

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2026

Welcome to St. Catherine's

We are glad that you have joined us for worship. If you are visiting with us, we invite you to fill out a visitor card, which can be found on the back of the chair in front of you. Completed cards may be given to a greeter or placed in the collection plate.

“BCP” before a page number refers to the Book of Common Prayer in the pew racks. “H” before a page number refers to the blue hymnal. Both are in the pew.

You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized in any Christian Church. Those who wish not to receive Holy Communion may come to the altar rail, fold their arms across their chests, and receive a blessing from the priest.

Serving Today

The Rev'd Dillon Green, *Celebrant and Preacher*

Denise Armstrong, *Vestry Person of the Day*

Pat Tate, *LEM/ Crucifer*

Walker Tate & Olivia Kennedy,

Torchbearers

Laura Chambless, *Lector*

Carol Dotson & Denise Armstrong,

Counters

Olivia Ard, *Intercessor*

Denise Armstrong, *Greeter*

Olivia Ard, *Altar Guild*

Scott Reimer, *Technology*

Prelude

Entrance Hymn 574

Before thy throne, O God, we kneel

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

The Collect for Purity

BCP 355

The Gloria



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

BCP 233

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 LESSONS

First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

Reader A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

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?"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

We will read the Psalm responsively by half verse.

- 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.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

Reader A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

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 death--
even 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.

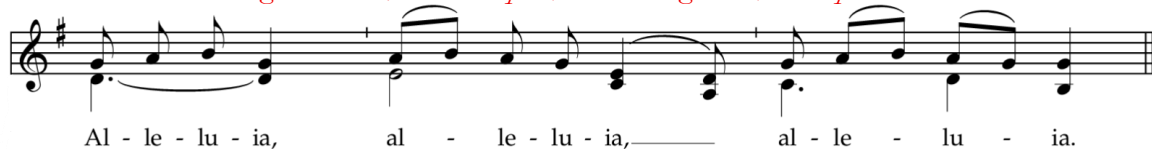
Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Cantor sings Alleluias, then all repeat; Cantor sings verse; All repeat Alleluias.



Cantor: Christ/ be-came obedient for us unto/ death, /even/ death/ on/ a/ cross.

The Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

Deacon 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.”

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

The Sermon

The Rev'd Dillon Green

A period of silence follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed, *please stand as able* **BCP 358**

The Prayers of the People, Form VI **BCP 392**

Confession of Sin **BCP 360**

The Peace **BCP 360**

The Announcements

Offertory Hymn 685 **Rock of ages, cleft for me**

As the offerings are brought to the altar, standing as you are able, the following is sung

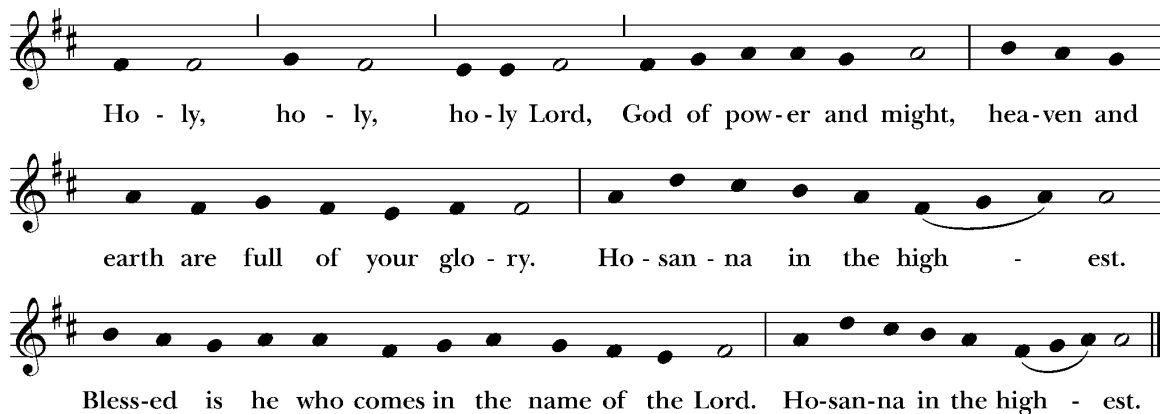
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

BCP 361

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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 Lord's Prayer

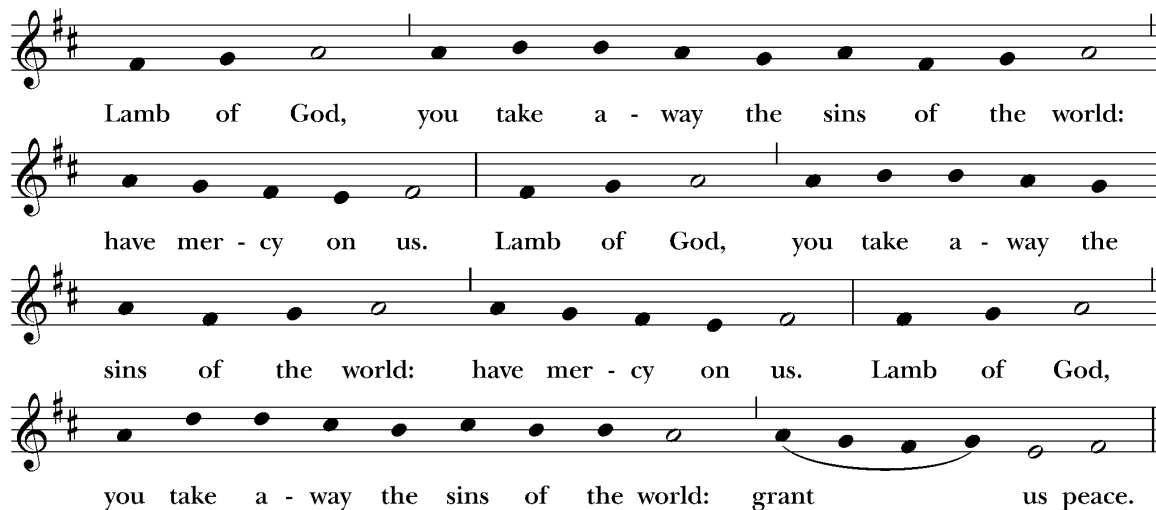
BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Fraction Anthem

S 169



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
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 image shows the musical notation for 'The Fraction Anthem' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple, using quarter and half notes. There are bar lines at the end of each staff. The final note of the fourth staff is a half note, followed by a double bar line.

The Invitation

BCP 364

Communion Hymn 339

Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP 365

The Blessing

BCP 366

Post-Communion Hymn 686

Come, thou fount of every blessing

Postlude

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*Please join us in the Parish hall
for coffee hour after the service!*

We pray for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and their bishop, Lloyd. We pray also the Alabama Faith Council and its work; for St. Michael and All Angels, Anniston; St. Michael and All Angels, Millbrook; St. Michael's, Faunsdale; and St. Michael's, Fayette.

We pray for those on our parish prayer list: Will, Addi, Lawrence Louise, Sally, Lynnell, Marsha, Dennis, Durwood Graddy, Stephen, Sue, Ann, Gayla, Kim, Daniel, Walter Coe, Amy, Julie, Melanie, David, Olivia, Julie, and Michelle.

We pray those who serve in the military, especially John Morris.

We give thanks for all those who celebrated birthdays this week, especially Claire Lewis. May she grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen her trust in your goodness all the days of her life.

S A V E T H E D A T E S

Evening Prayer every Wednesday at 6:00 pm

October 3rd—First Saturday Breakfast at 9:00!

Notes

Our Mission

To seek, love, and serve God through worship, education, and service and to share the redeeming love of Christ with the world.

Our Vision

St. Catherine's, the Episcopal Church in Chelsea, is a welcoming and inclusive family called by Christ to receive and share God's love.

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Richard T. Lawson III

Bishop of Alabama

The Rev. Dillon Green

Rector

The Rev. Clyde Pearce

Deacon

Dr. Matthew West, *Organist/Choirmaster*

Julie Seal

Parish Administrator

St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

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