



Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile, Alabama

Holy Communion of the Simple Presence:
Eve of the Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle
Wednesday, January 17, 2024

5:15 P.M.

We invite you to participate in the worship of God. Our service is the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two in The Book of Common Prayer. For ease of use, this booklet contains the congregational portions of the liturgy and service music. Congregational responses are printed in bold. Hymn numbers refer to The Hymnal 1982. Page numbers refer to the Prayer Book for those wishing to use it. Lesson and Gospel texts are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Prelude

Welcome

The Word of God

The Collect for Purity

BCP 355

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.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP 238

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty Father, who inspired Saint Peter, first among the apostles, to confess Jesus as Messiah and Son of the living God: Keep your Church steadfast upon the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace we may proclaim the one truth and follow the one Lord, our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

Please read in unison

BCP 612

- ¹ **The Lord is my shepherd; ***
I shall not be in want.
- ² **He makes me lie down in green pastures ***
and leads me beside still waters.
- ³ **He revives my soul ***
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- ⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; ***
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- ⁵ **You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; ***
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- ⁶ **Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, ***
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

First Reading of the Gospel

(followed by silence)

Gospel Acclamation

All sing refrain; a verse is sung by the cantor.



He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Meditation

The Prayers of the People

The leader and people pray responsively.

Celebrant: Gracious and loving God, you see into the deepest needs of our hearts and invite us to follow you and to listen to your voice: Receive our prayers as we call upon you in your Temple: Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Litanist: Holy One, you have called us your children and given us the Holy Spirit: Grant that your Church may share with our friends the Good News of Jesus of Nazareth and invite them to “come and see” so that others may share our fellowship in his Name.

We call upon you in your Temple:

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Eternal One, you search our hearts and know us: Lay your hand upon our nation and upon all in authority throughout the world, that they may be instruments of your compassion and peace, and known as a people in whom there is no deceit.

We call upon you in your Temple:

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Wonderful Creator, you have woven our bodies in the depths of the earth: Look upon the needs of a suffering world and bless all humanity, that your healthful Spirit and presence may do marvelous works for the relief of the world.

We call upon you in your Temple:

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Loving One, you visit us in friendship and invite us to be generous and hospitable neighbors: Fill us with your grace, that we may be a community of kindness and compassion.

We call upon you in your Temple:

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Good and Holy God, you fashion our lives day by day in your Spirit. Increase in us your vision that we may see great things for our community. Hear our prayers for those for whom we intercede. We thank you for your gifts of freedom and blessing. By your power you raise our bodies into union with you, remember those who have died. May all people see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.

We call upon you in your Temple:

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Celebrant: You have freed us from all domination and made us one body in your Spirit, O God: Give us childlike faith to listen to what you are speaking and to follow you in faith, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

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

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.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

George Friderich Handel
(1685-1759)

I Know that my Redeemer Liveth from The Messiah

Mollie Adams, *soprano*

I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand;
at the latter day, upon the earth I know that my redeemer liveth
and that he shall stand at the latter day, upon the earth, upon the earth.

I know that my redeemer liveth and he shall stand
stand at the latter day, upon the earth, upon the earth.

And though worms destroy this body
yet in my flesh shall I see God, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

I know that my redeemer liveth and though worms destroy this body
yet in my flesh shall i see God, yet in my flesh shall i see God, shall I see God.

I know that my redeemer liveth for now is Christ risen from the dead
the first fruits of them that sleep of them that sleep
the first fruits of them that sleep for now is Christ risen
for now is Christ risen from the dead the first fruits of them that sleep.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

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.**

Celebrant: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People: **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People: **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People: **By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People: **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Celebrant: Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

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

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Celebrant:

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.**

Blessing

Dismissal

Closing Hymn

Hyfrydol
Hymnal 460

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus vv. 1, 4
Alleluia! sing to Jesus! his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation hath redeemed us by his blood.
Alleluia! King eternal, thee the Lord of lords we own:
Alleluia! born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great High Priest:
thou on earth both Priest and Victim in the eucharistic feast.

Postlude

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CATHEDRAL NOTES



BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 4

Christ Church Cathedral is thrilled to host the Stillman College Choir and the Excelsior Band for our 3rd Annual Black History Month Celebration. Join us for a service highlighting the rich tradition of music we enjoy from Black composers and cultures, including jazz, Afro-American hymns, and spirituals. We are combining the celebration with our annual brunch in support of the Mobile Kappa League. The funds are for preparation and fees for college entrance exams for members of the Mobile Kappa League. We are asking for sponsors willing to support the project for \$100 (sponsorship entitles you to 4 tickets). Brunch tickets are \$10. You may become a sponsor, or purchase tickets by signing-up at church—look for a sign-up in the vestibules or by using the link sent in the weekly email and on the website outreach page.



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING—SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

The Parish Meeting for the approval of the 2024 budget will take place immediately following the service.



Ministers For Today

Celebrant The Very Reverend Beverly F. Gibson
Organist Elizabeth Bemis-Gatter
Cantor Mollie Adams
Altar Guild Robbie Lynn Irvine



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CATHEDRAL OF THE DIOCESE OF THE CENTRAL GULF COAST

The Right Reverend J. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop*
The Very Reverend Beverly F. Gibson, Ph.D., *Rector and Dean*
The Reverend Eric J. Zubler, *Clergy Associate to the Dean*
Elizabeth Bemis-Gatter, *Organist and Music Director*
Mollie A. Adams, *Cantor*
Andy R. Palileo, *Audio-Visual Specialist*

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