



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE
HOLY COMMUNION

November 12, 2017: The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost at 10:30am

Music

Prelude	<i>Jerusalem, My Happy Home "Land of Rest"</i>	Patricia Lou Harris
Entrance	<i>Jerusalem My Happy Home</i>	Hymnal 620
Offertory Anthem	<i>How Can I Keep from Singing?</i>	arr. Richard Walter

*My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?
What though the tempest round me rears, I know the truth, it liveth.
What though the darkness round me close, Songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of Heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?
When tyrants tremble, sick with fear and hear their death knells ringing;
When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile, our thoughts to them are winging?
When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging.
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?*

Communion Hymns	<i>We've Come this Far by Faith</i>	LEVAS 208
	<i>Signs of Endings</i>	See back of bulletin.
Exit	<i>Lift Up Your Heads</i>	Hymnal 436
Postlude	<i>Nun danket alle Gott</i>	Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

Scripture

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

1st Lesson

Wisdom 6:12–16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78:1-7 *All sing the refrain after the cantor, and where indicated.*



Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times. **Refrain**
That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done. **Refrain**
He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;
That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments; **Refrain.**

2nd Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will

descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel *Please stand*

Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! There will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Today is the day we bless pledges,

including those previously received in person, by mail or online.

*If you have not already made a financial pledge to Holy Communion for 2018,
you are invited and encouraged to fill out a pledge card and place it in the offering plate.*

All pledges will be blessed and presented to God at the Offertory.

Pledge Blessing

Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is life-giving. These cards represent our sweat, they represent our work, they represent our dreams. The pledges which we make on them are tokens of the gifts you have given to us and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place. May they be the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over. May we see them as our offering back to you for all you have given us. Make our gifts sacred, holy and yet earthy, filled with possibilities. **Amen.**

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jean Prechtl
by her daughter, Karen Prechtl.*

Worship Leaders

Celebrant	The Rev. Marc Smith	Crucifer	Scott Ferguson
Preacher	The Rev. Mike Angell	& Chalice	
Lectors	Cassandra Gonzalez	Acolytes	Marta Mieke
	Ellis Anderson	Ushers	Paul Mensah, Burt Mayfield
Chalice & Intercessor	Josephine Ezenwa-Okpala		

Announcements

2018 Every Member Canvass The leadership of the church asks that you prayerfully consider making a financial pledge to Holy Communion for 2018, if you have not already done so. Additional copies of letters and pledge cards are in the Lounge. You can place your pledge in the offering plate, mail it to the parish office, or pledge online at holychommunion.net/pledge. The Stewardship Committee and Vestry will make telephone calls in late November to as a reminder to those from whom we have not yet heard. Thank you for supporting the ministry of Holy Communion.

Lock-it-for-Love Scarf Sale This morning we're selling cashmere scarfs, handwoven in Jerusalem, to support the purchase and distribution of gun locks free-of-charge throughout the region. Scarfs are \$30 each. You'll find us in the Lounge until 12:00pm. For more info, contact Bill Thomas or the Rev. Marc Smith.

Book Group (11:45am) We'll discuss "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time" by Mark Haddon. Come join us in the Tower Room (upper level).

Advent Party – Sunday, Dec. 10 (5:30pm – 7:30pm) Mark your calendars for our annual party to kick-off the season of Advent. There will be food and drinks, music and fun for everyone and, of course, an Ugly Sweater Contest. We'll also welcome the Rev. Chester Hines and his wife Elizabeth back to Holy Communion. More details are coming soon!