



Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile, Alabama  
Holy Communion of the Simple Presence  
Wednesday, January 25, 2023  
12:00 noon

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*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 215

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

# The Lessons

Psalm 110:1-4

*Dixit Dominus*

*Please read in unison.*

BCP 753

- 1 **The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, \*  
until I make your enemies your footstool.”**
- 2 **The Lord will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, \*  
saying, “Rule over your enemies round about you.**
- 3 **Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; \*  
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you,  
like dew from the womb of the morning.”**
- 4 **The Lord has sworn and he will not recant: \*  
“You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.”**

## First Reading of the Gospel

*(followed by silence)*

## Gospel Acclamation

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



The law of the Lord is perfect; it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted; it gives wisdom to the simple. **Antiphon**

The precepts of the Lord are right; they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear; it gives light to the eyes. **Antiphon**

The fear of the Lord is holy; abiding forever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. **Antiphon**

## The Holy Gospel:

*Mark 4:1-20*

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

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

Again Jesus began to teach beside the lake. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the lake and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the lake on the land. He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.” And he said, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen!” When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; in order that they may indeed look, but not perceive, and may indeed listen, but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.” And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? The sower sows the word. These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”

*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, from our work and the busyness of our lives you call us to follow Jesus in the way of reconciliation and unity: Give us boldness to repent immediately from all that may separate us from you and from others, that we may proclaim the Good News to all the earth, as we pray: You speak in our hearts and say, "Seek my face." Your face, O God, will we seek.

Holy One, let your Church proclaim the gospel with power and embrace the cross so completely that Christ may no longer be divided by the quarrels among us, but rather that your Church may be united with the same mind and the same purpose for the healing of the world.

You speak in our hearts and say, "Seek my face."

**Your face, O God, will we seek.**

Eternal One, help the leaders of the world answer readily the call to justice, that the yoke of burden and the bar of oppression across all shoulders may be broken, the lands which have lived with contempt may be made glorious, and the people who have walked in great darkness may see a great light.

You speak in our hearts and say, "Seek my face."

**Your face, O God, will we seek.**

Compassionate One, bring your light to all who walk in darkness among the nations of the world: Cast out their gloom, banish their anguish, and increase their joy, that all may know the good news of your kingdom and live in the light of your love.

You speak in our hearts and say, "Seek my face."

**Your face, O God, will we seek.**

Inspire our community to sing and make music to you, and hearken to your voice when you call, O Most High, that we may dwell in your house all the days of our life and offer in your dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness.

You speak in our hearts and say, "Seek my face."

**Your face, O God, will we seek.**

God is our light and our salvation; whom then shall we fear? In the day of trouble keep your people safe in your shelter. We bring to you, our God, the anguish and concern of our hearts. Multiply the nations and increase our joy, as we pray in thanksgiving. Receive into your glorious presence those who have died and let your light shine upon them always.

You speak in our hearts and say, "Seek my face."

**Your face, O God, will we seek.**

The light of Christ shines upon us, filling the earth with the blessing of divine grace: Lead us, O Gracious One, to follow Jesus in every moment of our lives, that we may share in the daily labor of your mission to heal and reconcile all creation in the power of your Spirit, 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

Solo

arr. Paul S. Jones

#### *How Firm a Foundation*

Mollie Adams, *soprano*

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer A*

BCP 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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

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

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.**

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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

*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

*Noel Nouvelet*  
Hymnal 204

*Now the green blade rises vs. 1*  
Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

# CATHEDRAL NOTES

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## BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 5

Come celebrate Black History Month with Christ Church Cathedral! 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 honored to have Mobile's Excelsior Brass Band and baritone Devin Burton as featured artists for our celebration. Following there will be a Jazz Brunch to benefit the Mobile Kappa League, who will be worshipping with us that day.

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 Sign-Up link sent in the weekly email and on the website landing.

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*How Firm a Foundation*: Words: K. in John Rippon's *Selection*, 1787, alt. Music: arr. Paul S. Jones.

Hymnal S-130: Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Hymnal 204: Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958), alt. From *The Oxford Book of Carols* © 1964, Oxford University Press. Music: *Nôel nouvelet*, medieval French carol.



## Ministers For Today

Celebrant.....The Reverend Eric J. Zubler  
Organist .....Elizabeth A. Bemis  
Cantor .....Mollie A. 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 A. Bemis, *Organist and Music Director*  
Mollie A. Adams, *Cantor*  
Andy R. Palileo, *Audio-Visual Specialist*

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