

Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist at the Church of St. Paul, Cambria • Proper 23 B • October 13, 2024 •

Opening Hymn 573

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

And Blessed be God's 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*.

You judge, O God, our thoughts and intentions, and from your gaze no creature can hide. Pierce our inmost heart with the two-edged sword of your word. Enlightened by your wisdom, may we value aright the things of time and of eternity and, freed from preoccupation with this world's wealth, be poor enough to welcome the incomparable treasure of your kingdom. As we prepare to receive one of your extraordinary gifts through the eucharist, let us confess our sins against You and our neighbor.

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 forever. Amen.

Venite: Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord; * let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving * and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, * and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, * and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, * and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, * and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Psalm 22:1-15

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? * and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; * by night as well, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, * enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; * they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; * they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, * scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; * they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; * let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, * and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; * you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, * and there is none to help.
- 12 Many young bulls encircle me; * strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- 13 They open wide their jaws at me, * like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; * my heart within my breast is melting wax.

15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; * and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Collect

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works: 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** is Job (23:1-9, 16-17)

Then Job answered: "Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning. Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling! I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me. There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge. "If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him; on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him. God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me; If only I could vanish in darkness, and thick darkness would cover my face!

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

Canticle A: A Song of Wisdom *Sapientia liberavit Wisdom 10:15-19,20b-21*

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors * a holy people and a blameless race.

She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, * withstood dread rulers with wonders and signs.

To the saints she gave the reward of their labors, * and led them by a marvelous way;

She was their shelter by day * and a blaze of stars by night.

She brought them across the Red Sea, * she led them through mighty waters;

But their enemies she swallowed in the waves * and spewed them out from the depths of the abyss.

And then, Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your Name, * and praised with one voice your protecting hand;

For Wisdom opened the mouths of the mute, * and gave speech to the tongues of a new-born people.

The **second lesson** is from **Hebrews (4:12-16)** Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens. Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

Canticle 11: The Third Song of Isaiah

Arise, shine, for your light has come, * and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; * deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, * and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, * and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; * by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, * The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land, * ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, * and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day; * by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light, * and your God will be your glory.

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 Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark (10:17-31) Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud;

Honor your father and mother." He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age — houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Sermon Music

Let us affirm our faith:

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Christ challenges our comforts and complacencies. Let us turn to him in our need, asking for God's intervention in our world, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

(As the Spirit moves you, please take turns reading one or more of the petitions. Please observe a short silence at the indicated times.)

For the victims of war, conflict, and violence throughout the world, that they might encounter justice and peace, participating in the reign of God, (silence) we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For churches and their leaders, that the dominion of God might be proclaimed in action as well as in word, (silence) we pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the lost, the lonely, the isolated, and the ill that they might receive blessings a hundredfold, leading to eternal life, (silence) we pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For this community gathered in prayer, that we might gain riches by giving ours to others, (silence) we pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For Christian communities, that the struggle to follow Christ will lead to life eternal, (silence) we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those who serve our country in the military, that they be kept safe in the midst of dangers and temptations: (silence) we pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all people of good faith, especially all the children of Abraham, that together we may strive for justice and peace: (silence) we pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)
God, source of life and fountain of mercy, all things are possible with you. Grant us a share in your eternal life. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory: 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 constant love, in this eucharist you renew the covenant made once with us in baptism. As you are faithful in all things may we, in our offering, be faithful to our calling. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (EP A)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you. Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thenks to the Lord our

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God 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;

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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might (Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself...

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father,...

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.**

As teacher and healer, Jesus came to us from God. Now for the world's salvation and God's glory, we pray as Jesus taught us:

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Father, your word and sacrament give us food and life. May we who have shared in holy things bear fruit to your honor and glory

Let us pray. 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.

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 spiritual and grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to the reality that Christ is present with us wherever we are. **Amen.**

Blessing:

May the Master of the Feast clothe you in his garment of grace, helping you 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.** *Greet one another in the Lord's name.*

Announcements

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

Dismissal:

Seeking to follow the Teacher who came not to be served but to serve, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.