

Welcome
to the
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd!

We welcome you to this celebration of God's Good News!
We are happy to have you with us and pray this worship service brings to you
the joy and peace of Christ.

Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith,
you are welcome here.

May God's blessing and peace be with you.

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, *Bishop of Missouri*
The Rev. C. Earl Mahan, *Rector*
The Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke, *Assisting Priest*
Bobbi Reese, *Organist and Choir Director*



Liturgical Participants for August 22, 2021

Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke, *Presider and Preacher*
Mickey Harrison, *Lector*
Bobbi Reese, Bethany Barr, Bernard Barth, Connor Donnelly,
Jennifer Holtmann, Joanne Owen, Mary Scott, Vicki Thompson, *Musicians*
Brenda Finch, *Usher*
Lesley McIntire, Mike Burd, *Counters*
Carol Link, Brenda Finch, *Altar Guild*
Barry Schenck, Mark Dinzler, *Videography*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Please stand.

HOLY BAPTISM

PROCESSIONAL

Alleluia! sing to Jesus

Hymn 460

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Presider: There is one body and one Spirit;

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

Presider: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: **One God and Father of all.**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

THE OPENING COLLECT

Presider: Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43

Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your

hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, ‘There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.’ Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant’s prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, ‘My name shall be there,’ that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

“Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE: Psalm 84 *Quam dilecta!* (Said by all)

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

THE SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Sequence Hymn

How lovely is thy dwelling place

Hymn 517

THE GOSPEL: John 6:56-69

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke

Following the sermon, a brief period of silence is observed.

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Presider: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents: I present June Anne Mercurio to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Presider: Will you be responsible for seeing that this child you present are brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Presider: 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.

Presider: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Parents and Godparents: I renounce them.

Presider: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Parents and Godparents: I renounce them.

Presider: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Parents and Godparents: I renounce them.

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

Parents and Godparents: I do.

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

Parents and Godparents: I do.

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

Parents and Godparents: I do.

Presider: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this child in their life in Christ?

People: **We will.**

Presider: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own Baptismal Covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

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

Presider: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Presider: 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.**

Presider: 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.**

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: 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

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

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Presider: 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

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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

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

Presider: 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 Presider 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

Presider: June Anne Mercurio, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon her, 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 Presider places a hand on the person's head, marking with oil on the forehead the sign of the cross.

Presider: June Anne Mercurio, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: **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

All stand.

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another with the Peace of God.

Please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

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

Presider: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

SANCTUS *(Sung by all)*

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

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah, you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.

Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Presider: Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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.**

Presider: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

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

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

AGNUS DEI *(Sung by all)*

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 your peace

THE INVITATION

In the Episcopal Church, all Baptized persons, regardless of age or denomination, are invited to receive Communion. A consecrated gluten-free wafer may be requested from the Celebrant. If you are not baptized or do not want to receive communion you are invited to come up for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music during Communion

The Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand.

Presider: 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 BLESSING

Closing Hymn

I love thy kingdom, Lord

Hymn 524

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude