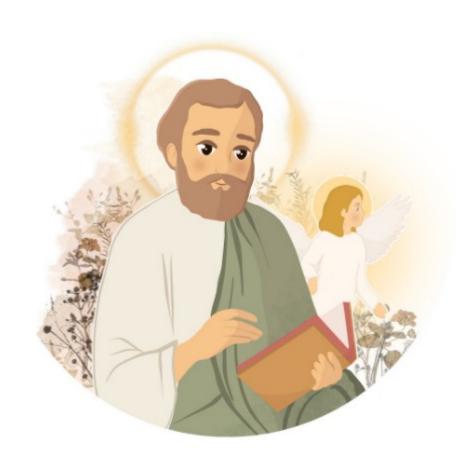
# St. Andrew's Parish Church

Established 1706



# The Feast of St. Matthew The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Family Service at 9:00 a.m. September 21, 2025



# Welcoming All, Worshipping Christ Witnessing God's Love



The Clergy & Staff

THE REV. MARSHALL HUEY, Rector

THE REV. RICHARD GIERSCH, Associate Rector

THE REV. DAVID ALWINE, Assisting Priest

THE REV. CANON DOUGLAS PETERSON, Assisting Priest

THE REV. LEE HERSHON, Deacon Emeritus

DAVID ACRES, Director of Music

JUDITH ACRES, Director of Children's Choir

KEVIN UPPERCUE, Pianist

BRENDA RINDGE, Director of Christian Education

AMY AUSTEN, Parish Administrator JEANNE GERHARDT, Parish Bookkeeper

TERESA HART, Administrative Assistant
JEFFREY HEARN, Buildings & Grounds Administrator

BENJAMIN LUNDGREN, Sunday Sexton

THE RT. REV. WILLIAM J. SKILTON

Bishop Suffragan, South Carolina, Retired Assistant Bishop, The Dominican Republic, Retired Bishop in Residence, Old St. Andrew's Parish Church The Vestry

Kathy Abraham, 2028, Senior Warden

Dean Bays, 2028 Jim Beall, 2026

Stefanie Christensen, 2026

Pat Davis, 2028 Rick Jennings, 2027

T.J. Leavell, 2028

Todd Lundgren, 2027, Junior Warden

Randall Shealey, 2026 Romaine Smith, 2027 Michael Ulmer, 2027

Gail Wagaman, 2026

John Steinmeyer, Treasurer

Cindi Smith, Clerk

The Volunteers

LARRY COOMER, Graveyard Administrator MICHAEL CHRISTENSEN, AV Coordinator ROXANNE ERSKINE, Membership Coordinator

PAUL PORWOLL, Historian

THE RT. REV. CHARLES F. EDGAR III, , Bishop of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

#### **SERVING TODAY**

HOMILIST -The Reverend Rich Giersch

FAMILY OF THE DAY—The Weirs

LECTORS- William Weir, Molly Weir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – Lisa Seagle

CHALICE BEARER - James Wilson

VESTRY IN CHARGE - TJ Leavell, Dean Bays

ALTAR GUILD- Dee Norton, Millie Strobel, Betsy Morgan

## The Feast of St. Matthew

# The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 21, 2025

The Family Service at 9:00 a.m.

# We Gather in the Lord's Name



The Acclamation (BCP page 123)

Celebrant: Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

(BCP page 124)

*Priest:* 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.** 

# Welcome!

to our historic, living church where the saints have gathered to worship since 1706!

Our Mission Statement...

Welcoming All, Worshipping Christ, Witnessing God's Love

If you are visiting with us today, please take a **welcome brochure** (located in the envelope rack on the back of each pew) and fill out the **visitor card**. Please place it in the offering plate or leave it with an usher.

The liturgy begins with the **Acclamation**, which is an eager expression of praise.

In the Collect for Purity, we ask God to cleanse our hearts and minds of anything that comes between Him and us, anything that would impede our worship of Him. Here we offer ourselves to the glory of Jesus Christ.

These words of Christ bring to our attention the perfect standard of God's righteousness and what He requires of us. Both **The Summary of the Law** and The Decalogue (Ten Commandments) are valid options for this movement of the liturgy. The Summary was first used in place of The Decalogue in 1718.

The words **Kyrie Eleison**. Christe Eleison. mean Lord, Have mercy. Christ, Have Mercy. Within the liturgy, it lifts our voices in a prayer for the compassion of Christ after the declaration of the Summary of the Law, which holds up the standard of God's righteousness. Kyrie Eleison first appeared in the Holy Communion Service as the response of a litany in the Antioch-Jerusalem liturgy after the middle of the 4th century. Around 595AD, Christe Eleison was added by St. Gregory the Great of Rome

The Summary of the Law

(BCP page 124)

Priest: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

The Kyrie (BCP page 124)

Priest: Lord, have mercy upon us.People: Christ, have mercy upon us.Priest: Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Song of Praise, standing

Majesty



The Collect is a prayer that touches on the theme of the Scripture readings and transitions us from speaking and singing God's praise to listening to his Holy Scriptures.

The Collect of the Day (BCP 2019 page 125)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you called Matthew from collecting taxes to become your apostle and evangelist: Grant us the grace to forsake all covetous desires and inordinate love of riches, that we may follow you as he did and proclaim to the world around us the good news of your salvation; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

(Please be seated)

# The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson Proverbs 3: 1-12

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, <sup>2</sup> for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. <sup>3</sup>Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. <sup>4</sup>So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. <sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. <sup>7</sup>Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. <sup>8</sup>It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. <sup>9</sup>Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; <sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. <sup>11</sup>My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof, <sup>12</sup> for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.** 

The Second Lesson 2 Timothy 3

But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. <sup>2</sup>For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup>heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, <sup>4</sup> treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup> having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. <sup>6</sup> For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, <sup>7</sup> always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. <sup>8</sup> Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. <sup>9</sup> But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

<sup>10</sup> You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, <sup>11</sup> my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. <sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, <sup>13</sup> while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it <sup>15</sup> and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

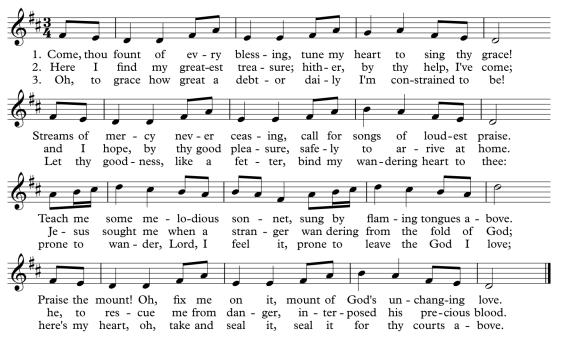
Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

The Scriptures teach that much of our spiritual renewal is by the washing of the Word of God, which cleanses our minds and purifies our hearts. This portion of the service is known as the

**Liturgy** of the Word, and it consists of the readings, the sermon, the creed, and the prayers of the people.

The Gospel Song, standing

Come Thou Fount



Text: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt.

Music: NETTLETON, melody from A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813

Scriptures tell us that Jesus is the Word that became flesh and dwelled among us. In the reading of the Holy Gospel, the ministers process with the Gospel Book to the Crossing of the church to read the selected passage and symbolize the Word dwelling among us. The ministers process to the Crossing during this hymn.

The word Gospel comes from the Old English word, gōd-spell, which means "good news" or "glad tidings." That word developed from the Latin word, evangelium, and Greek, evangelion, which also literally means "good news." These are the source of the English words "evangelist" and "evangelism."



The Holy Gospel

St. Matthew 9: 9-13

Gospeller:

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

People:

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

<sup>10</sup> And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>12</sup> But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Gospeller: T

The Gospel of the Lord.

People:

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily, seated

Rev. Rich Giersch

### We Respond to God

The Nicene Creed, standing

(BCP page 127)

Celebrant: Let us stand and confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

*People:* We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who 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 **Nicene Creed** is a statement of what the Christian community believes to be true about God. It was born of rigorous intellectual debate in the fourth century, culminating in councils of the whole church at Nicaea in 325 and at Constantinople in 381. The word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe."

The Prayers of the People, standing

(BCP page 128)

Led by a member of the Order of the Daughters of the King. If you would like our Daughters of the King to pray for a specific need, please fill out a confidential prayer card found at the prayer box near the main entrance to the church.

Christians pray. When we worship the living God, we bring before and others, for the world, and for hearing and responding to our prayers. At the Offertory, all of our prayers are presented to God along with our tithes and offerings.

Him our concerns for ourselves Reader: Let us offer our prayers to God.

the church. We also thank God for Lord God, we thank you for the leaders of our Church, especially Archbishop Wood, Bishop Edgar; Bishop Skilton, Father Marshall, Father Rich, Father David, Father Doug, Deacon Lee, and our staff, and we ask you to bless them. We also pray for St. Andrew's Mission and their Vicar, Fr. Jimmy Gallant.

> Lord God, we pray for all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others, in particular San José Church in the Dominican Republic, their Rector, Fr. Isaac Pringle and their Bishop, Moises Quezada; and Fr. Rob Sturdy, Anglican Chaplain at The Citadel.

> Lord God, we pray for the leaders of our country, especially President Trump, Governor McMaster, Mayor Cogswell, and we ask you to bless them.

> Lord God, we thank you for all our blessings, especially for people who love and care for us. (intercessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we ask you to take care of everyone who is sick or sad. (intercessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we pray for all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of resurrection, (intercessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we know you hear us when we pray. We ask that you answer our prayers as may be best for us.

About the "posture" of prayer: It has been commonly said that Anglicans kneel for prayer, but that is not the rule for posture in any edition of the Prayer Book. Various editions have assumed that standing is the normal posture for public prayer and have directed the people to kneel only for confessions, for reciting the Commandments, etc. However, in this parish it is the traditional discipline to kneel for the prayers. It is a posture of humility, which is something always worth cultivating in ourselves.

#### Priest:

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: Kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all people the true love of peace, and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# We Ask for God's Forgiveness

The Confession of Sins

(BCP page 130)

Celebrant: Kneeling, let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God. (Silence)

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.

We are all sinful people. Here, in the **Confession**, we admit our wrongdoings and lay our sins at the feet of Jesus on the cross.

In the Confession of Sin and Absolution, our sins, both individual and corporate, have been confessed, and we have been powerfully reassured of God's complete forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

The Absolution, kneeling

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

The Comfortable Words

(BCP page 130)

Bishop or Priest:

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28* God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16* 

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2

These verses of Scripture following the Absolution serve as a seal of assurance that for those who are truly penitent, the Lord has put away their sins. They are comforting in that they give us the strength to believe we are forgiven. The Comfortable Words come directly from the first Anglican Book of Common Prayer 1549 written by Thomas Cranmer and were included through German Lutheran influence.

The Peace is a particularly good time to welcome visitors and newcomers. Please take a moment to extend God's peace to those around you. That peace, which the world cannot give, comes only through the forgiving of Jesus Christ. This peace is not rooted in our circumstances but in the presence, promise and power of God and Christ's redeeming work.

The Peace (BCP page 131)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

# We Give in Thanksgiving for God's Blessings

The Offertory Song

At the Cross by Hillsong

If you want to give an offering to Old St. Andrew's, you may scan this QR code



Or visit oldstandrews.org and click on the giving tab.

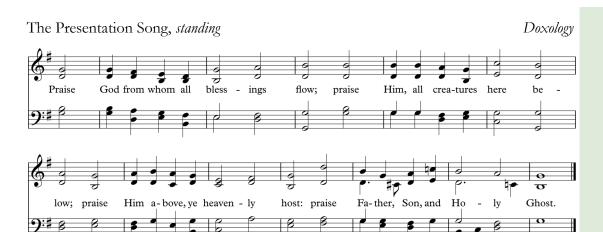
Oh Lord You've searched me
You know my way
Even when I fail you
I know You love me
Your holy presence
Surrounded me
In every season
I know You love me
I know You love me

#### **Chorus:**

At the cross I bow my knees
Where Your blood was shed for me
There's no greater love than this
You have overcome the grave
Glory fills the highest place
What can separate me now
You go before me
Sensitivity:
You shield my way
Your hand upholds me
And I know You love me

#### Repeat chorus twice

You tore the veil, You made a way
When You said that it is done
You tore the veil, You made a way
When You said that it is done
And when the earth fails
Falls from my eyes
And You stand before me
I know You love me
Oh, I know You love me
Repeat chorus



Text: Thomas Ken (1637-1711) Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

Celebrant: (BCP page 131)

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: And of your own have we given you. I Chronicles 29:11-14

# We Share God's Holy Communion

The Sursum Corda, remain standing (BCP page 132)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And with your spirit. Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord. People:

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

#### The Celebrant continues:

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations, and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

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:

Our altar is The Lord's Table and all baptized Christians (baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are welcome to receive Holy Communion here.

In the Anglican tradition, Communion is received in two kinds: in the Bread and in the Wine. The Bread is offered first and is typically placed in one's open palm. After hearing the words "The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven," the bread is ready to be consumed. A chalice bearer will then offer the Wine.

We offer two chalices for Holy Communion. The first, smaller chalice is for intinction (dipping the wafer into the chalice.) The second, larger chalice is for consumption. If you would prefer to drink from the cup, please hold the wafer in front of you until the larger chalice is offered.

\* If you or your children are not baptized, you may receive a blessing at the altar rail from the Priest. Simply cross your hands over your chest as you kneel at the rail.

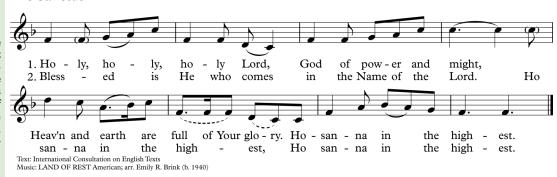
Ladies, please "blot" your lipstick prior to receiving communion, as this will help preserve our beautiful altar linens.

The **Sanctus** is the song of the seraphim contained in the great vision that the prophet Isaiah experienced while worshipping in the Temple in Jerusalem. This vision is recorded in the 6th chapter of Isaiah. It is inspired by Isaiah's vision of the heavenly court "Holy, holy, holy" acknowledging the transcendence of God.

When we gather together, we remember the presence of Jesus. By repeating the words and actions of Jesus' last meal with His disciples, we join the story and make it our own. We don't just watch the drama or listen to it unfold, we enter into the story as we, too, take the bread and wine and eat and drink

This **AMEN** is often called the "Great Amen" because it is the apex of our liturgy, the powerful ending to the Eucharist Prayer.

The Sanctus



#### The Prayer of Consecration, kneeling

(BCP page 132)

#### Celebrant:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you have made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

#### Celebrant:

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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.** 

#### The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:



The Lord's Prayer, so called because Jesus gave this prayer to His disciples as an example of how to pray, has been a part of Eucharistic liturgies since the fourth century. The link between "our daily bread" and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is very ancient. In the Lord's Prayer, we ask for daily bread, meaning the things we need to get through each day. But as a part of that, the sacramental bread is Jesus Christ. When we eat of this bread, we most certainly receive our daily bread.

The Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Prayer of Humble Access

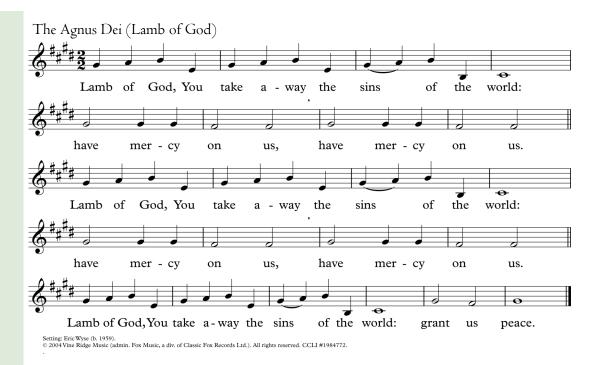
Music: R.D. Duckett (1959-2013) Used by permission. Harmonization: M. Wilkinson (b. 1991) & C.L. Walchesky (b. 1989). Used by permission

(BCP page 135)

Celebrant and People;

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Prayer of Humble Access is a very distinctive element of worship in the Anglican Tradition. Assembled in the earliest prayer books by Thomas Cranmer, it includes phrases and concepts from Mark 7:28, the Liturgy of St. Basil, a Gregorian collect, John 6:56, and some ideas of Thomas Aquinas



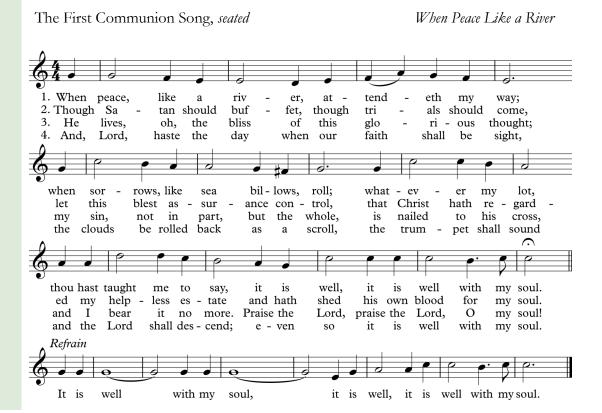
## The Invitation to Communion

(BCP page 136)

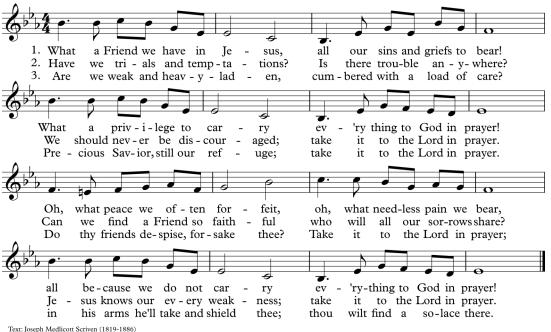
Celebrant:

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.

(If you need Holy Communion brought to you in your pew, please ask the Usher.)



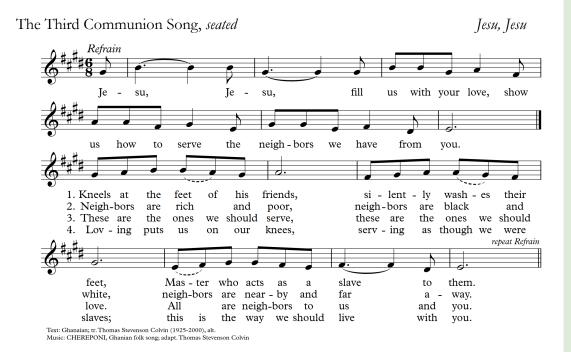
Music: CONVERSE, Charles Crozat Converse (1834-1918)



The Christian life is deeply personal yet is essentially corporate by nature, not private. Every act of worship is intended not only to glorify God for His own sake, but to lift up and build up one another in Christ for His sake as well. The word "liturgy" literally means "the work of the people." A central function of liturgy is to send the message that in a worship community there are no bystanders. It is corporate through and through and from one end to the other. Singing is also a form of prayer that can help carry the heart to God not only in the words being sung but beyond the reach of words.

At Old St. Andrew's, we encourage you to continue to pray by singing both before and after Communion. In this way all of us are helping each other to lift our hearts continuously in the midst of receiving the greatest gift ever given: the life of lesus Christ.





The Post Communion Prayer, kneeling

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

We have been blessed by being here. Now, at the end of the ser-

vice, we are reminded that God takes loving delight in blessing us

abundantly. We leave in peace, forgiven, fed, and sent out with a

purpose to make Christ known in

the world.

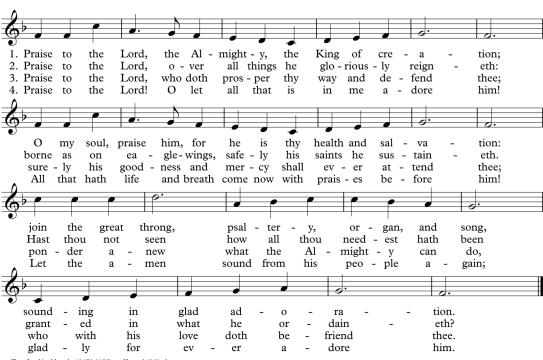
Heavenly Father,

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 Blessing (BCP 2019 page 137)

The Recessional Song, standing

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



Text: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. Hymnal 1940, alt.
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, melody from Erneuerten Gesangbuch, 1665; harm. The Chorale Book for England, 1863;

As the service ends, we are charged to "go," a challenge to reach out beyond our own church to the world around us.

The Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version of the Bible.

#### We Go Out to Serve God

The Dismissal and Commissioning

(BCP page 138)

Priest or Deacon: Our worship has concluded; our service begins.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!