



Saint Mary's Episcopal Church
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist
Sunday, September 17, 2023
11:00am

Welcome to Saint Mary's! We are glad you are joining us today for either in person or online worship. If you're new to the Episcopal Church, know that we follow an ancient and enduring pattern of worship called Liturgy, which is designed to give glory to God and draw people closer to God. We sing and pray together, and stand, sit and kneel at different times using our bodies, minds and voices as we worship in the Spirit. All of those directions are in this guide, which is drawn from the Book of Common Prayer you see in the pew racks in front of you. We have communion every Sunday (and sometimes more often!) and everyone is invited to the altar, regardless of membership or from what denomination they've come. If you haven't been baptized, or aren't sure you're ready to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing and talk to a priest after the service about getting baptized. For more information about Saint Mary's, please see our website at www.stmaryshighpoint.org or check out our [Facebook Page](#).

The liturgy begins on page 355 in *The Book of Common Prayer*.

Welcome & Announcements

Voluntary Prelude in G

Charles Villiers Stanford

The Word of God

All stand, as able.

Hymn 411 O bless the Lord, my soul

The Celebrant says

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

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

The Celebrant continues

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.**

Gloria in excelsis

Eddie Bass, Mass for St. Mary's

accomp.

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on

earth. Lord God, hea-ven - ly King, al-migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. accomp.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of

God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; accomp.

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. accomp. For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi-rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. slower

The Collect of the Day

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Children depart for Children's Chapel.

The Lessons

All are seated.

A reading from The Book of Exodus

14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114

In exitu Israel

Chant: Simon Mold



1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came | out of | Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a | people • of | strange | speech,

2 Judah be- | came God's | sanctuary *
and | Israel | his do- | minion.

- 3 The sea be- | held it • and | fled; *
 Jordan | turned and | wënt | back.
- 4 The mountains | skipped like | rams, *
 and the little | hills like | yöung | sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, | that you | fled? *
 O | Jordan, • that | you turned | back?
- 6 You mountains, that you | skipped like | rams? *
 you little | hills like | yöung | sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the | presence • of the | Lord, *
 at the | presence • of the | God of | Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a | pool of | water *
 and flint-stone | into • a | flowing | spring.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
 and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

Hymn 674 Forgive our sins, as we forgive

The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

All are seated.

The Right Rev'd Todd McGregor

All stand and say together

The Nicene Creed

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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.

Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; especially Pat, Gloria, Marty, Terry, Helen, Linda, Mary, Rick, Emily, Anne, Clara, Susan, and all those on our Parish Prayer List and all those on the Daughters of the King Prayer List.
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; especially The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean and its Diocese of Toliara, Madagascar, Calvary Church, Wadesboro, St. John's, Wake Forest, and our companion dioceses of Botswana and Costa Rica.
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Sam and Jennifer our Bishops; visiting Bishop Todd McGregor; for Rob, Foster, Carroll, and Melanie, our priests, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Standing, the Celebrant 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.**

Acolyte Recognition

Acolyte Director I present to you Whit Ramsay and Mason Hawks to be admitted to the ministry of Acolyte in this congregation, and Lewis Biesecker, Peter Beisecker, Henry Danielik, Ford Ramsay, Jonathan Richardson, Henry Simcox Aaron Sparks, Willow Travis, Brianna Mills as they advance another year in their service as acolytes.

People Do not be negligent, for the Lord has chosen you to stand in his presence, to minister to God, and to be God's minister.

Celebrant I will go to the altar of God.

Acolytes ***To the God of my joy and gladness.***

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, bless the acolytes of your Church that they may serve before your earthly altar in reverence and holiness, that they may attain, with all your saints and angels, the joy of serving you and worshipping you before your Heavenly Altar, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant In the name of God and of this congregation, I commission you as Acolytes in St. Mary's Church and give you this cross with its colored cord corresponding to your years of service as a symbol of your ministry. Serve the Lord with dignity and grace.

The Peace

All stand.

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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

Offertory

Adrian Batten

Deliver us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the heathen, that we may give thanks unto thy holy Name, and make our boast of thy praise. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting and world without end. And let all the people say Amen.

~ Psalm 106

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

All stand

p. 361

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 continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth;

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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:

Celebrant and People

Eddie Bass



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might:
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.**

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

All 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, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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Fraction Anthem

Eddie Bass

trebles
accomp.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have

accomp.
men
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

accomp.
all
sins of the world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Celebrant says

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.

Music at the Communion

Motet

C. Hubert H. Parry

Sunset and evening star, And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar, When I put out to sea,
But such a tide as moving seems asleep, Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell, And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell, When I embark,
For, tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face When I have crost the bar.

~ Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Hymn 677 God moves in a mysterious way

Sending Out Prayer

Celebrant and People

As the people of Saint Mary's, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread one cup. Amen.

After Communion, all kneel as able and the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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 Celebrant blesses the people and then they are dismissed, responding

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 534 God is working his purpose out

Voluntary Intermezzo from *Symphonie VI*

Charles-Marie Widor

Altar flowers: The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dr. and Mrs. George Hobart, former St. Mary's parishioners.

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to give or to make a pledge payment. We appreciate your support of St. Mary's and our parish's ministries which serve our community and beyond.



Participants in the Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev'd Robert P. Travis

Preacher

The Right Rev'd Todd McGregor (ret. Toliara, Madagascar)

Lector

Jason Johnson

Vergers

Kathy Conrad

Eucharistic Ministers

Diane Popalis, Alicia Archibald

Acolytes

Alex Brehm, Brianna Mills

Organist & Choirmaster

Charles Hogan

Video & audio engineering

Robin Hardman

Acknowledgements

Text for the liturgy from *The Book of Common Prayer*, New York: Church Publishing, 1979, 231, 355-365, 388-389; Search committee prayer: *Prayers for Pastor & People*, Compiled and edited by Carl G. Carlozzi, New York: Church Publishing Incorporated, 1984, 139. Used with permission. 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, © 2020 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Vestry 2023

Frosty Culp – Senior Warden

John Haworth – Clerk

Diane Popalis

Evie Cottam

Emily Fisher

Steve Bingham

Herb Goins

John Wall – Junior Warden

David Jones – Treasurer

Audrey Congdon Harris

Sally Bulla

Laura Simcox

Hodge Cole

Candice Greig

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, Mary Gordon, Rick Manning, Emily Finch Johnson, Anne Miressi, Trish, Thea Oglesby, Steve, Megan Hankins, Jerri Phillips, Elizabeth White, Richard Glover, Rick Lewis, Frankie Gurganus, Nancy Jenkins, Kathy, Diane Kearns, Joan Cardwell, Bill Fenn, Jim, Cheryl Warren, Debbie Ewing, Patti Walls, Barry, Helen Idol, Michelle Pearl, Martha Stewart and family, Jo Stilley, Pat Hayes, Gloria, Marty Voight, Terry Strader, Clara Blythe, Susan Hayne.

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. Denise needs your name and contact information so we can get pastoral updates periodically. Individuals will be updated at the end of the month unless the request is renewed, which you are welcome to do at any time.

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church
108 West Farriss Avenue
High Point, North Carolina 27262
336.886.4756
www.stmaryshighpoint.org