

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion



October 1, 2017 at 10:30am

The Feast of St. Francis and the Blessing of the Animals

Welcome! Wherever you are on your journey of faith,
there is a place for you at Holy Communion.

Our Mission Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion, a welcoming and diverse community seeking to walk in the way of Jesus and to reveal Christ's reconciling love in our city, nation, and world.

Can I receive Communion? Yes. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome to receive the bread and wine made holy.

Are children welcome? Children are especially welcome at Holy Communion. We like to say we expect *everyone* to act their age. Acting your age as a little one can mean restlessness in worship. Wiggles and giggles are welcome too! Children learn by watching adults worship. There are coloring sheets, colored pencils and quiet books at the back of the church. Our chapel is a sound-proof place to bring a crying infant, or a boisterous toddler, with windows into the church and speakers broadcasting the sound from the service. Ask an usher if you need any assistance.

How do I find my way around? There is a map by the Welcome Table in the main entryway (on the East side of the church). Also, feel free to ask anyone around you for directions, or help navigating the service.

Where are the restrooms? There are single-user, all-gender restrooms in the Lounge, through the main (East) door, and through the next glass door. There are gendered, larger restrooms downstairs (take the elevator or stairs at the end of the long hallway in front of that entrance). Changing tables are available in the downstairs restrooms or in the nursery.

Is there wheelchair accessibility? Yes. Our entrances have auto-open buttons, and our elevator is ADA compliant. Both the downstairs restrooms and one of the upstairs restrooms are accessible. Everyone is invited to remain seated during the service as they need.

What about hearing assistance? We can help there, too. Hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers. Just ask.

How do I get involved? If you begin by filling out a "Connect Card" in your pew, or at the Welcome Table, we'd be glad to keep you up to date with all that goes on here. You can also use the Connect Cards to update your information, request prayers, or to ask a question.

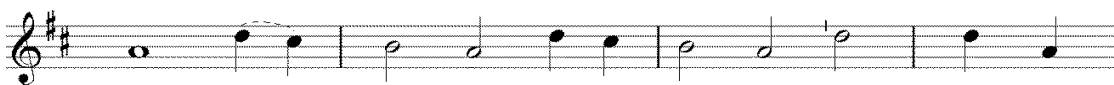
Become a member. All are welcome to be here and to explore. If you would like to learn more and meet interesting people, consider joining in Pilgrimage, the Rector's classes for newcomers and explorers. There is a class meeting now. Email the rector for more information or to sign up (mangell@holycommunion.net).

Opening Hymn: *please stand**Lasst uns erfreuen*

Hymnal 400, v. 1, 4, 5, 7



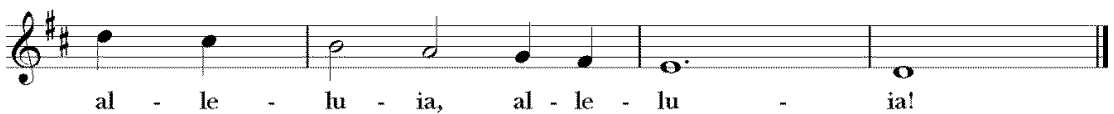
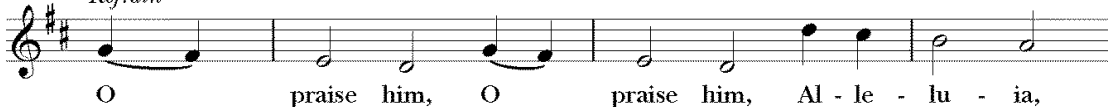
- 1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
 *2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
 *3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
 *6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



- 1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
 2 loft, O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
 4 way, O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
 5 part, O___ sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
 6 breath, O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
 7 ness, O___ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



- 1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

Refrain

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace gladly to renounce the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfect joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Gospel Procession

The congregation is invited to sing Alleluia to the tune of Halle Halle Halle as the Gospel reader and the acolytes process to the middle of the assembly.

Hal - le, Hal - le, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, Hal - le, Hal -
- le - lu - jah! Hal - le, Hal - le, Hal - le - lu -
jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

The Holy Gospel *Please stand*

Matthew 11:25-30

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The congregation is invited to sing Halle Halle following the Gospel reading.

The Homily *Please be seated at the invitation of the Preacher.*

The Rev. Marc Smith

The Prayers of the People *please stand or kneel*

The Leader and People pray responsively

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, Grant that we may

Not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

To be understood as to understand;

To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Loving God, you created all things. We thank you for the gift of cats and dogs, birds and reptiles, rabbits and fish, and all the animals who share our homes. **Amen.**

We grieve the loss of the love and companionship our pets have given us. Comfort us as we remember them. Help their memory to stir us to deeper love and care for your creation.

Amen.

We pray also for your created world in which we live, for its fragile resources, and for a will to conserve our earth. We pray for all who lead in the governments of the world. We pray for the Church in Missouri, for our companions in faith in El Salvador, and throughout our world. We pray for those who are sick, those who are suffering, and those who face violence. We pray for those who rejoice, and for those who mourn. **Amen**

Celebrant

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give to you. Look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant us peace and unity in accordance with your will. Amen.

The Peace *please stand*

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements *seated*

Presentation of the Offering *Please stand*

All things come of thee, O Lord.
And of thine own have we given thee.

Eucharistic Prayer

Enriching Our Worship, Prayer 3

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presider offers thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ. In response all say

**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 presider gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine. Please remain standing as you are able.

we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The presider concludes with prayer for the coming of God's reign.

We worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

**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

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

Administration of the Sacrament

All are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Gluten Free wafers are available, on request, from the minister. On the left (West) side of the altar rail, the chalice is filled with white grape juice, as a sign of welcome for those who choose not to consume wine. On the right (East) side of the altar rail, the chalice is traditional red wine. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

Verses



1.The fields are high and sum-mer days are few, green fields have
 2.The seeds were sown by oth-er hands than yours; nur-tured and
 3>Your eyes have seen the ho-ly face of God, hid-den from



turned to gold. The time is come for the har-vest-ing,
 cared for, they grew. But those who have sown will not har-vest them;
 these who are wise. The reign of God is with-in your heart;



Refrain

for gath-er-ing home in-to barna.
 the reap-ing will not be their care. The har-vest is
 the king-dom of heav-en is near!



plen-ty, la-bor-ers are few. Come with me in-to the fields.



Your arms will grow wea-ry, your shoes will wear thin.



Come with me in-to the fields.

Text based on Matthew 9:38; John 4:35-38; Luke 10:2-21. Text and music © 1971, 1974, 2007, Daniel L. Schutte
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After receiving Communion, please process out to the front lawn (weather permitting).

People with dogs, please gather on the left (east) side of the lawn;

People with cats and all other animals, please gather on the right (west) side.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly Banquet. We thank you as well for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains and rivers; for the wonder of your animal kingdom. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Dismissal:

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

*The priests will bless the animals after the Dismissal. Help yourselves to treats!
(Because it is the 1st Sunday of the month, priests will also offer a birthday blessing,
outside during the Fiesta, to anyone who would like.*

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for the Parish Guild.*

Worship Leaders

Celebrant	The Rev. Mike Angell
Preacher	The Rev. Marc Smith
Assisting Priest	The Rev. Beth Scriven
Intercessor	Laurie Justiss
Chalice & Crucifer	Joe Adams
Chalice	Josephine Ezenwa-Okpala
Acolytes	Chloe Olliff, Scott Lunte
Ushers	Pierce & Corrine Lamberson
Altar Guild	Jean Parker

Announcements

St. Francis Day Celebration Following Communion, we'll process out to the lawn for a blessing and reception with treats for people and animals. (For reasons of safety, non-aggressive dogs are welcome on leashes. All other animals need to be in travel carriers.) Join us after church for blessings, and a fiesta!

Theology on Tap – Oct. 3 (6:30pm) We'll talk with Rudy Nickens, a local leader and trainer on the topic "Creating a Community of Equity". Rudy Nickens worked closely with the Ferguson Commission and contributed as a trainer, speaker, and facilitator. Rudy serves as the Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity MoDOT. Theology on Tap seeks to create a "low pressure" environment for conversations about faith, ethics, politics, and life. Join us and bring friends. We gather the 1st Tuesdays every month at Dressell's Pub (419 N Euclid Ave. 63108.)

Supper Club – Oct. 13-15 Groups of 6-8 meet in each other's homes for a casual meal every other month. Groups are assigned at random and vary, so it's a good chance to get to know people you may not have yet met. Hosts will pick the exact date. Please contact Pat Redington at redingtonpat@yahoo.com if you'd like to get on the list, or you can sign up on the list in the Narthex. Bon Appetit!

Sunday Book Group – Oct. 8 (11:45am) *If you can keep it: the forgotten promise of American Liberty*, by New York Times bestselling author Eric Metaxas. The book is part history and part rousing call to arms, steeped in a critical analysis of our founding fathers' original intentions for America. Are we living up to their lofty vision of liberty and justice? In a stirring call to action, Metaxas explains why the signers' "noble experiment" has been forgotten and encourages us to recommit ourselves to following their radical ideals of freedom. Come join us in our new location: the Tower Room; all are invited! Questions? Contact Barbara Robinson (brobin313@aol.com).

Holy Land Pilgrimage - July 3-13, 2018, led by the Rector, with St. George's College
On this 10-day trip, pilgrims will explore the Holy Land. Highlights include visits to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jericho, Nazareth, the Jordan River, Gethsemane, an opportunity to float in the Dead Sea! Read more at www.holycommunion.net/holy-land-pilgrimage-july-2018/. The cost of the land travel portion is \$2400 and includes accommodations in a double room, all meals, transportation in Israel via deluxe bus, entrance fees, and tips for guest house/restaurant staff/bus driver. Each pilgrim is responsible for their own airfare to Tel Aviv. Limited need-based scholarships are available. Space is limited. To reserve your space, please email the rector mangell@holycommunion.net and submit a \$500 deposit to Angela Brecher in the parish office by November 1.

Godly Play on Sunday mornings! (9:15am) Children are invited to head downstairs after Sunday Breakfast for Godly Play, our Montessori-based Christian formation program. Registration is not required. For info, email Heidi Olliff, Children's Ministry Consultant: hmolliff@holycommunion.net.

ABOUT ST. FRANCIS



Francis, the son of a prosperous merchant of Assisi, was born in 1182. His early youth was spent in revelry and fruitless attempts to win military glory.

With the young man's conscience stung by encounters with beggars and lepers, he decided to embrace a life devoted to Lady Poverty. Despite his father's intense opposition, Francis totally renounced all material values and devoted himself to serve the poor. In 1210 Pope Innocent the Third confirmed the simple Rule for the Order of Friars Minor, a name Francis chose to emphasize his desire to be numbered among the "least" of God's servants.

The order grew rapidly all over Europe. Yet by 1221 Francis had lost control of it since his ideal of strict and absolute poverty—both for the individual friars and for the order as a whole—was found to be too difficult to maintain. His last years were spent in much suffering of body and spirit, but his unconquerable joy never failed.

During a retreat on Mount La Verna not long before his death, Francis received on Holy Cross Day (September 14) the marks of the Lord's wounds—the stigmata—in his own hands and feet and side. Pope Gregory the Ninth, a former patron of the Franciscans, canonized Francis in 1228 and began the erection of the great basilica in Assisi where Francis is buried.

Of all the saints, Francis is the most popular and admired but probably the least imitated; few have attained to his total identification with the poverty and suffering of Christ. Francis left few writings, but of these, his spirit of joyous faith comes through most truly in the "Canticle of the Sun" which he composed at Clare's convent of St. Damian's. The Hymnal version begins:

*Most High, omnipotent, good Lord,
To thee be ceaseless praise outpoured,
And blessing without measure.
Let creatures all give thanks to thee
And serve in great humility.*

Adapted from *Lesser Feasts & Fasts*, 2003



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE
HOLY COMMUNION

Staff

The Rev. Mike Angell, *Rector*
mangell@holychommunion.net

The Rev. Marc Smith, *Priest Associate*
msmith@holychommunion.net

Angela Breeher, *Parish Administrator*
abreeher@holychommunion.net

Mary Chapman, *Director of Music*
mchapman@holychommunion.net

Jim Kern, *Financial Administrator*
jkern@holychommunion.net

Connor Scott, *Organist*
cscott@holychommunion.net

Brooklyn Payne, *Youth Director*
youth@holychommunion.net

Heidi Olliff, *Children's Ministry Consultant*
hmolliff@holychommunion.net

Jerome Harris, *Sexton*

Vestry

Scott Ferguson, *Sr. Warden*

Susan Norris, *Jr. Warden*

Brian Barnhart, *Treasurer*

Angela Burroughs-Kelly, *Secretary*

Earl Bonds, Mary Haggerty, Shirley Mensah,
Pat Redington, Rebecca Rugen, Alisa Williams