

October 1, 2023

WELCOME

to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Big Rapids, MI

Seeking every day to love God
with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and
to love our neighbors as ourselves.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Cadillac, MI

We strive to live out the Great
Commandment: To love the Lord with all
our heart, soul, and mind and to love our
neighbors as ourselves.

If you have a faith or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.
If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home, we'd love to get to know you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn *All stand as able.* *Come thou fount of every blessing, Hymnal, #688*

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Celebrant Blessed be the God of all creation.

People **And blessed be God's holy Name forever.**

The celebrant prays the collect for purity.

Song of Praise *The Canticle of the Creatures, St. Francis of Assisi*

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and all blessing. To You alone, Most High, do they belong, and no human is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, who is the day and through whom You give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor; and bears a likeness of You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars, in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful. Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather, through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water, who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste. Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom You light the night, and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your love, and bear infirmity and tribulation. Blessed are those who endure in peace for by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no one living can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin. Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will, for the second death shall do them no harm.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks and serve Him with great humility.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you**

Celebrant Let us pray. *The celebrant prays the collect of the day.*

The Collect for St. Francis

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord: Grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfect joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *All sit as able. Texts found in the bulletin insert.*

First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

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

The Psalm

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

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

Gospel Hymn *All stand as able.*

Thy Word, Pew Folder, p.107

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

Before the Gospel:

Celebrant Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Gospel:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

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

Hymn after the Gospel

I Love you Lord, Pew Folder, p.44

Homily

Mtr. Radha Kaminski

The Nicene Creed *Said in unison, all 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.

The Prayers of the People

Praying the Scriptures

Intercessor Brothers and sisters, in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Humbly then, let us approach our God, saying, "To will and work for your good pleasure, **O Lord, enable us.**"

Christ Jesus, strengthen our tongues to declare you as Lord of our lives. May we, your Church, glorify your Heavenly Parent in word and deed. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant. Transfiguration, Indian River, St. Paul's, Corunna - Russ, Priest-in-Charge,

St. Paul's, Muskegon – Eileen, Rector. We pray for all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Barrett, Alex, Matt, and Anne Marie, Abraham, John, Stephanie, Thon, Jessica, Julianne, Rachel, Cathy, Kathryn, Kris, Johnathan, Theresa. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Mary, Deb, Laura, Jennifer, Christi, Paige. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People **O Lord, enable us.**

Intercessor Christ Jesus, you chose not to exploit your equality with God, but humbled yourself to be with us. Give us your heart for the marginalized and poor. And may all people, especially those in powers, follow your example of humility. *Silence*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People **O Lord, enable us.**

Intercessor Christ Jesus, by your birth in human likeness you blessed all of creation. Remind us that your feet have trod our soil and tasted our waters. Give us the will to care for this precious planet. *Silence*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People **O Lord, enable us.**

Intercessor Christ Jesus, you rule the world with love and compassion. Give to our local leaders compassion and vision that the people of our region might live as neighbors, looking out for each other's interests. *Silence*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People **O Lord, enable us.**

Intercessor We pray for those in positions of authority in our country and in the world, especially Joe, our president; Gretchen our governor; Carla, our mayor. *Silence*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Intercessor Christ Jesus, you became obedient to the point of death that we might have abundant life. Work marvels in the lives of the sick and sorrowful. May they recount to generations the wonderful deeds you have done in their lives. We pray for those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer:

Jennifer, Brian, Madi, Larry, Erin, Dorothea, Candy & Jim, Lonnie & Heather, Mike & Connie, Sharon & Family, Ron & Judy; For those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Beth, Christi, Liz, Sharyn, Nan, Painter Family, Sally, Larry & Nancy, Jeffrey, Rodger & Judy; For our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Richard, Corey, Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Eli, Jess; And for all those we name at this time. *Silence*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Intercessor Christ Jesus, through death and resurrection you were highly exalted by God. Continue your good work in those who now rest from their labors. May all the dead find new and lasting life in you. *Silence*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People O Lord, enable us.

Celebrant Holy Immortal One: No sparrow falls without your knowing it; nothing dies but is remembered by you; nothing comes into being that you do not see. Give us courage and resolve to build up the common good, holding fast to the hope of a new creation in which all shall dwell eternally, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin *Said in unison, kneeling as able.*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God. *Silence may be kept.*

All **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.**

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 Blessing of the Animals

Celebrant God's animals inhabit the skies, the land, and the sea; we share the earth with them, and like them rely on God's blessing to sustain and preserve us. We gather today in communion and friendship with Francis of Assisi who preached to animals and moved throughout the known world sharing God's unconditional love for all beings. Remembering Francis' love for all God's creatures, bring forward the animals entrusted to your care that we may bless them.

Those who bring animals for blessing hold or place their hands on their animals in blessing. They are blessed by name by the Presider, using these or other words. If animals are not present, the Presider joins in prayer with those who come remembering them.

Celebrant N., May God who created and preserves you bless, defend, heal, and keep you, this day and always. **Amen.**

When all have been blessed the Presider prays:

Celebrant Let us pray.
God of all creation: we give you thanks and praise. Open our eyes to see your hand at work in all creation. May your bountiful blessing be upon us all, God our Redeemer, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace *All stand as able.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.** *The people greet each other in the name of the Lord.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory *The celebrant says the offertory sentence.*

Offertory Hymn *Jesus name above all names, Pew Folder, p.59*

After all the gifts are brought to the altar, all say in unison:

All things come of thee, O Lord. And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving *All stand as able.* **Eucharistic Prayer 2**

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being; sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Pew Folder, p.87

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Francis and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

It is our tradition to gather in a circle to say the Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to either stand and join hands, or remain seated and we will encircle you.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom
 come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day
 our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
 who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver
 us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.




People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**




The Invitation

The celebrant says the invitation.

Everyone is welcome to receive communion. There is no one who is too old or too young, no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. This is the altar prepared by a loving God for all creation by the power of Jesus Christ. You, who are part of that creation, are welcome.

Please come forward down the center aisle to in front of the altar to receive communion or a blessing. If you need communion brought to you, let an usher know.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD - You can either,		
	CONSUME	Hold out your hands and then eat the bread after it is placed in your hand.
	GLUTEN-FREE	If you require a gluten-free wafer, please clasp your hands.
	BLESSING	If you prefer not to receive, cross your arms for a blessing.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WINE - You can either,		
	DRINK	Hold the base of the chalice and guide it to your lips to drink the wine.
	INTINCT	Hold up the bread. The minister will take the bread, dip it for you, and hand it back to you.
	NOT RECEIVE	Cross your arms. The minister will hold the chalice up, but you will not drink.

Communion Hymn

Shepherd of souls, Hymnal, #343

Prayer after Communion

All stand or kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

The Blessing

All stand as able while the celebrant blesses the people.

May God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Tell out my soul, Hymnal, #437

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Amen. Amen.**

Lord, make me an instrument of your

PEACE

Where there is hatred, let me sow

LOVE

Where there is injury

PARDON

Where there is doubt

FAITH

Where there is despair

HOPE

Where there is darkness

LIGHT

Where there is sadness

JOY

-Prayer of Saint Francis -

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