

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church  
The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost  
Holy Eucharist  
Sunday, September 19, 2021  
9:00am

*Welcome to Saint Mary's! We are glad you are joining us today for either in person or online worship. For more information about Saint Mary's, please see our website at [www.stmaryshighpoint.org](http://www.stmaryshighpoint.org) or check out our [Facebook Page](#).*

## The Word of God

*All stand.*

*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.**

## Hymn of Praise 390

*Sung by all*



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - migh - ty, the King of cre -  
2 Praise to the Lord, o - ver all things so glo - rious - ly  
3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de -  
4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy  
reign - eth; born as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his  
fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall  
dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Join, the great throng, psal - ter - y,  
saints he sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen all that thou  
dai - ly at - tend thee. Pon - der a - new what the Al -  
prai - ses be - fore him. Let the A - men sound from his



or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad a - do - ra - tion.  
need - est has been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?  
migh - ty can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.  
pe - ople a - gain; glad - ly for - e - ver a - dore him.

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

*All are seated.*

### A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon

1:16-2:1, 12-22

The ungodly by their words and deeds summoned death;  
considering him a friend, they pined away  
and made a covenant with him,  
because they are fit to belong to his company.

For they reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves,  
“Short and sorrowful is our life,  
and there is no remedy when a life comes to its end,  
and no one has been known to return from Hades.  
Let us lie in wait for the righteous man,  
because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions;  
he reproaches us for sins against the law,  
and accuses us of sins against our training.  
He professes to have knowledge of God,  
and calls himself a child of the Lord.  
He became to us a reproof of our thoughts;  
the very sight of him is a burden to us,  
because his manner of life is unlike that of others,  
and his ways are strange.  
We are considered by him as something base,  
and he avoids our ways as unclean;  
he calls the last end of the righteous happy,  
and boasts that God is his father.  
Let us see if his words are true,  
and let us test what will happen at the end of his life;  
for if the righteous man is God’s child, he will help him,  
and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries.  
Let us test him with insult and torture,  
so that we may find out how gentle he is,  
and make trial of his forbearance.  
Let us condemn him to a shameful death,  
for, according to what he says, he will be protected.”

Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray,  
for their wickedness blinded them,  
and they did not know the secret purposes of God,  
nor hoped for the wages of holiness,  
nor discerned the prize for blameless souls.

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

**Psalm 54***Deus, in nomine**Read responsively by whole verse*

1 Save me, O God, by your Name; \*  
in your might, defend my cause.

**2 Hear my prayer, O God; \***  
**give ear to the words of my mouth.**

3 For the arrogant have risen up against me,  
and the ruthless have sought my life, \*  
those who have no regard for God.

**4 Behold, God is my helper; \***  
**it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

5 Render evil to those who spy on me; \*  
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

**6 I will offer you a freewill sacrifice \***  
**and praise your Name, O Lord, for it is good.**

7 For you have rescued me from every trouble, \*  
and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

**A Reading from the Letter of James****3:13-4:3, 7-8a**

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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

*All stand.*

**Alleluia**

*Sung by all*

Lively

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**The Gospel**

**Mark 9:30-37**

*Gospeller*

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

*People*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

*Gospeller*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

The Rev’d Gus Chryson

**The Nicene Creed**

*All stand and say together*

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped 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 Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all, we pray for people of every race and in every kind of need: Make your ways known on earth, your saving power among all nations.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for your Church throughout the world and for Samuel and Anne our bishops: Guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that all people may be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our parish, that your Holy Spirit would guide the minds of those who will choose our new rector: That we would receive a faithful, wise, and compassionate pastor to care for our people and equip us for our ministries.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your nurturing goodness all who are anxious or distressed in mind, body, or spirit; comfort and relieve them in their need; give them patience in their sufferings, and bring good out of their troubles.

*A period of silence is observed.*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We entrust to your gracious keeping all who have died in the faith of Christ, especially the Rt. Reverend John Shelby Spong, cousin of Phil Johnston, and we give you praise for all your faithful ones with whom we rejoice in the communion of saints.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. 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** *All stand.*

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

*People* And also with you.

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**The Holy Communion**

*All are seated and the altar is prepared.*

**The Offertory**

**Hymn 492**

1 Sing, ye faith - ful, sing with glad - ness, wake your no - blest,  
2 Sing how he came forth from hea - ven, bowed him - self to  
3 So, he tast - ed death for mor - tals, he, of hu - man -  
4 Now on high, yet ev - er with us, from his Fa - ther's

sweet - est strain, with the prais - es of your Sa - vior  
Beth - lehem's cave, stooped to wear the ser - vant's ves - ture,  
kind the head, sin - less one, a - mong the sin - ful,  
throne the Son rules and guides the world he ran - somed,

let his house res - ound a - gain; him let all your  
bore the pain, the cross, the grave, passed with - in the  
Prince of life, a - mong the dead; thus he wrought the  
till the ap - point - ed work be done, till he see, re -

mu - sic hon - or, and your songs ex - alt his reign.  
gates of dark - ness, thence his ban - ished ones to save.  
full re - demp - tion, and the cap - tor cap - tive led.  
newed and per - fect, all things gath - ered in - to one.

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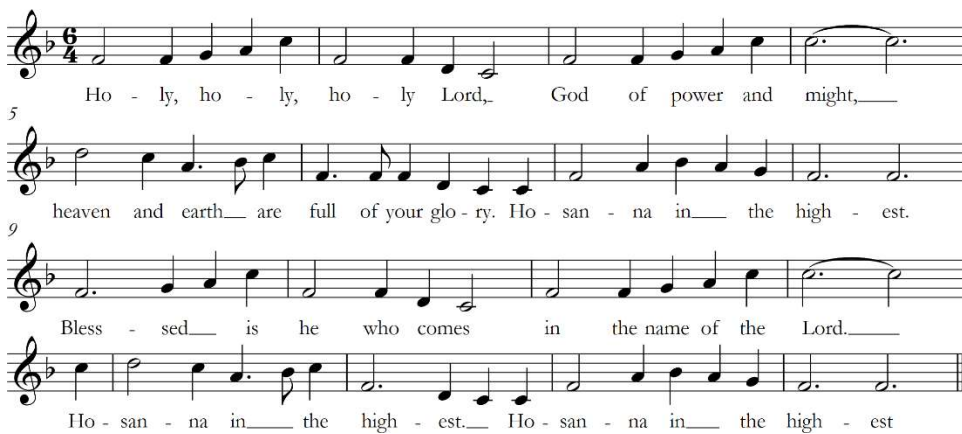
## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer 3*      *All stand.*

*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 our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*      All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

*Celebrant and People*



5 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, \_\_\_\_\_  
9 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est

*The Celebrant Continues*



Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us. We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

***Celebrant and People***

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*The Celebrant continues*

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with the Ever Blessed Virgin Mary and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

***Celebrant and People***

**Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*Said by all*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace

*The Celebrant says*

Holy things for Holy People.

**An Act of Spiritual Communion** (for those watching from home)

Lord Christ, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to at least come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my being. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. **Amen.**

**Hymn 635**

*Unison or harmony*

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through  
2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing; so do thine own part

all thy ways, he'll give thee strength what - e'er be - tide thee,  
faith - ful - ly, and trust his word, though un - de - serv - ing;

and bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in God's un -  
thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev - er yet for -

chang - ing love builds on a rock that nought can move.  
sook in need the soul that trust - ed him in - deed.

*After Communion, all stand and the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*The Celebrant blesses the people and then they are dismissed, responding*

***People*            *Thanks be to God.***

**Altar flowers:** The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God, in memory of the Rt. Reverend John Shelby Spong, cousin of Phil Johnston. .

## Participants in the Liturgy

*Preacher*

The Reverend Gus Chryson

*Lector*

Jason Johnson

*Musicians*

Rob Brock, Evie Cottam,  
Robin Hardman, Revon Johnson

*Video & audio engineering*

Robin Hardman

### Acknowledgements

Text for the liturgy from *The Book of Common Prayer*, New York: Church Publishing, 1979, 231, 355-365, 369-372; and *Enriching Our Worship 1*, New York: Church Publishing, 1998, 56, 69-70; Search committee prayer: *Prayers for Pastor & People*, Compiled and edited by Carl G. Carozzi, New York: Church Publishing Incorporated, 1984, 139. Used with permission. Prayers of the People, Form 3 is from *The Book of Common Prayer for use in the Church in Wales*, 2004. The Bible text is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Originated in [riteplanning.com](http://riteplanning.com), © 2020 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. The following music is reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-716676. All rights reserved.

***Keeping in Prayer this Week:*** We pray for those whose needs are closely linked with ours and for those who suffer from any sickness, grief or distress, also remembering and praying for those on our parish prayer list, including: Helen Congdon, Linda Nitz, Haley & Michael Walsh, Mary Gordon, Christi White, Tom Capraro, Rick Manning, Tom & Wendy Needham, Sarah Owen, Edna Landon, Gloria Morris, Eamon Kelly, Emily Finch Johnson, Jeff Chrysson, Ruth White; Ashita Mauser, Mason Perry, Agnes Paseda, Hope Raymond, Anne Miressi, Ava Dalton, Lenny Matthieu, Barbara Lassiter H. Tomlin Wyche, Bill Fenn, Llewjean White, Trish, Stacey, Steve, Bill, Art Harron, Laura Marsh.

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***About St Mary's Prayer List:*** St Mary's maintains a published prayer list, which is added to the service leaflet and to the e-news each week. To add someone, please secure permission to use either the first and/or last names from the person to be added, and then contact Denise Story at 336.886.4756 or by email at [admin@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:admin@stmarysepisc.org). Denise needs your name and contact information so we can get pastoral updates periodically. Individuals will remain on our prayer list for three months unless the request is renewed, which you are welcome to do at any time.

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