

**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 25, 2024**

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Hymns are found in the blue *Hymnal 1982* in your pew.  
The 'S' numbers are located at the front of the hymnal.

The service begins in quiet and prayer.

**Prelude:** *Aria (Haroutian)* Alan Hovhaness (1911-2000)  
Oliver Barron, Trumpet

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**Processional Hymn 408:** *Sing Praise to God*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*People* **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, Hymn S-280:** *Glory to God* (10:00 am only)

*People* **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.**

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray. 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 First Lesson:** *Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel:

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 34:15-22**

<sup>15</sup> The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, \*  
and his ears are open to their cry.

<sup>16</sup> The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, \*  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

<sup>17</sup> The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them \*  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup> The Lord is near to the brokenhearted \*  
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

<sup>19</sup> Many are the troubles of the righteous, \*  
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.

<sup>20</sup> He will keep safe all his bones; \*  
not one of them shall be broken.

<sup>21</sup> Evil shall slay the wicked, \*  
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

<sup>22</sup> The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, \*  
and none will be punished who trust in him.

**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.**

**Sequence Hymn 633:** *Word of God*

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

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

**The Gospel:** *John 6:56-69*

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."

*Reader* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

**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

*Please stand or kneel*

We praise your abiding guidance, O God, for you sent us Jesus, our Teacher and Messiah, to model for us the way of love. We offer these prayers on behalf of ourselves and our neighbors, on behalf of your creation and our fellow creatures. *A brief silence* Gracious God, your son Jesus gives us the words of eternal life that we might live as people of faith. Grant us the resilience and strength to weather the challenges we face.

*People* **God of life, hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for this congregation and your whole church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it. **God of life, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are broken-hearted and those who struggle in strained relationships. We give thanks for all those who share their lives with others: for parents and grandparents who seek to provide a stable home-life in an often unstable world; for educators who seek to bring knowledge where there is confusion; for artists who seek to bring beauty where there is squalor. **God of life, hear our prayer.**

God of peace, send your healing Spirit upon all involved in the conflict in the Middle East, Ukraine, and all places torn apart by violence and war. Comfort those who mourn and those who have been harmed by brutality. Stand with those who are fearful. Protect refugees and humanitarian relief efforts. Inspire and uphold those who even now work for a just and durable peace. **God of life, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are ill including those on our prayer list, those in our hearts, and those whose suffering is known to you alone. *Pause* Restore them to wholeness and health in your good time and in your good way. **God of life, hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, let us pray for those who are dear to us. *Silence* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them and love one another as he loves us. **God of life, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those whom we love but see no longer, remembering especially Margaret Howell Welch and Dorothy Rovelstad Nesse, in whose memory the flowers are given this week. Be with all who mourn and grant rest and peace to those who dwell with you in the heavenly city. **God of life, hear our prayer.**

Life-giving God, heal our lives, that we may acknowledge your wonderful deeds and offer you thanks from generation to generation through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

**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.**

*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

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**Offertory Voluntary:** *Adoration* Florence Price (1887-1953)  
Oliver Barron, Trumpet

**Offertory Hymn 632:** *O Christ, the Word Incarnate*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** Eucharistic Prayer A

*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 our thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ.*

**Sanctus:** *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant gives thanks for the reconciling work of Christ through his passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.*

*Celebrant* Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*People* **Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic prayer.*

*Celebrant* By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit of all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

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

## Fraction Anthem

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

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

*Please come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The priest will place the bread in your outstretched palm (Consecrated rice wafers are available for those with wheat allergies - simply ask the priest). You may dip (intinct) the bread in the wine in the small cup held by the Eucharistic minister. Alternatively, you may indicate your desire to drink from the common chalice by consuming the bread and remaining at the rail after the Eucharistic minister passes; another Eucharistic minister will bring the large chalice over for you to drink from directly. Please know that Christ is fully present in both the bread and the wine - there is no requirement to receive both. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward, cross your hands over your chest, and receive a blessing.*

**Communion Voluntary:** *Break Bread Together* arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

**Communion Hymn 460:** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*

*When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are taking Holy Communion to those unable to be with us in person, we say the following*

*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation, we 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.**

## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*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 Blessing

**Closing Hymn 690:** *Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

## Dismissal

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Postlude:** *Non morietur in Aeternum* Henri Sauguet (1901-1989)  
Oliver Barron, Trumpet