

*Now that the daylight fills the sky, we lift our hearts to God on high,  
that He, in all we do or say, would keep us free from harm this day.*

*Latin, 6th century*

## HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

**Prelude:** Let all things now living

David Sherwin

**Processional:** Lift up your heads

Hymnal # 436

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
**and blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Collect for Purity** *in unison*

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.**

**Hymn of Praise** Praise to God, immortal, praise

Hymnal #288

**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.**

**The lessons appointed for today**

**Introduction:** *Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the  
parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we  
celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the  
lamb.*

**First Reading: Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16**

*Wisdom is part of the structure of the universe and is easily accessible to those who want to find her.  
Wisdom actually seeks people out. People who are wise are free from care.*

<sup>12</sup>Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her,  
and is found by those who seek her.

<sup>13</sup>She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.

<sup>14</sup>One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate.

<sup>15</sup>To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,  
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,

<sup>16</sup>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.**

## **Canticle: Wisdom of Solomon 6: 17 - 20**

The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction,  
and concern for instruction is love of her,  
18 and love of her is the keeping of her laws,  
and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,  
19 and immortality brings one near to God;  
20 so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

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.

### **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

*Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.*

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This is the Word of the Lord...**thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13**

*The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew...      **glory to you. Lord Christ you,.***

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>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.’ <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The gospel of our Lord...**praise to you, Lord Christ**

*The Sermon*

## *The Nicene Creed*

*in unison*

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 man.  
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.

## *The Prayers of the People*

Let us pray for the universal Church of Christ and for all people according to their needs.

O God, grant us thy peace.

**And salvation to all mankind.**

Strengthen thy Church;

**And increase it day by day.**

Guide all Christians in the way of unity; **And grant that we may grow in thy love.**

Give thy grace to all ministers of thy Church, especially to thy servant, Matthew, our Bishop.

**And strengthen them in the ministry of thy Word and Sacraments.**

Bless, we pray thee, all those who work for the spread of thy Gospel in the world;

**And encourage the messengers of thy Word.**

Direct the minds of those who are seeking Christ. **And make them strong in faith.**

Guide the world in the way of peace.

**And direct the leaders of the nations.**

Bring all peoples into the path of justice and harmony. **And into obedience to thy commands.**

Direct the (president and) officers of the government. **And give them the spirit of service.**

May this city and state flourish.

**For the welfare and blessing of the people.**

Look with thy favour upon universities and schools.

**That knowledge may be acquired for thy glory and the benefit of mankind.**

We pray thee to heal the sick.

**And help all those in trouble.** (prayer list here)

May those who are near death have the assurance of thy presence.

**That they may entrust themselves to thee.**

Give thy strength to those who dedicate themselves to the healing of the sick;

**And help them to minister to all who suffer pain.**

May the wants of the needy be supplied, and the hungry be fed.

**Help us to relieve their suffering.**

Grant us thy grace that we may hear thy Holy Word.

**And help us both to receive and fulfill it.**

We thank thee for thy servants who have died in faith. And pray that we may follow their good examples,  
and share with them in thy eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

*Our prayers come from the Book of Prayer in Iran*

*The Celebrant says:* Let us confess our sins against God 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.

*The Priest, stands and says:* 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.**

***The Peace & Announcements***

***Offertory Hymn***      Cornet Voluntary in D Minor

John Stanley

***The Doxology:***

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him above the heavenly host;

praise Him all creatures here below;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***The Holy Communion      Eucharistic Prayer A***

*The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him 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. 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:

**Sanctus: S-125**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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 now as our Savior has taught us, we now pray:

**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 Fraction*

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

### *The invitation to communion:*

The gifts of God for the people of God

*All Baptized believers are invited to receive communion.*

*After communion: A prayer for those worshipping online:*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar in your church where Holy Eucharist is being celebrated, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of your body and blood, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace. May I live in you and you in me. Amen.

### *The post communion prayer of the gathered:*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

### *The Final Blessing*

*Song:* Let there be peace on earth (see back page)

*Recessional* Jerusalem, my happy home

Hymn # 620

*Dismissal*

*Postlude* For the beauty of the earth

Michael Burkhardt



**The Parish Prayer List:**

Your prayers are asked for our parish family, and also for: Tiger Warfield, Mead Parsons, Marianne, Allen Burnside, Mariah, Kay Kinnan, Stephanie Morton, Rick Sharp & family, Jane Morton, Cynthia Dillon, Jason Dempsey, Vee Browning, Sharon Mahaffey, Kemp McLaughlin, Olivia Tilley, Geneva Barr, Gary Hosey, Becky Williard, Evelyn Ventura. Sandy Hatfield

For all those serving in the armed forces and as first responders, especially: Nate Willard, Teddy Chambers\*, Jayson Morton\*, Sam Tuttle & Lee Price \*on deployment

**In the Diocesan cycle of prayer**, we pray for: St. Martin’s in the field, Summersville and St. Stephen’s—our own parish

**Membership roster update:** Please return your membership info sheets as soon as possible. If you did not receive one/ any, please pick one up in the narthex, or grab one to fill out while you are here. Thank you for helping solidify our church records.

**Fellowship Dinner:** Join Christ Lucas, master soup artist, for a dinner with good friends and good food on Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. Along with visiting, there will be some board game out to enhance the evening. RSVP to Christ by tomorrow night– but if your plans change, come on anyway! 304-923-0962

Let there be peace on earth                      And let it begin with me  
Let There Be Peace on Earth    The peace that was meant to be

With God as our Father                      Fam-i-ly are we  
Let me walk with my family              In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me                      Let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry step I take                      Let this be my solemn vow

To take each moment and live              Each moment in peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth              And let it begin with me