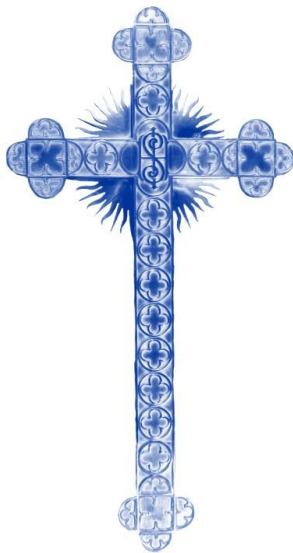


# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

September 13, 2026 ✠ 10:30 am



## The Word of God

Voluntary

**Hymn # 376**

Joyful, joyful we adore thee

*Hymn to Joy*

Opening Acclamation

BCP, p. 355

S-280\*

Glory to God

Robert Powell

The Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The First Lesson**

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

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

## The Psalm

## Psalm 103:1-13 *Benedic, anima mea*

Jerome Webster Meachen  
(b. 1930)



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- 1 Bless the Lord, O my **soul**, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy **Name**.
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my **soul**, \*  
and forget not all his **benefits**.
- 3 He forgives all your **sins** \*  
and heals all your **infirmities**;
- 4 He redeems your life from the **grave** \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-**kindness**;
- 5 He satisfies you with **good things**, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an **eagle's**.
- 6 The Lord executes **righteousness** \*  
and judgment for all who are **oppressed**.
- 7 He made his ways known to **Moses** \*  
and his works to the children of **Israel**.
- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and **mercy**, \*  
slow to anger and of great **kindness**.
- 9 He will not always **accuse us**, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for **ever**.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our **sins**, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our **wickedness**.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the **earth**, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who **fear him**.

- 12 As far as the east is from the **west**, \*  
so far has he removed our sins **from us**.
- 13 As a father cares for his **children**, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who **fear him**.

## **The Second Lesson**

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord

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

**Hymn # 674 (vv. 1-3)**

"Forgive our sins as we forgive"

*Detroit*

**The Gospel**

Matthew 18:21-35

*Preacher:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

*Preacher:* The Gospel of the Lord

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Hymn # 674 (v.4)**

“Forgive our sins as we forgive”

*Detroit*

The Sermon

The Rev. Webster Gibson

The Nicene Creed

p. 358

The Prayers of the People

**Leader:** Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the Church: Father, enliven the Church for its mission

**People:** that we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.

**Leader:** Breathe fresh life into your people.

**People:** Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.

**Leader:** We pray for the world: Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace.

**People:** That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.

**Leader:** Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.

**People:** Teach us to care creatively for its resources.

**Leader:** We pray for the community: God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others

**People:** that all may act with integrity and courage.

**Leader:** Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours.

**People:** May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

**Leader:** We pray for those in need: God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

**People:** May they know the power of your healing love.

**Leader:** Make us willing agents of your compassion.

**People:** Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.

**Leader:** We remember those who have died and those who mourn: We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone.

**People:** Father, into your hands we commend them.

**Leader:** Give comfort to those who mourn.

**People:** Bring them peace in their time of loss.

**Leader:** We praise you for (N and) all your saints who have entered your eternal glory.

**People:** May their example inspire and encourage us.

**Leader:** We pray for ourselves and our ministries: Lord, you have called us to serve you.

**People:** Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession & Absolution p. 360

The Peace p. 360

## **The Holy Communion**

The Offertory

**Hymn # 494**

Crown him with many crowns

*Diademata*

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

p. 367

S-125\*

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Richard Proulx

The Lord's Prayer

p. 364

S-155\*

Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover

Gerald R. Near

The Invitation

p. 364

## The Communion of the People

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Baptized Christians are invited to receive bread and wine; all others are encouraged to come forward for a blessing.*

*Kneel or stand as able.*

*Following the direction of the ushers, please come to the rail with pulpit side (right) filling rail from right to center, and lectern side (left) filling rail from center to left. As the clergy distributes the bread, hold both hands out and up.*

*If you need communion brought to you, please alert an usher.*

*To receive the wine:*

- *To sip from the chalice: Gently take the base of the chalice and guide the chalice to your mouth. Do not grab the main part of the chalice.*
- *To intinct: Hold your wafer up to indicate intinction to the chalice. The chalice will take the wafer from you, dip the edge into the wine and return it to your hand.*

*Those who wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.*

## During Communion

**Hymn # 577**

God is love, and where true love is

*Ubi caritas*

## Post Communion Prayer

p. 365

**Hymn # 593**

Lord, make us servants of your peace

*Dickinson College*

## The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

## Voluntary

*Celebrant:* We send to those who cannot be with us the Sacrament of Christ's loving presence.  
*People:* May the prayers of all of us go with you as you share in the communion.

\* "S" Hymns are found in the front section of the hymnal.

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## SERVING TODAY

***Celebrant & Preacher*** –The Rev. Webster Gibson

***Lay Readers*** – Rod Grandon, Joseph Wingenbach

***Prayers of the People*** – Caroline Wingenbach

***Lay Eucharistic Ministers*** – Katy Schain, Martha Griffin

***Ushers*** – Leslie Harper, Ron Bellows, Jim Griffin, Greg Jacobsen, Doug Thomas

***Acolytes*** – Madison Talbott Truong, Gregory Elwood

***Altar Guild*** – Sara Bicking, Susan Duhring

***Livestreaming Team*** – Phil Sargent, Jimmy Downs

## Leadership of Christ Church

### ***Church Staff***

**The Rev. Webster S. Gibson, Rector (Ext. 1)**

**Jean Lin, Music Director/Organist**

**Garth Stevens-Jennings, Family Ministries (Ext. 2)**

**Noelle Creamer, Communications (Ext. 4)**

**Theresa Seitz, Bookkeeper (Ext. 5)**

**Susan Francis, Helen Zebarth, Parish Nurses (Ext.3)**

**Steven “Tuffy” Whitacre, Sexton**

**DeLyn Celec, Director of Alleluia Singers**

**Marsha Baden, Director, Cherub Choir**

### ***Members of the Vestry***

***Senior Warden:*** Barbara Downs

***Junior Warden:*** Martha Griffin

***Treasurer:*** Bob Puttock

***Register:*** Betsy Young

***2027*** – Ron Bellows, Barbara Downs,  
Leslie Harper, Betsy Young

***2028*** – Martha Griffin, Eric Kalbaugh,  
Robert Wilson, Mary Margaret Wise

***2029*** – Katie Harvard, Susan Lauer,  
Neile Martin, Arthur Sperry

***Trustees:*** Wilborn Roberson,  
Robert Mitchell, Pem Hutchinson



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