



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 3, 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: RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

BCP, p. 355

Processional Hymn

The God of Abraham praise, Hymnal, #401

All stand as able.

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

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

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

The celebrant prays the collect for purity.

The Gloria *Said in unison.*

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. *The celebrant prays the collect of the day.*

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

First Reading **Exodus 3:1-15**

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

The Psalm **Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c**

Second Reading **Romans 12:9-21**

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 16:21-28**

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 **Fr. Everett Klein**

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 My sisters and brothers, be kindly affectioned one to another with love. And let us come before God, saying, “We glory in your holy name, **and offer to you our prayer O Lord.**”

Lord Jesus, you bid your disciples take up their cross and follow you: may your holy Church desire, above all, the things of God that we might overcome evil with good. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Prince, our Bishop Provisional; Radha, our Rector; our Central

Michigan Episcopal Covenant. Transfiguration, Indian River, The Coppage Gordon School for Ministry, St. Luke's, Kalamazoo – Randall, 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*

We glory in your holy name,

People **And offer to you our prayer, O Lord.**

Intercessor Lord God of our forebears, you know the sorrows of the afflicted:
Deliver those who are being oppressed. And grant your peace to all the world. *Silence*

We glory in your holy name,

People **And offer to you our prayer, O Lord.**

Intercessor Good Lord, you make known your wondrous works: reveal yourself in the works of your hands as even you did to Moses our forebear on the holy mountain. *Silence*

We glory in your holy name,

People **And offer to you our prayer, O Lord.**

Intercessor O Lord, grant that the people of our land be given to hospitality. May we abhor that which is evil and cleave to that which is good and, in so doing, may we live peaceably one with another. *Silence*

We glory in your holy name,

People **And offer to you our prayer, O Lord.**

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*

We glory in your holy name,

People And offer to you our prayer, O Lord.

Intercessor Strong Lord, make us weep with those who weep. Reveal your strength to the weak and lowly that they may rejoice in all your marvelous works. We pray for those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: Ron & Judy, Alice, Jennifer, Brian, Madi, Larry, Erin, Dorothea, Candy & Jim, Lonnie & Heather, Mike & Connie; For those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Beth, Karen & Mark, Christi, Liz, Sharyn, Painter Family, Nan, Sally; 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*

We glory in your holy name,

People And offer to you our prayer, O Lord.

Intercessor Almighty God, you reward each one according to their works: Give to the dead, especially Harlan, rest from their labors and life everlasting. *Silence*

We glory in your holy name,

People And offer to you our prayer, O Lord.

Celebrant Loving God, Coat the year before us with miracles of your mercy and strength, and help us appreciate most of all the bedrock miracle of your presence with us in every single ordinary, sacred moment. Lead us this school year into life-giving rhythms of grace and light, where our regular routines become the framework for worship and blessing. **Amen.**

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

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

All **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 *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.*

Blessing of the Backpacks

from Illustrated Ministry

All students, teachers, and schoolworkers are invited to come forward with their backpack, workbag, or other symbol of their work for a blessing as the school year begins.

The celebrant passes out the backpack tags then says this blessing:

Celebrant *NAME[S]*, this school year, may you be curious and kind, gentle and strong, brave and loving.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.
God of fresh starts and new beginnings,
we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our backpacks to you.
In our backpacks, we carry blank pages,
sharpened pencils, and pointy crayons,
and in our hearts, we carry big feelings,
unanswered questions, and hopeful expectations.
There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring
— of what we might learn, who we might meet,
and who we might become.
God, our friend who is always with us, be with us through it all.
Be with us as we ride the bus.
Be with us as we walk.
Be with us as we buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes.
However we get there, and whatever we wear,
bless this journey into something new.
For the grown-ups going back to school,
With-Us God, be with them too.
Thank you for our teachers, helpers, caregivers, and leaders,
and for all they do to help us learn and grow.
God, our friend who's full of wonder,
fill their hearts and bless their hands. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory *The celebrant says the offertory sentence.*

Offertory Hymn *Let my people go, Hymnal, #648*

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

Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP p. 361

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 offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ, and in response all sing:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Pew Folder, p.87

The people stand or kneel as able while the celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine. Then says:

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

The celebrant concludes with a prayer for the coming of God's reign. The people respond
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 Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;




People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**




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

Take my life and let it be, Hymnal, #707

Prayer after Communion

All stand or kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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 Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

The Blessing

All stand as able while the celebrant blesses the people.

Recessional Hymn

Lord dismiss us, Hymnal, #344

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

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