

**The Church of St. Paul, Cambria**  
**Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist**  
• Proper 19 A • September 17, 2023 •

**Opening Hymn 537**

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**

How many times, God Most High, we come seeking forgiveness, yet how often we refuse forgiveness to those who wrong us. Let the word of Jesus challenge our ways and drive anger far away from our hearts, so that we who so much need mercy ourselves may forgive our brothers and sisters from the heart, as often and as easily as we would have you forgive us. As we prepare our hearts and minds to hear God's word and celebrate Christ's eucharist, let us acknowledge our failures and ask the Lord for pardon and strength.  
**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 114**

- 1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, \* the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary \* and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; \* Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, \* and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \* O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \* you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \* at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \* and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**First Lesson**

The first lesson is from Exodus (14:19-31)

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the

cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

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

### **Canticle 17: The Song of Simeon**

Lord, you now have set your servant free \* to go in peace as you have promised:  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A light to enlighten the nations, \* and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be. Amen.

The **second lesson** is from the Letter of Paul to the 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.

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

### **Canticle G: A Song of Ezekiel *Ezekiel 36:24-28***

I will take you from among all nations; \* and gather you from all lands to bring you home.  
I will sprinkle clean water upon you; \* and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.  
A new heart I will give you \* and a new spirit put within you.  
I will take the stone heart from your chest \* and give you a heart of flesh.  
I will help you walk in my laws \* and cherish my commandments and do them.  
You shall be my people, \* and I will be your God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to St. Matthew (18:21-35)

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

Then Peter came and said to him, "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." 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**

Our God is a God of unity, not of division; of love, not of hate; of forgiveness, not of resentment. With open hearts, bearing the pain of the world, let us beseech the God of love, saying: We beseech you, O Lord.

*(As the Spirit moves you, read one or more of the following petitions.)*

For our brothers and sisters of every race and nation: for their safety and well-being, for the relief of their sufferings, for the assuaging of their hunger and thirst, and for the overcoming of enmity, let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

For those peoples we have come to view as enemies: for the healing of hatred and the birth of friendship, let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

For the churches of the world, let us pray: for the healing of divisions, for growth in understanding, for devotion to the truth of God, for our mutual enrichment, and for complete communion in the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

For our homes and families: for an end to feuds, for release from the cycle of violence, for the healing of painful memories, for forgiveness and peace between those who injure, for patience in bearing with one another, let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

For all the young people who face the terrors of the battlefield, for all those who suffer from war, for the binding up of the broken and for mutual understanding, let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

We pray for Jennifer, let us pray to the Lord. **We beseech you, O Lord.**

*(Here other intercessions may be offered.)*

Lord God, your Son made himself the least among us, bore our sins upon the cross, and delivered us from death by his own suffering and dying. Forgive us our sins, by which we have added to the world's pain, and make us instruments of peace and reconciliation, through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*  
**Offertory Hymn 658**

*Prayer over the gifts:* Holy God, accept all we offer you this day. May we who are reconciled at this table bring wholeness to our broken world. 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 the Father direct your path to himself, showing you how to walk each day in love and peace, 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**

Eager to proclaim and share God's boundless love, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**