

**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 October 31, 2021**

Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke, *Presider and Preacher*

Carie Kennedy, *Lector*

Bobbi Reese, Bethany Barr, Bernard Barth, Connor Donnelly,  
Jennifer Holtmann, Joanne Owen, Vicki Thompson, *Musicians*

Brenda Finch, *Usher*

Carie Kennedy, Paul Mercurio, *Counters*

Carol Link, Brenda Finch, *Altar Guild*

Barry Schenck, Mark Dinzler, *Videography*

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## Announcements

## Prelude

## Opening Hymn

Praise to the living God

Hymn 372

*Presider:* Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

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

*Presider:* 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 by all)*

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.

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us pray.

## THE OPENING COLLECT

*Presider:* Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### THE FIRST LESSON: Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said,

"Do not press me to leave you  
or to turn back from following you!  
Where you go, I will go;  
Where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people,  
and your God my God.  
Where you die, I will die—  
there will I be buried.  
May the Lord do thus and so to me,  
and more as well,  
if even death parts me from you!"

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

**PSALM 146**      *Lauda, anima mea*      (Said by all.)

Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul! \*

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
for there is no help in them.

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

The LORD loves the righteous;  
the LORD cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The LORD shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

## **THE SECOND LESSON:** Hebrews 9:11-14

When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

**Sequence Hymn**

Lo! what a cloud of witnesses

Hymn 545

## **THE GOSPEL:** Mark 12:28-34

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

One of the scribes came near and heard the Saducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,' —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

*Presider:* The Gospel of our Savior.  
*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke

## THE NICENE CREED

*Please stand.*

*People:* 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Presider:* In gratitude for all we have received, every perfect gift that comes from God above, we gather to offer our intentions, petitions, and thanksgivings to God.

*Leader:* We pray for the Church, founded on the gift of your Word, and for all who gather to worship, praise, and work. Pour your blessings on Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Deon, our Bishop, and our clergy and leadership. Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

May we who witness your saving acts in the world, be ever grateful for Every Perfect Gift.

*People:* **Which comes from God above.**

*Leader:* We pray for the world, your greatest Gift to us, and the gift of all Creation. We pray for the welfare of our planet, and for the wise stewardship of our world. Bless and guide our President, Joseph, our legislative and judicial institutions, and the members of our local government. May they forever care for the people they represent and work for peace and justice. I invite your prayers for our world, either aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

*Silence*

May we who witness your power in the world, be ever grateful for Every Perfect Gift.

*People:* **Which comes from God above.**

*Leader:* We pray for the work of our church in the world. As we enter this season of intention and focus on the gifts that we give, inspire us to be generous with our time, our talent, and our treasure. May we who witness the impact of our gifts in our community be grateful for Every Perfect Gift.

*People:* **Which comes from God above.**

*Leader:* We pray for ongoing work of the Discernment Team of Good Shepherd and St. Luke's, that together we may hear the voice of God, sense the movement of the Holy Spirit, and follow the way of love that Jesus bids us walk. May we who witness your wisdom in the world, be ever grateful for Every Perfect Gift.

*People:* **Which comes from God above.**

*Leader:* We pray for our neighbors and all who need or request our prayers. We remember the sick, the lonely, the suffering; those oppressed domestically or abroad and those in prison; for all who give care and comfort to those in need; for the poor and those who sleep on our streets; for those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

*Silence*

We pray for those whose needs are known to you alone. May we who witness your healing in the world, be grateful for Every Perfect Gift.

*People:* **Which comes from God above.**

*Leader:* We pray for those who have died. May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them. We pray for those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

*Silence*

Thank you especially for those members of our legacy society whose gifts to the church are felt beyond their lifetimes. May we who witness your eternal love in the world, be grateful for Every Perfect Gift.

*People:* **Which comes from God above.**

*Leader:* It is impossible to number the blessings we have received, the many gifts that we have been given and those we share with the world. For what are you thankful today?

*Silence*

May we who witness our gifts at work in the world, be grateful for Every Perfect Gift.

*People:* **Which comes from God above.**

*Presider:* With grateful hearts we thank you, Abundant God for hearing the faithful prayers of your people, granting them grace and love and blessings for Every Perfect Gift.

*People:* **Amen.**



## CONFESSION OF SIN

*Presider:* If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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 our Savior 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.**

*Presider:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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.*

*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.*

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## Offertory Sentence

## Offertory Music

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Please stand.*

*Presider:* God 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 God thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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:* Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

*Presider:* After supper 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 shed for you and for many 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:* We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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**

*Presider:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The Bread and Cup are given to the communicants with these words:*  
The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.

## **Music during Communion**

### **The Post-Communion Prayer**

*Please stand.*

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*All:* **Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING**

**Closing Hymn**      Led on their way by this triumphant sign      Hymn 473

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*Presider:*      Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior.

*People:*      **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**