

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost:
Holy Eucharist
Sunday, July 26, 2026
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*.

Voluntary Andante cantabile from Sonata in A Minor, K. 310 W.A. Mozart

Welcome & Announcements

The Word of God

All stand, as able.

Hymn 47 On this day, the first of days

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

Robert Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. 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.

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, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Children depart for Children's Chapel.

The Lessons

All are seated.

A reading from The Book of Genesis

29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

Confitemini Domino

Edward Bairstow



Give thanks to the LORD AND CALL UP- | ON HIS | NAME; *

make known his | deeds a- | mong the | peoples.

² Sing to him, sing | praises • to | him, *

and speak of | all his | marvel•ous | works.

³ Glory in his | holy | Name; *

let the hearts of those who | seek the | LORD RE- | JOICE.

⁴ Search for the LORD | AND HIS | STRENGTH; *

con- | tinual•ly | seek his | face.

- ⁵ Remember the marvels | he has | done, *
 his wonders and the | judgments | of his | mouth,
⁶ O offspring of | Abraham • his | servant, *
 O | children • of | Jacob • his | chosen.
- ⁷ He is the | LORD OUR | GOD; *
 his judgments pre-|vail in | all the | world.
- ⁸ He has always been | mindful • of his | covenant, *
 the promise he made for a | thousand | gene-| rations:
- ⁹ The covenant he | made with | Abraham, *
 the | oath that • he | swore to | Isaac,
¹⁰ Which he established as a | statute • for | Jacob, *
 an everlasting | cove-|nant for | Israel,

Second half of the chant

- ¹¹ Saying, "To you will I give the | land of | Canaan *
 to be your allotted in-|heri•tance." | Halle-| lujah!

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
 we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Please stand, as you are able.

Hymn 447 The Christ who died but rose again

The Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

The Sermon

All are seated.

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

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 Katharyn, Laura, Suzanne, Ben and Meredith and family, Mike, Jack, Joe, Deb, Grace, Dan, Rafael, Monica, Trey, Amelia, 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 Anglican Church of Tanzania, Church of the Good Shepherd, St. Andrew's, Rocky Mount, St. Mark's, Roxboro, and our companion dioceses of Botswana and Costa Rica, most especially Santa Maria Siquierres.

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Sam and Jennifer our Bishops; Orlando and Metilha, Bishops of Costa Rica and Botswana, 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.**

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

Herbert Howells

My eyes for beauty pine,	One splendour thence is shed
My soul for Goddes grace :	From all the stars above :
No other care nor hope is mine,	'Tis named when God's name is said,
To heaven I turn my face.	'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

And every gentle heart,
That burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
Of that celestial fire.

~ Robert Seymour Bridges

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The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

All stand

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Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven _____ and earth _____ are full _____ of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed 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

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



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.

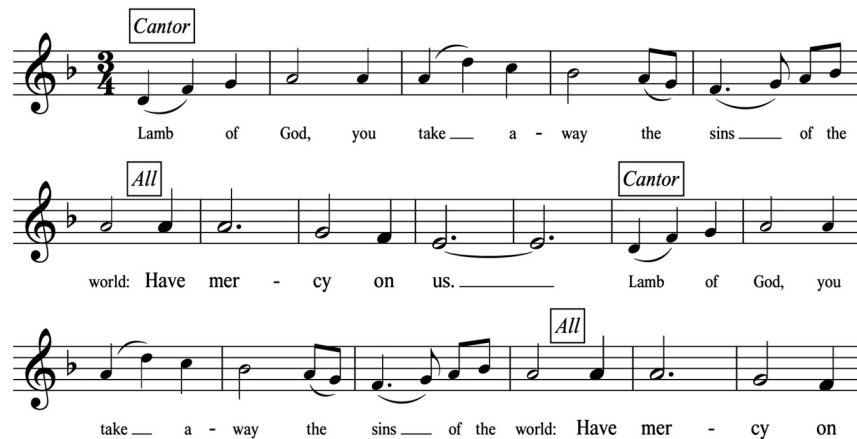
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

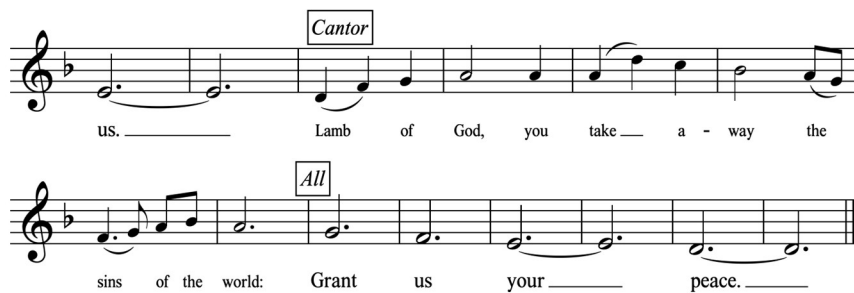


The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Melissa Dunphy





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.

Hymns at the Communion

670 Lord, for ever at thy side

700 O love that casts out fear

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 379 God is love, let heaven adore him

Voluntary Presto from Sonata in A Minor, K. 310

W.A. Mozart

Altar flowers: The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of William G. Sasser, by his wife Thelma.

Participants in the Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev'd Melanie Barbarito

Preacher

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

Lector

Phil Johnston

Vergers

Kathy Conrad

Eucharistic Ministers

Mary Beth Yates, Betsy Lehman

Acolytes

Henry Simcox, Ford Ramsay, Whit Ramsay

Pianist & Choirmaster

Dr. Charles Hogan

Virtual Vergers

Willow Travis

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.

Amanda Gane – Senior Warden
Jason Johnson
Julian Weston
Will Moore
Patrick Simcox
Ellen Walsh
Mike Boggs – Clerk

Vestry 2026
Tim Yates – Junior Warden
Alicia Archibald
Dale Strayhorn
Lenora Sparks
Mark Penley
Kathy Conrad

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, Emily Finch Johnson, Anne Miressi, Thea Oglesby, Steve, Elizabeth White, Richard Glover, Rick and Margaret Lewis, Betty Jean and Les Ipock, Kim Susnik, Katharyn Ernst, Laura Covington Marsh, Suzanne Swadener, Ben and Meredith Jenkins and family, Mike Cook, Jack, Joe P., Deb Bingham, Grace Reitzel, Dan Howe, Pat Hayes, Adam Golden, Tatum Jones, Shirley, Angel Connette, Rafael Perez, Monica, Trey, Amelia.

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 336.884-4730 or by email at admin@stmaryshighpoint.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.

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