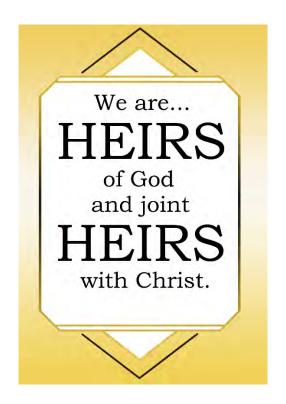
Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 23, 2023 Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:30 a.m.



Our Mission
"Living our Faith by Serving God and Others"

The Reverend Dr. Allen Hill, Rector The Reverend Beth Pessah, Associate Rector



Text: Based on Psalm 139; Dan Schutte, b. 1947. Music: Dan Schutte.

Text and music ©1971, 1974, Daniel L. Schutte. Administered by New Dawn Music.



Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926) Music: Leoni, Hebrew melody; harm. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1875, alt.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION (Standing)

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

Blessed Be Your Name

PSB 24

Words and Music by Matt Redman and Beth Redman





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant Lord be with you. **People** And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Silence - to collect ourselves before God

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR OUR CHILDREN

THE FIRST READING Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence – What indeed is God saying?

PSALM 139:1-11, 22-23 (*Read Responsively*)

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

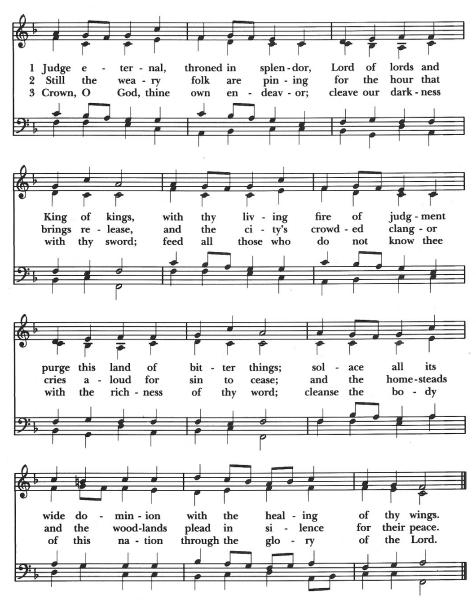
Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence - What indeed is God saying?



Words: Henry Scott Holland (1847-1918), alt.

Music: Komm, o komm, du Geist des Lebens, melody from Neu-vermehrtes und zu Ubung Christl.
Gottseligkeit eingerichtetes Meiningisches Gesangbuch, 1693

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

SERMON

The Reverend Beth Pessah

Silence

THE NICENE CREED (All stand, saying together)

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 (Standing or kneeling)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the mission of the Church, that it may be filled with truth and love, and that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the churches in the Diocese of Florida, especially St. Mark's, Jacksonville; Trinity Parish, St. Augustine; St. Teresa Prison Ministry, Wakulla; St. Paul's by the Sea, Jacksonville Beach; St. Mary's Mission, Jacksonville; St. Peter's, Jacksonville; and St. Christopher's Mission, Flagler Beach, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; John, our Bishop; for all bishops and other ministers, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the leaders of the nations and for the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among all peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; especially Celeste Rosenau, Lynda Makin, Elaine Yaege, Roger Messimer, Charles Scriven, Fisher Yaney, David Livingston, Walter, Mae, Larry Bortel, Roberta Boyer, and Dan Northway, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection and for all the departed, especially those whom we love, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Silence. The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Silence

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 (Standing)

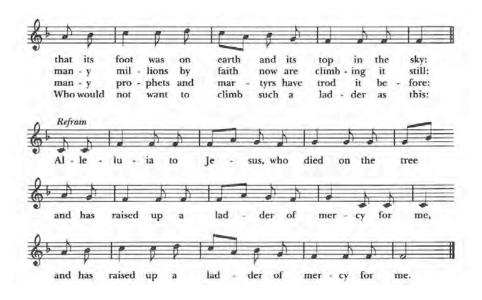
Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

OFFERTORY As Jacob with Travel was Weary One Day Hymn 453

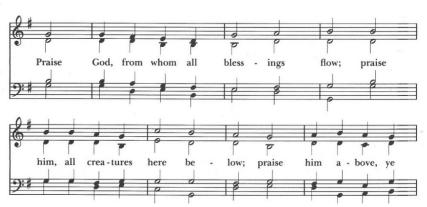




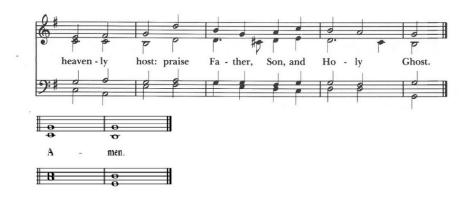
LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A (Standing)

DOXOLOGY



Continued



Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

PeopleCelebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

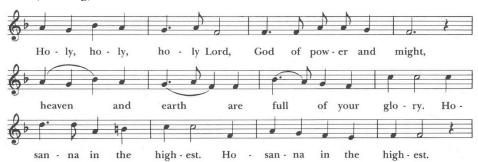
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in 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:

SANCTUS (All Sing)





People stand or kneel (as able)

Celebrant

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 sing:



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

Grant us peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the children of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died

for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

People Thanks be to God.

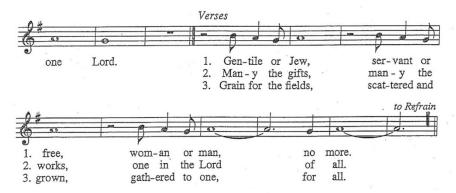
All baptized Christian believers are invited to receive Holy Communion. All others are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing. To receive this option, please cross your arms over your chest in front of the priest.

COMMUNION SONG

One Bread, One Body

PSB 75





Text: Based on 1 Corinthians 10, 12, Galatians 3, Didache 9; John Foley, SJ, b. 1939. Music: John Foley, SJ.

Text and music @1978, John B. Foley, SJ, and New Dawn Music.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

(*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation, I 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.

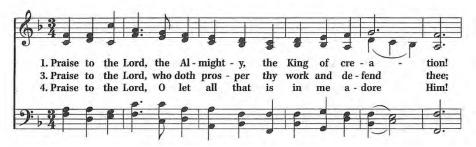
People We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.)

THE BLESSING T



Praise to the Lord, The Almighty

CLH 11





DISMISSAL

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia! Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE



WE WELCOME ALL to our services today.

Please contact the church office if we may assist you.

We would love to hear from you.



Pray for our sick, especially Celeste Rosenau, Lynda Makin, Elaine Yaege, Roger Messimer, Charles Scriven, Fisher Yaney, David Livingston, Walter, Mae, Larry Bortel, Roberta Boyer, and Dan Northway.

Pray for all who have died.

Pray for our school; for Peter, Head of School; for Amy, Head of Middle School; for Brenda, Head of Lower School; and for Michelle, Director of Preschool.

Pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially Mike Maring, Lewis Killian, Mary Mitas, Herb Laing, and Melissa Hamilton.

Pray for those celebrating anniversaries, especially Lannie & Sarah Cardona and Tommy & Bertie Culbreath.

The policy for Prayers of the People is to list a person for one month.

Please call or email the office if extended prayers are needed.

Prayers can be requested by contacting the church office with the information.

Happenings at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

TODAY

JULY 23

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

9 a.m. Spiritual Journey

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

NOTE: There will be no Sunday School during the month of July, but there are activity booklets in the narthex for the children.

THIS WEEK

Monday, July 24

Tuesday, July 25

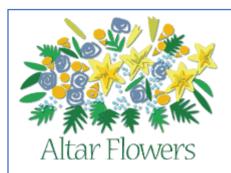
Wednesday, July 26

Holy Eucharist Rite II, 5:30 pm

Thursday, July 27 Cursillo Ultreya, 6 pm

Friday, July 28

Saturday, July 29 NO FOOD PANTRY



The flowers on the altar today are sponsored by Lannie and Sarah Cardona in thanksgiving for 53 years of loving marriage.



The HCEC Book Group's next meeting will be on Sunday, **August 13**th at 5 pm. The book chosen for this month is **Demon Copperhead**, which is a retelling of David Copperfield's story set in the Appalachians. Demon Copperhead was written by Barbara Kingsolver, published in 2022, and has been awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Rob Brunger at 850-224-7729 or brungerrob@embarqmail.com.

Cursillo Ultreya

Cursillo Ultreya July 27th 2023 at 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Lite dinner followed with Eucharist. Please speak with Bill and Pat Reineking (850)309-1414 or (850)525-4823 if you wish to attend.

Buy your tickets today!



Tickets are available in the church office (850-877-2712) during regular office hours and can also be purchased before and after both services on Sunday mornings. Please make checks out to Holy Comforter Episcopal Church and note "Hiroya Tsukamoto Concert" in the memo line.

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Johnson Howard, Bishop The Reverend Dr. Allen Hill, Rector The Reverend Beth Pessah, Associate Rector



VESTRY

Judy Shipman, Senior Warden Chris Jester, Junior Warden Sterling Luce Jackie Watts Robert Efthim Susan Robinson Jenna Brown Andy Granger, Treasurer Patricia Trom, Clerk

Contact information for Father Allen Hill rev.allenhill@hc-ec.org

Contact information for Mother Beth Pessah MotherBeth@HCES.org, 386-341-8853

Office 850-877-2712 ♦ Website: http://www.hc-ec.org
Office Hours: Mon.-Thu. 8:00-5:00, Fri. 8:00-Noon 2015 Fleischmann Road, Tallahassee FL 32308