

The Church of St. Paul, Cambria

Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist

• Proper 16 A • August 27, 2023 •

Opening Hymn 433

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.
Amen.**

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.**

Penitential Rite

God, well-spring of all wisdom and font of every insight, you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of the living God, and on the rock of this faith you built your church. Pour out your Spirit in abundance, that all may join in this profession, and so become living stones built up into your church, standing firm upon the one foundation, which is our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Silence may be kept. Minister and People

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 your Son 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.

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.

Lord, open our lips
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Earth is the Lord's for he made it. **Come let us adore him.**

Jubilate: Psalm 100

- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; serve the LORD with gladness and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving: go into his courts with praise; give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 124

- 1 If the LORD had not been on our side, * let Israel now say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on our side, * when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive * in their fierce anger toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us * and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters * have gone right over us.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD! * he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; * the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, * the maker of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.**

First Lesson

The first lesson is from Exodus (1:8-2:10)

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape

from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.” Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 13: A Song of Praise

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers: * you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
 Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; * we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
 Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; * on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
 Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; * we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
 Glory to you, beholding the depths; * in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

The **second lesson** is from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (12:1-8)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

Canticle I: A Song of Jonah *Jonah 2:2-7,9*

I called to you, O God, out of my distress, and you answered me; * out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.
 You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, * and the flood surrounded me;
 all your waves and billows passed over me.
 Then I said, “I am driven away from your sight; * how shall I ever look again upon your holy temple?”
 The waters closed in over me, the deep was round about me; * weeds were wrapped around my head at the roots of the mountains.
 I went down to the land beneath the earth, * yet you brought up my life from the depths, O God.

As my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, O God, * and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

With the voice of thanksgiving, I will sacrifice to you; * what I have vowed I will pay, for deliverance belongs to the Lord!

The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to St. Matthew (16:13-20)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Here follows the Nicene Creed, all standing

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

Through the power of God, Peter saw Jesus in spirit and truth. For the power of God to be felt in our own times, let us offer intercessions, saying: Lord, hear us.

For all peoples of the earth and powers of the world who have not yet recognized Jesus as the Christ, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear us.**

For the unity of the churches, and for their common witness to the possibility of faith, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear us.**

For those who struggle to believe in the earthly manifestations of Christ in the church, in the liturgy, and in daily life, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear us.

For those who suffer at the hands of the church, and for those who are oppressed in the name of God, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear us.**

For ourselves, our families, and our communities, who are daily faced with questions of faith, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear us.**

We pray for Jennifer let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear us.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

Living God, you wish to be among us in your Son and in his church. Hear the petitions we place before you. Increase our faith that we may see your works more clearly; purify our actions that we may reveal your love more surely. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn 707

Prayer over the gifts: God of glory, receive all we offer this day as a symbol of our love, and increase in us that true and perfect gift. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:

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.

The people stand or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God,

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise

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 taught us, we are bold to pray (*sung*):

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 forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Then may be sung or said

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

the Celebrant says the following

They will come from east and west and from north and south to sit at table in the kingdom of God: Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lord.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Eternal God, grant to your Church the unity and peace that we have tasted in this eucharist, the fruit of your life-giving Spirit. Let us pray.

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 your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the

work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith.

Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May your faith be strengthened with proofs of Christ's love so that you will persevere in good works, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. **Amen.**

Closing hymn 780 WLP

As heralds of the loving God whose kingdom and care embrace all, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.