

## *St. Thomas' Episcopal Church*

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# The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 3, 2021

## The Holy Eucharist

**Prelude**

*Priere a Notre-Dame*

Boellmann

**Hymn #376** (vs. 1 and 3) *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee*

Hymn to Joy

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

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

*The Celebrant may say*

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.**

**S280** *Gloria in excelsis*

Powell

**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**

*The Celebrant says to the people:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## The Word of God

### **The First Lesson Job 1:1; 2:1-10**

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Job.

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

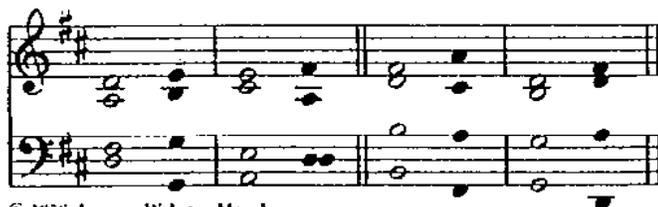
So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 26** (all chant the psalm on the following tone)



- <sup>1</sup> Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; \*  
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- <sup>2</sup> Test me, O LORD, and try me; \*  
examine my heart and my mind.
- <sup>3</sup> For your love is before my eyes; \*  
I have walked faithfully with you.
- <sup>4</sup> I have not sat with the worthless, \*  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.
- <sup>5</sup> I have hated the company of evil doers; \*  
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- <sup>6</sup> I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, \*  
that I may go in procession round your altar,
- <sup>7</sup> Singing aloud a song of thanks giving \*  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- <sup>8</sup> LORD, I love the house in which you  dwell  \*  
and the place where your glory abides.
- <sup>9</sup> Do not sweep me away with sinners, \*  
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,
- <sup>10</sup> Whose hands are full of evil plots, \*  
and their right hand full of bribes.
- <sup>11</sup> As for me, I will live with integrity; \*  
redeem me, O LORD, and have pity on me.
- <sup>12</sup> My foot stands on level ground; \*  
in the full assembly I will bless the LORD.

## **The Epistle Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

A reading from the Book of Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
or mortals, that you care for them?

You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;  
you have crowned them with glory and honor,  
subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

**Sequence Hymn #480 (vs. 1 and 2) *When Jesus left his Father's throne***

Kingsfold

## **The Holy Gospel Mark 10:2-16**

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Sermon**

*The congregation may stand.*

### **The Nicene Creed**

**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**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

Form VI

For this community, the nation, and the world, especially the people of Haiti and Afghanistan;

***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

For the just and proper use of your creation;

***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble, especially those in the path of hurricanes, floods, and fires;

***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Rob our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers, and especially Bonnie, our priest;

***For all who serve God in his Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. For ***John Tolbert, Bobbie and Rendol Cobb, Julia Credle, Peggy Parker, Elsie Benson, Riley Raines, Mary Gillam, Rita Hoggard, Beth Bryant, Baron Chamblee, Emma Cobb, Daniel Perry, John Tyler, and others known to us.***

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially for the marriage of Amelia Capehart and David Reed. This week in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we give thanks for Church of the Good Shepherd, Wilmington, and Zion Episcopal Church, Washington.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

We pray for all who have died, especially Mary Chappell and Hal Wiggins, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

***Who put their trust in you.***

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

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**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*(Please stay in place and share from a distance.)*

## **The Holy Communion**

### **Offertory Anthem**

*How Sweet The Name Of Jesus Sounds*

Reinagle

*(Please place your offering in the plate in the narthex as you enter or exit. During the anthem, the altar will be prepared for the Holy Communion.)*

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest says*

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**S 125 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**

Proulx

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father of all. He 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 Lord 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."

After supper he 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:

*Celebrant and People*

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

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 may be sung or said*

*Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;*

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

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:*

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.

*(Please stay in place, and the bread will be brought to you. There is a small trash can in the narthex for the wrapper when you exit. The chalice will remain on the altar, per diocesan guidelines.)*

### **Post Communion Prayer**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says:*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People:*

**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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

**Hymn #397** (vs. 1 and 3)      ***Now thank we all our God***

Nun danket alle Gott

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them*

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

**Postlude**

*Festival Rondo*

Purcell

## **The Ministers of the Liturgy**

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Bonnie J. Smith

**Organist:** Tom Parker

**Lector:** Emily Wilson

**Soloist:** John Hill

**Altar Guild:** Kristy Copeland and Rosanna Rhea

**Hostesses:** Jaquelin Perry, Gina Rascoe, and Karen Ray

**Counters:** Dean Fisk and Pat Ivey

**Ushers:** Wood Farless and Chip Warren

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Crayons, coloring pages, and children's bulletins are available in the narthex.

Bishop Skirving's visitation with St. Thomas' Church is scheduled for Sunday, October 24 at 11:00 a.m. By custom, the loose offering on that day will be given to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund to be used for needs of the Church not covered by the diocesan budget.

The priest will meet with the October altar guild and eucharistic ministers after worship today to review new diocesan guidelines for communion.

Please take your printed bulletin with you or drop it into the designated recycling bin. Please visit outside.

The altar flower signup sheet may be found here:

<https://stthomasbiblestudy.com/altar-flowers-volunteer/>

The vestry has instituted the following COVID safeguards: pews are separated for social distancing; you are asked to wear a mask as you enter and exit and when you are in close proximity to others; and we will sing 2-3 verses of the hymns.

The CDC COVID data county view states that "everyone in Bertie County should wear a mask in public, indoor settings."

From current diocesan guidelines: All involved in ministries with children, and in particular with children who are too young to be vaccinated, should continue to wear a mask and practice physical distancing.