

# ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*in the heart of the Historic Stockade District*

## THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 20-A

20 September 2026 – Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion - Rite I, 10:00 am

|                     |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Mass Setting</b> | Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena | <i>Healey Willan (1880-1968)</i> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Praise, my soul, the King of heaven" (Opus 1, no. 1) *David Liddle (1960-2026)*

THE OPENING HYMN, HYMN 410    Praise, my soul, the King of heaven    *Lauda anima*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY (people kneel)

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE INTROIT *Sung by the Cantor*

Righteous art thou O Lord; and true is thy judgment: deal with thy servant according unto thy merciful kindness. Ps. Blessed are they that are undefiled in the way. Glory be.

## THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

THE KYRIE ELEISON, HYMNAL S-91

*Sung by all*

Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)  
Christ, have mercy upon us. (3x)  
Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, Hymnal S-202

*Sung by all*

*(people stand)*

Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee,  
we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father  
Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father  
that takest away the sins of the world, have  
mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God  
the Father,  
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost, ✠  
art most high in the glory of God the  
Father. Amen.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.      ***People*** And with thy spirit.      *Celebrant* Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSON*Jonah 3.10-4.11*

A READING from the Book of Jonah

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

V. The Word of the Lord      R. Thanks be to God

THE GRADUAL*Sung by the Cantor**Proper text*

The Lord is righteous in all his ways: and holy in all his works. The Lord is nigh unto all who call upon him: yea, all such as call upon him faithfully.

THE EPISTLE*Philippians 1.21-30*

A READING from Paul's Letter to the Philippians

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in

faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

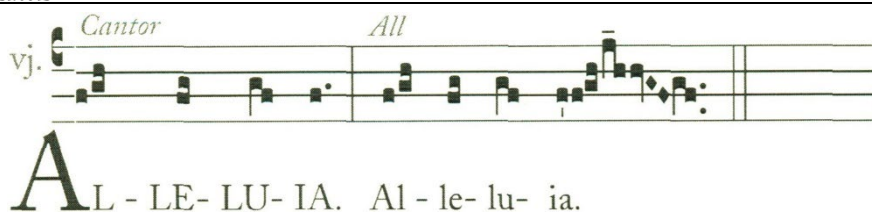
Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

V. The Word of the Lord      R. Thanks be to God

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**THE ALLELUIA VERSE**

*Proper text*



Alleluia. **Alleluia.** The Lord's delight is in them that fear him: and put their trust in his mercy. **Alleluia.**

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**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

*Matthew 20.1-16*

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT MATTHEW

**R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

V. The Gospel of the Lord.      R. Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Abigail Bee, *Parish Deacon*

THE NICENE CREED, *said by all*

*(people stand)*

I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to Judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father (and the Son); who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead ☩ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*As Announced*

## THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

I have grown weary with my crying; my eyes have failed from looking for my God: zeal for thy house hath eaten me up; the scorn of them that scorn thee hath fallen upon me.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM            There's a Wideness in God's Mercy            Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

OFFERTORY HYMN, HYMNAL 411      O bless the Lord, my soul            St. Thomas (Williams)

*During the Offertory Hymn, the pre-consecrated Eucharistic elements are placed on the Altar. At the conclusion of the hymn, the Deacon and people kneeling, the Deacon offers this prayer:*

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Deacon 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.**

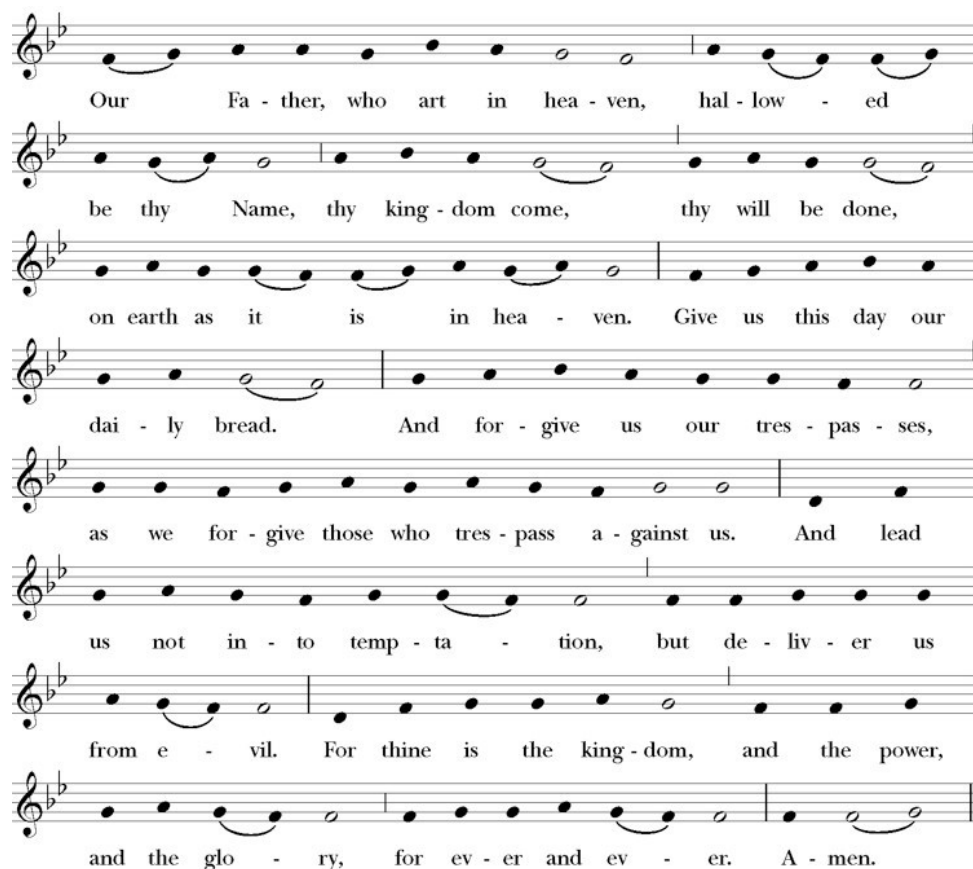
*The Deacon then says this prayer asking for God's forgiveness of our sins:*

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*sung by all*

Deacon: Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us.



## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

*Said by All*

*(people kneel)*

WE DO NOT PRESUME to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

## THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Deacon The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians may receive communion. If you wish to not receive, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms, indicating that you wish to receive a blessing. Gluten-free hosts are available.*

## THE COMMUNION SENTENCE

*Sung by the Cantor*

*Proper text*

And they shall come from east and west and from north and south; and sit down in the Kingdom of God: and there are last which shall be first; and there are first which shall be last.

|                              |                                      |                       |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| THE COMMUNION HYMN, HYMN 617 | Eternal Ruler of the ceaseless round | Song 1                |
| THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER    | <i>Said by All</i>                   | <i>(people kneel)</i> |

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Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

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|---------------|-----------------------|
| THE DISMISSAL | <i>(people stand)</i> |
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|----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <i>Deacon:</i> | Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. |
| <i>People:</i> | Thanks be to God.                       |

|                                   |                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| THE RETIRING PROCESSION, HYMN 387 | We sing of God, the mighty source | Magdalen College     |
| CLOSING VOLUNTARY                 | Paeon Oxoniensis                  | Paul Spicer (b.1952) |

## The Ministers of Today's Liturgy

|                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Deacon:               | The Reverend Abigail Bee        |
| Master of Ceremonies: | Christopher Henry               |
| Organist & Cantor:    | Dr. Brian J. Taylor             |
| Thurifer:             | Paul Smigelski                  |
| Boat Boy:             | James Smigelski                 |
| Crucifer:             | Daniel Miess                    |
| Acolytes:             | Eric Bassant & Anne Kennison    |
| Greeters:             | Carol Gaige & Jon Pearson       |
| Lector:               | Joan Pearson                    |
| Counters:             | Jon Ewbank & Kim Polner         |
| Altar Guild:          | Natasha Bassant & Anne Kennison |
| Sacristans:           | David & Anne Kennison           |



### **ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH**

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Schenectady, NY 12305

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

#### **Parish Staff**

The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, M.Div., *Rector*

The Reverend Abigail Bee, *Parish Deacon*

The Reverend Canon John Perris, *Priest Associate*

Dr. Brian J. Taylor, AAGO, *Director of Music*

Mrs. Carol Gaige, *Parish Secretary & Vestry Clerk*

Mr. Jonathan Ewbank, *Financial Secretary*

Mr. David Kennison & Mr. Paul Smigelski, *Wardens*