The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Image provided by byonespiritministries.wordpress.com

Please remember to silence your cell phone.

The people may make the sign of the cross (optional) when this sign † appears throughout the order of the service.



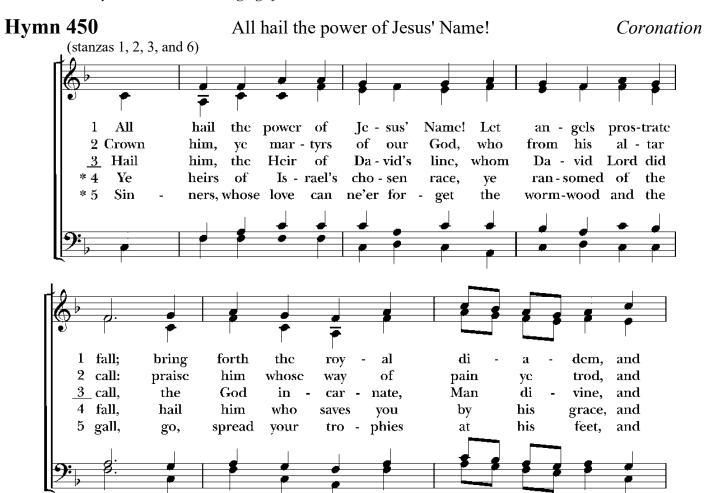
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

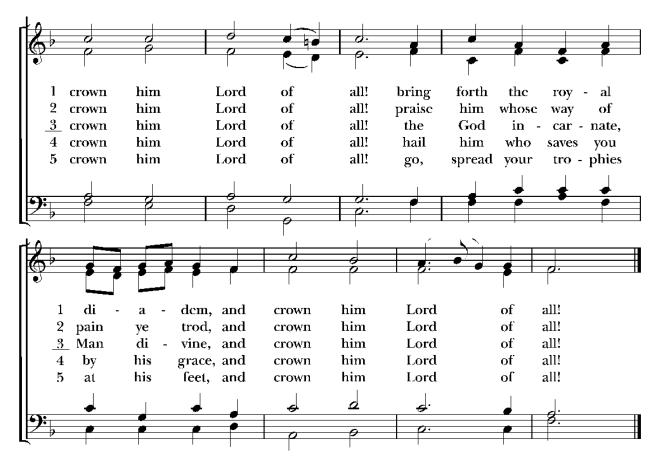
The Organ Voluntary

God's Time is the Best (Sinfonia to Cantata No. 106)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please stand, as you are able, at the ringing of the bell.





6 Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

Words: Edward Perronet (1726-1792), alt. Music: *Coronation*, Oliver Holden (1765-1844), alt.; desc. Michael E. Young (b. 1939). Descant, Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

The people remain standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

Celebrant 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.**



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

The First Lesson Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16



- 1 Hear my teaching, | O my | people; * incline your ears to the | words | of my | mouth.
- 2 I will open my | mouth in a | parable; *
 I will declare the | mysteries of | ancient | times.

- 3 That which we have heard and known, and what our | forefathers • have | told us, * --- | we will • not | hide • from their | children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the | power of the | LORD, * and the wonderful | works | he has | done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the | sight of their | forefathers, * in the land of | Egypt, in the | field of | Zoan.
- 13 He split open the sea and | let them pass | through; * he made the | waters stand | up like | walls.
- 14 He led them with a | cloud by | day, * and all the night | through with a | glow of | fire.
- 15 He split the hard | rocks in the | wilderness * and gave them drink as | from the | great | deep.
- 16 He brought streams | out of the | cliff, * and the | waters gushed | out like | rivers.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 2:1-13

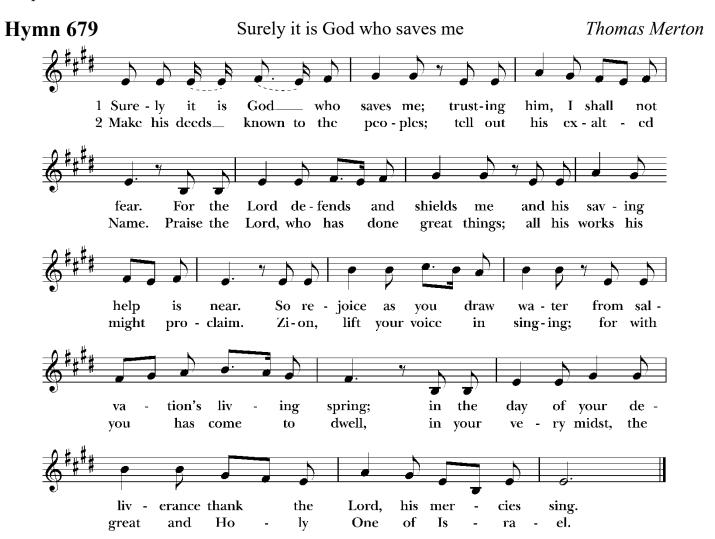
If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of deatheven death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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



Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah*. Copyright © 1982 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Thomas Merton*, Ray. W. Urwin (b. 1950). Copyright © 1984 Ray W. Urwin.

The Gospel Matthew 21:23-32

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Alex Dyer

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant and People stand, saying

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

Intercessor: Siblings in Christ, let us humbly offer our prayers today, saying, "O God of grace, help us to do your will."

Intercessor: O Christ, strengthen our tongues to declare you as Lord of our lives.

May your Church glorify you in both word and deed. May our actions always match what we profess.

O God of grace,

All: help us to do your will.

Intercessor: O Christ, you chose not to exploit your equality with God, but humbled yourself to be with us. Give us your heart for those who are marginalized and experiencing poverty. And may all people, especially those in power, follow your example of humility.

O God of grace,

All: help us to do your will.

Intercessor: O Christ, by your birth in human likeness you blessed all of creation. Give us the will to care for this precious planet and make the necessary sacrifices to protect it for future generations.

O God of grace,

All: help us to do your will.

Intercessor: O Christ, you rule the world with love and compassion. Give to those in government compassion and vision that the people of our county, our state, our nation, and our world might live as neighbors, looking out for each other's interests.O God of grace,

All: help us to do your will.

Intercessor: O Christ, you became obedient to the point of death that we might have abundant life. Work marvels in the lives of the sick and sorrowful. May they recount to generations the wonderful deeds you have done in their lives. O God of grace,

All: help us to do your will.

Intercessor: O Christ, through death and resurrection you were highly exalted by God.

Continue to work in those who now rest from their labors. May all the dead

find new life in you. O God of grace,

All: help us to do your will.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and 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.

Celebrant 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Parish Notices

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,

an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

A collection is taken for God's mission in our neighborhood and the world.

To give electronically, scan this QR code.



The Offertory Anthem

Let This Mind Be in You

Lee Hoiby (1926-2011)

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

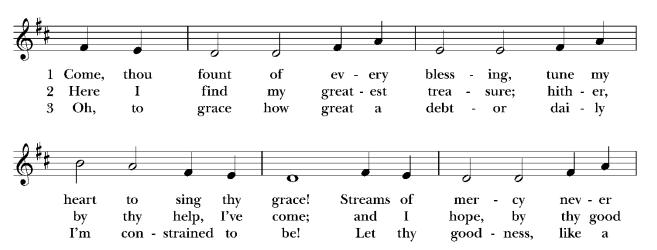
But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

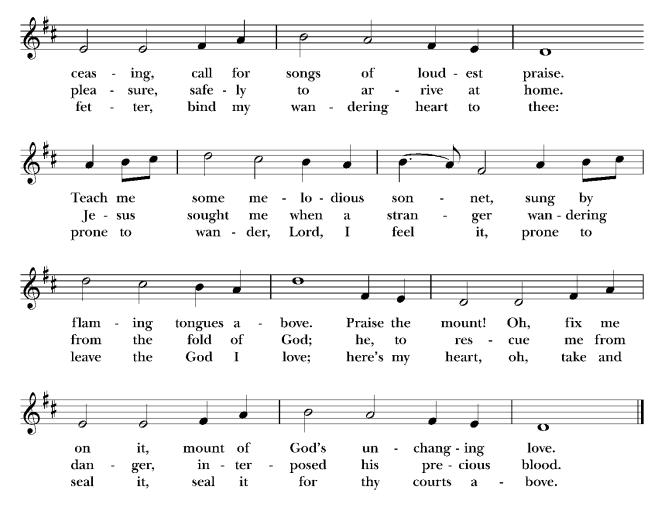
Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above ev'ry name: that at the name of Jesus ev'ry knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that ev'ry tongue should confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Presentation Hymn 686 Come, thou fount of every blessing

Nettleton

Please stand.





Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt. Music: Nettleton, melody from A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934).

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

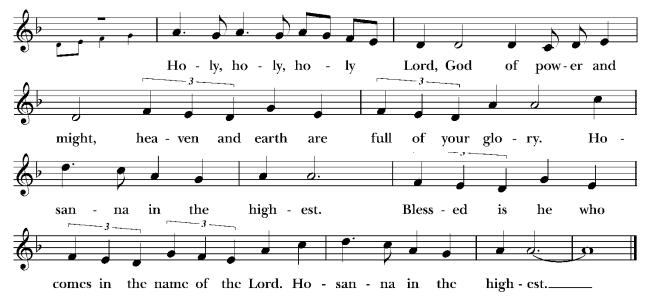
The Celebrant proceeds

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; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:





Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember Christ's death, We proclaim Christ's resurrection, We await Christ's coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

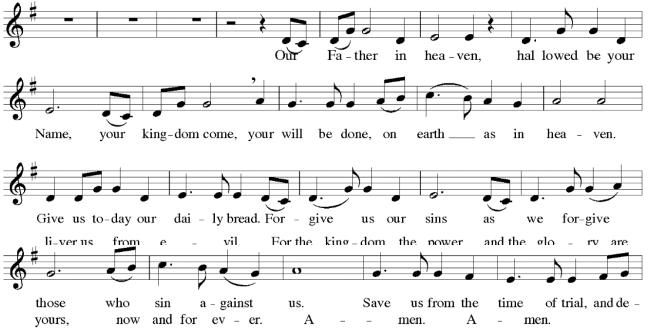
And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. † Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,



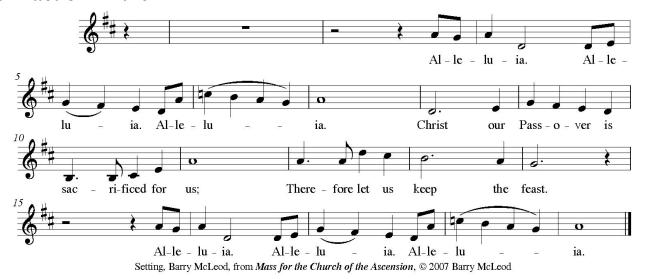
The Breaking of the Bread

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Fraction Anthem

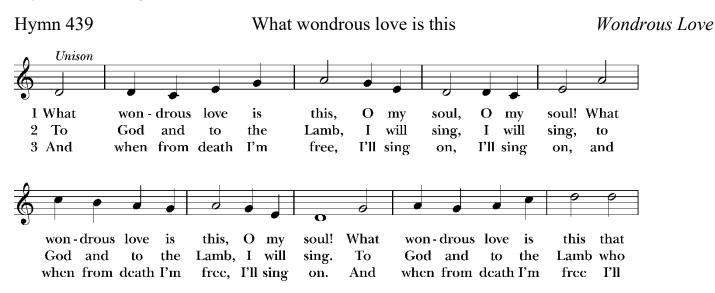


Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

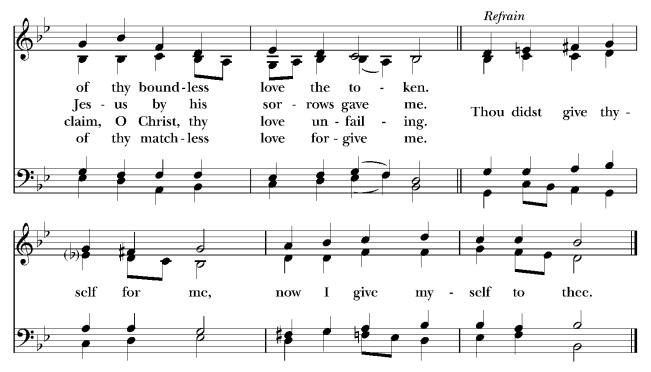
The People sit

Hymns during Communion

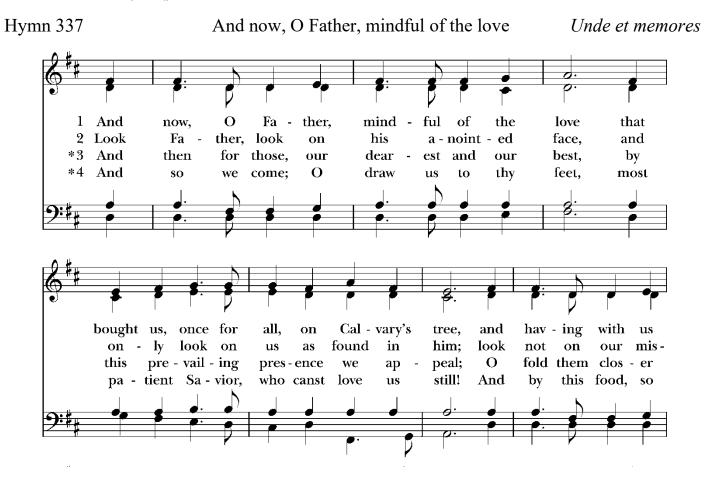




I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni ty I'll sing on. on, Jesus, meine Zuversicht Hymn 313 Let Thy Blood in mercy poured Let thy Blood let thy in mer - **cy** poured, gra - cious 2 Thou didst die might bless - ed Lord, thou that Ι live; By the thorns that crowned thy brow, by the spear-wound Wilt thou own the gift I bring? Allmy pen - i broBo dy ken, be to me, gra - cious Lord, save that love cam'st me; all of God could give to and the nail by the pain and death, ing, Ι now tence Ι give thee; thou art my alt ed King, $\mathbf{e}\mathbf{x}$



Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925). Music: Jesus, meine Zuversicht, melody Johann Cruger (1598-1662); harm. after The Chorale Book for England, 1863.





Words: William Bright (1824-1901), alt. Music: Unde et memores, William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

If you are worshiping with us virtually, please pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly my own parish and those worshiping at home, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given me... I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart.

†I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to

Post Communion Prayer

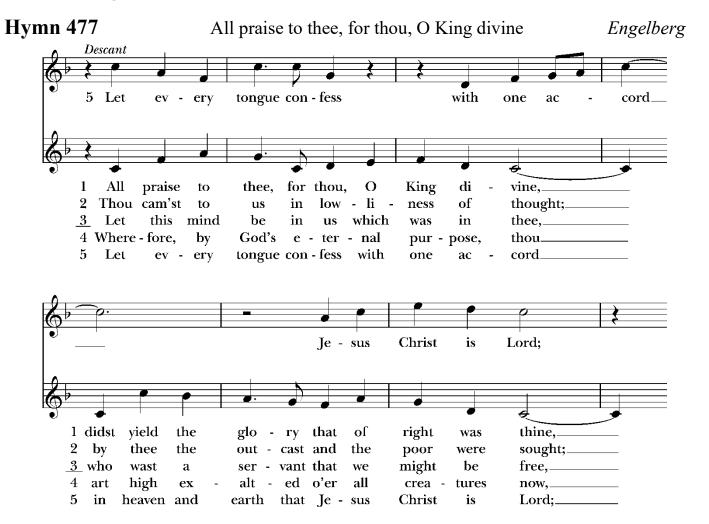
After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing





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The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Closing Voluntary

Rigaudon

André Campra (1660-1744)

The order of service from the Book of Common Prayer 1979 according to the use of the Episcopal Church. Hymns used by permission of onelicense.net #A-741619.

The Altar Flowers are given by Keith and Candy Limardo to the Glory of God and in Celebration of Forty-two years of marriage.

You are called to ministry.

You have a place in strengthening our efforts to bring God's mission for the Church of the Ascension to full measure by getting involved. If uncertain of how to begin please contact the church office, 770-382-2626, or anyone on the list below.

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