



St. Francis' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE *10:30 only*

HOW BEAUTIFUL

TWILA PARIS

DUET BY BETHANY BARR AND TOM CONNELLY

How beautiful the hands that served the wine and the bread and the children of earth.

How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty road and the hill to the cross.

How beautiful is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled, that took all my sin and bore it instead

How beautiful the tender eyes that choose to forgive and never despise.

How beautiful is the body of Christ.

And as he laid down his life, we offer this sacrifice

that we will live just as he died, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the feet that bring the sound of good news and the love of the King.

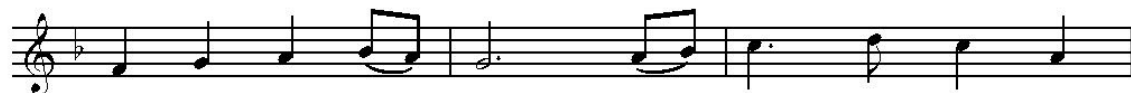
How beautiful, the hands that serve the wine and the bread and the children of earth.

How beautiful is the body of Christ.

WELCOME



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And
 2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, And
 3. Let us build a house where love is found In
 4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be -
 5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their



all can safe - ly live, A place where saints and
 words are strong and true, Where all God's chil - dren
 wa - ter, wine and wheat: A ban - quet hall on
 yond the wood and stone To heal and strength - en,
 songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell How hearts learn to for -
 dare to seek To dream God's reign a -
 ho - ly ground, Where peace and jus - tice
 serve and teach, And live the Word they've
 taught and claimed As words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions,
 new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness
 meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus,
 known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger
 Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter,



Rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the
 And as sym - bol of God's grace; Here as
 Is re - vealed in time and space; As we
 Bear the im - age of God's face; Let us
 Prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro - claim from floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

OPENING ACCLAMATIONS *Stand*

Presider We meet in the name of God,
 Creator of the universe,
 source of True humanity.
 Mother and Father of all.

People **Amen.**

Presider We meet in the name of Jesus,
 Word made flesh,
 Savior of fallen humanity,
 lover of all.

People **Amen.**

Presider We meet in the name of the Holy Spirit,
 Lord and giver of life,
 Midwife of new humanity,
 Inspirer of all.

People **Amen.**

Presider Come then, eternal God,

People **Be present here,
Befriend us here,
Renew us here.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our heart by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

GLORIA At 8am, only refrain sung twice. At 10:30, all sung.

Refrain:

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est,
glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on earth
To Verses
peace to peo - ple of good will.

1. We praise you,
we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory, for your great glory
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father. **Refrain**

2. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand, the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us. **Refrain**

3. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. **To Amen below**

A - men, a - men, a men, a - men,
A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

St. Hildegard of Bingen, 12th c.

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Presider God of Love and Light: Bring to life within us the living, burning sparks of your brilliance, that your divine flame may burn within us, warming our souls and empowering our lives with zeal for your gospel, both now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES *Sit*

THE FIRST LESSON

Reader A reading from the book of 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

At 10:30, cantor sings through once, congregation then joins.



- 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. **ANTIPHON**
- 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. **ANTIPHON**
- 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? **ANTIPHON**
- 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. **ANTIPHON**

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader

A reading from the letter 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ANTIPHON *Stand* **IF YOU BELIEVE AND I BELIEVE**

WLP 806

Sing two times at 10:30 only.

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The text is: "If you be-lieve and I be-lieve and we to - geth - er pray, the Ho - ly Spir - it must come down and set God's peo - ple free, and set God's peo - ple free, and set God's peo - ple free; the Ho - ly Spir - it must come down and set God's peo - ple free." The score ends with a double bar line.

If you be-lieve and I be-lieve and we to - geth - er
pray, the Ho - ly Spir - it must come down and set God's peo - ple
free, and set God's peo - ple free, and set God's peo - ple
free; the Ho - ly Spir - it must come down and set God's peo - ple free.

THE GOSPEL

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. 18:21-35

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL ANTIPHON *At 10:30 only, sing the music on previous page one time through.*

SERMON *Sit*

DR. MICHAEL BOOKER

THE NICENE CREED *Stand*

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 human.
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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Siblings, the Lord is full of compassion and mercy. Let us then pray to the Lord, saying,
"You, O God, are our hope, we trust you hear us."

After each prayer, please respond "we trust you hear us."

Presider Reshape us, Good Lord, until in generosity and in faith and in expectation that the best is yet to come, we are truly-Christ-like. Make us passionate followers of Jesus rather than passive supporters. Make our churches cells of radical discipleship and signposts to heaven, then in us, through us and—if needed be—despite us, let your kingdom come.

People **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept for a time.

People **God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us offer each other a sign of that peace.

We invite you to extend the peace of God to those in the congregation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Sit*

WE GATHER AT CHRIST'S TABLE

We return with thanksgiving the gifts God has given us. This includes bread and wine of the earth and financial offerings from our labor. Representatives of the congregation bring these to the common Eucharistic table.

OFFERTORY *8:00 only*

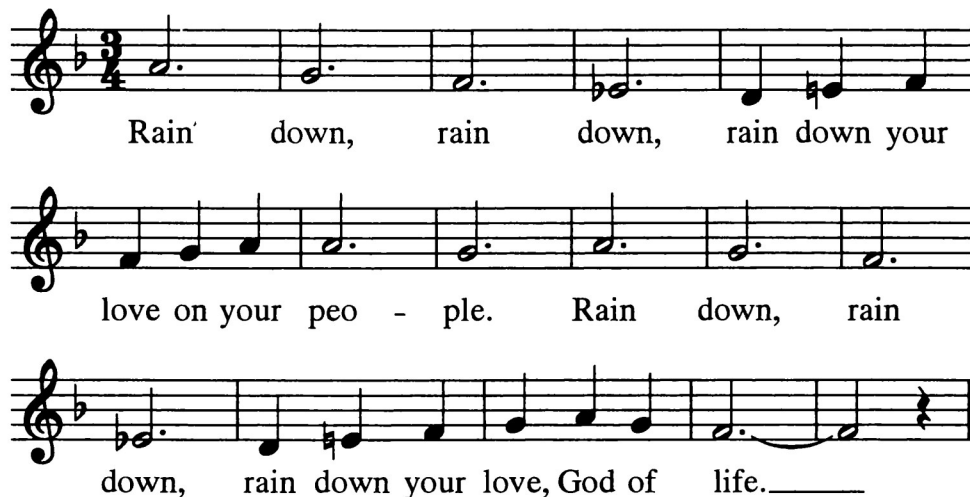
RAIN DOWN

PERFORMED BY JAIME CORTEZ

The congregation listens as the Deacon prepares the table.

RAIN DOWN
ST. FRANCIS' SINGERS

REFRAIN:



The musical notation for the Refrain is written on three staves in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: Rain' down, rain down, rain down your love on your peo - ple. Rain down, rain down, rain down your love, God of life._____

CHOIR: REFRAIN

SOLO: Faithful and true is the word of our God.
All of God's works are so worthy of trust.

CHOIR: God's mercy falls on the just and the right;
full of God's love is the earth.

CHOIR & CONG.: REFRAIN

CHOIR: We who revere and find hope in our God
live in the kindness and joy of God's wing.
God will protect us from darkness and death;
God will not leave us to starve.

CHOIR & CONG.: REFRAIN

CHOIR: God of creation, we long for your truth;
you are the water of life for our thirst.
Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts,
all of our hope lies in you.

CHOIR & CONG.: REFRAIN

The following is sung as ushers present the offerings. Please stand. 10:30 only

H 380

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above you heavenly host:
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to human-kind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Say at 8am:

People **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Sing at 10:30am:



The people stand or kneel.

Presider Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

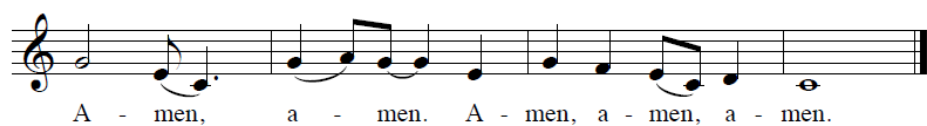
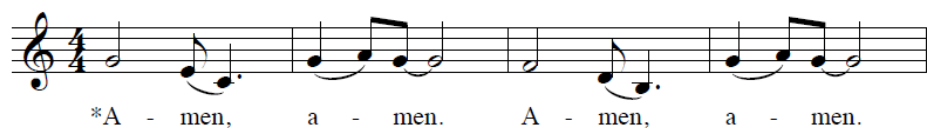
And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

People **Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Presider Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with St. Francis, St. Clare and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

AMEN

Sing two times at 10:30.



**Pronounced: Ay-men.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

FRACTION ANTHEM *At 8am, spoken*

The musical notation for the Fraction Anthem is presented in three staves. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics "Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you". The second staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics "take a-way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us." and includes a first and second ending bracket. The third staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics "world, grant us peace." and includes a third ending bracket.

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you

take a-way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us.

world, grant us peace.


Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Our bread is gluten-, dairy- and nut-free. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN *10:30 only* **LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER**


Sing song two times through.

Verses




1. Let us break bread to-gether on our knees; Let us break
2. Let us drink wine to-gether on our knees; Let us drink
3. Let us praise God to-gether on our knees; Let us praise

Refrain



1. bread to-gether on our knees; When I fall on my knees,
2. wine to-gether on our knees;
3. God to-gether on our knees;



With my face to the ris-ing sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *Stand*

Presider Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

Presider The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity.

People Amen.



1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 God sent Christ Je - sus to be our sha - lom,
 3 To pain and sor - row Christ brings sha - lom.
 4 Sha - lom to you, now; sha - lom, my friends.

and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 to show us mer - cy and heal - ing love.
 In peace and jus - tice Christ brings sha - lom.
 May God's full mer - cies bless you, my friends.

Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 So in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 So when we're liv - ing the ways of Je - sus,
 In all your liv - ing and through your lov - ing,

we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
 Christ is our sha - lom, Christ is our sha - lom.
 we are God's sha - lom, we are God's sha - lom.
 Christ be your sha - lom, Christ be your sha - lom.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in the name of the Mother and Father of all, the Lover of all, and the Inspirer of all to love and serve the world!

People **Thanks be to God!**

We love pictures and videos, and we love sharing what we do on social media. When attending our events or services, you agree to our using pictures of you and any children in your charge on social media and elsewhere. If you prefer not to be included in photos or video, please inform a staff member or usher.