



## THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost | Proper 21

8:30 am and 10:30 am • Sep 27, 2026

Abbreviations: **BCP** Book of Common Prayer | **CG** A Child's Guide to the Holy Eucharist | **LEVAS II** Lift Every Voice and Sing II | **WLP** Wonder, Love and Praise

### THE PRELUDE

*Engelberg*

David Cherwien

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

477. All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine

*Engelberg*

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355 | GC 3

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

**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.**

### THE SONG OF PRAISE

8:30 Gloria (Spoken)

BCP 356 | CG 5

10:30 S280. Glory to God in the highest

R. Powell

# THE WORD OF GOD

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*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.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE CHILDREN'S HOMILY

*After the homily, the children may return to sit with their families and follow along in the "Child's Guide to the Holy Eucharist," found in each pew.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

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?"

*Scripture readings are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalm

PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16

ATTENDITE, POPULE

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, \*  
and the wonderful works he has done.

12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \*  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*  
he made the waters stand up like walls.

14 He led them with a cloud by day, \*  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.

16 He brought streams out of the cliff, \*  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

## THE SECOND LESSON

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, being 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.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## THE SEQUENCE HYMN

707. Take my life, and let it be

*Hollingside*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to 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.**

*Please be seated.*

THE SERMON THE REV. JIM MELNYK

*Please stand, as you are able.*

THE NICENE CREED BCP 358 | CG 9

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE God of all that was, and is, and is to come we pray this morning for communities of faith the world over. Inspire us to hear your word, to do your work, and to see your hand at work in the world around us.

This we pray, **Hear us Lord.**

Jesus, Child of God, remind us that we are also God’s children. Help us to see your face in the face of friend and stranger, foreigner and outcast, prisoners and enemies, and to turn away from fear, anger and resentment and towards love, joy and hope.

This we pray, **Hear us Lord.**

Holy Spirit, breath of God, we invite you into our lives and our hearts and into this community at Church of the Nativity. Enliven us, Inspire us, and strengthen us for the doing of your work.

This we pray, **Hear us Lord.**

Triune God, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier, we pray for this nation, and for all nations, that struggles and divisions may cease, that war and conflict may be brought to an end, and that our leaders may see the world through your eyes, be agents of your love, and architects of your joy.

This we pray, **Hear us Lord.**

We pray for those in our community who are sick, struggling or in need, including Alice, Barry, Betty, Bill, Catherine, Chuck, Diane, Eva, Jan, Jane, Liz, Maxine, Nancy, Nancy, Remmy, Sandy, Tom, Brielle, Stan, Matthew + Mary, Shari, Keith, Nathan, and Marie and those we now name.

This we pray, **Hear us Lord.**

We pray for our families and friends including Bella, Caline, Danielle, Denise, Evonne, Gemma, Hannah, Heather, Joelle, John, Joseph, Kate, Keili, Kenny, Leeann, Lois, Lori, Margaret, Moira, Nathan, Renee, Rosalie, Roy, Sandy, Sandy, Sara, Shannon, Shannon, Stephanie, John, Sarah, Irina, Mel, John, Lake, John, Dana, Randy, Annabelle, and Urs. We pray for Adam and Sarah, who are expecting a child, and for Isaac Andrew, child of Taylor and Drew, recently born, and Coast Wilder Stark, great nephew of Ailsa and Ken Tessier, and those we now name.

This we pray, **Hear us Lord.**

We pray also for those who have died, especially Charles Keith, that they may find rest in your eternal Kingdom.

This we pray, **Hear us Lord.**

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Margaret's, Waxhaw; and St. Mark's, Wilson.

In the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer, we pray for The Church of Bangladesh.

In the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries cycle of prayer, we pray for our chaplains, military members, their families, Bishop Ann Ritonia, and those serving in Arkansas at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Camp Robinson, Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Federal Correctional Complex Forrest City, the Fayetteville VA Medical Center, and the Little Rock VA Medical Center. And our priest associates, The Rev. George Ardrey-Black and the Rev. Ryan Parker, in their ministries.

This we pray, **Hear us Lord.**

*The celebrant adds a concluding collect*

**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 PEACE

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

THE OFFERTORY

*Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake*

Farrant / Hilton

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge,  
but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives.  
To decline from sin and incline to virtue,  
that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee, now and evermore.  
Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY

380. Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow (vs. 3)

*Old 100th*

*Please stand, as you are able.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

SANCTUS

S125. Holy, holy, holy Lord

R. Proulx

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Traditional Version

BCP 364 | CG 22

THE FRACTION ANTHEM (SPOKEN)

BCP 364 | CG 23

THE COMMUNION HYMN

S155. Christ our Passover

G. Near

341. For the bread which you have broken

*Omni die*

*Please stand, as you are able.*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365 | CG 25

**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 SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

*People* **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

THE FINAL HYMN

347. Go forth for God; go to the world in peace

*Litton*

THE DISMISSAL

*The Deacon, or Celebrant, dismisses the People, and the People respond:*  
**Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Prelude in G Major, BWV 568

JS Bach







# Church of the Nativity

A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina  
8849 Ray Road, Raleigh, NC 27613 | 919-846-8338

## CLERGY AND STAFF

|                              |                                                             |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Rev. Dr. Grey Maggiano   | Rector                                                      |
| The Rev. George Ardrey-Black | Priest Associate                                            |
| The Rev. Ryan Parker         | Priest Associate                                            |
| Sarah O'Connor               | Interim Lay Associate for Christian Formation               |
| Christopher Curbelo          | Interim Lay Associate for Communications and Administration |
| Jason Pace                   | Choirmaster and Organist                                    |
| Monique Holmes               | Business Manager                                            |
| Eva Warren                   | Nursery Attendant                                           |
| Robert Krahel                | Sexton                                                      |



Scan this QR code to fill out a welcome card, give online, and more.

*We thank the following people for their service today*

|                        |                                                                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PREACHER               | The Rev. Jim Melnyk                                                        |
| CELEBRANT              | The Rev. Jim Melnyk                                                        |
| MUSICIANS              | Jason Pace and The Nativity Choir                                          |
| LECTORS                | Viola Baldwin, Mary Benton-Gordon, Ann Ramirez, Joan Parente, Robin Rhaney |
| EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS | Alicia Lester-Bodford, Logan Lee                                           |
| TORCHES                | Hannah Parker, Arjun Pant                                                  |
| CRUCIFER               | Vance Dutton                                                               |
| ALTAR GUILD            | Mary Hilmer, Catherine Maddox, Emily Phillips                              |
| ALTAR FLOWERS          | Ailsa Tessier                                                              |
| LIVESTREAM TECHNICIAN  | Duff McAdams                                                               |
| USHER                  | Scott Beaver, Matt Chytka                                                  |
| VESTRY REPRESENTATIVE  | Sam Wesonga                                                                |