CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

COLUMBIA, MD

Sunday, September 19, 2021



ALFRED TITUS-GLOVER

LEARN MORE ABOUT HIM ON PAGE 19

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 19, 2021 | 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

You may stream this service from Christ Church's website, YouTube, or Facebook pages

At the 8:00 a.m. service, all music is omitted.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN - 390 *Lobe den Herren*



Opening Acclamation

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

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Gloria

Robert Powell (1932-)



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

People: **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 31: 10-31

A capable wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.
She is like the ships of the merchant,
she brings her food from far away.
She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her servant-girls.
She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
She girds herself with strength,
and makes her arms strong.
She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.
She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.
She opens her hand to the poor,
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.
She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.
Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.

She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
She looks well to the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband too, and he praises her:
"Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all."
Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The following Psalm is read responsively by half-verse.

PSALM 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,*
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

THE EPISTLE

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

(continued)

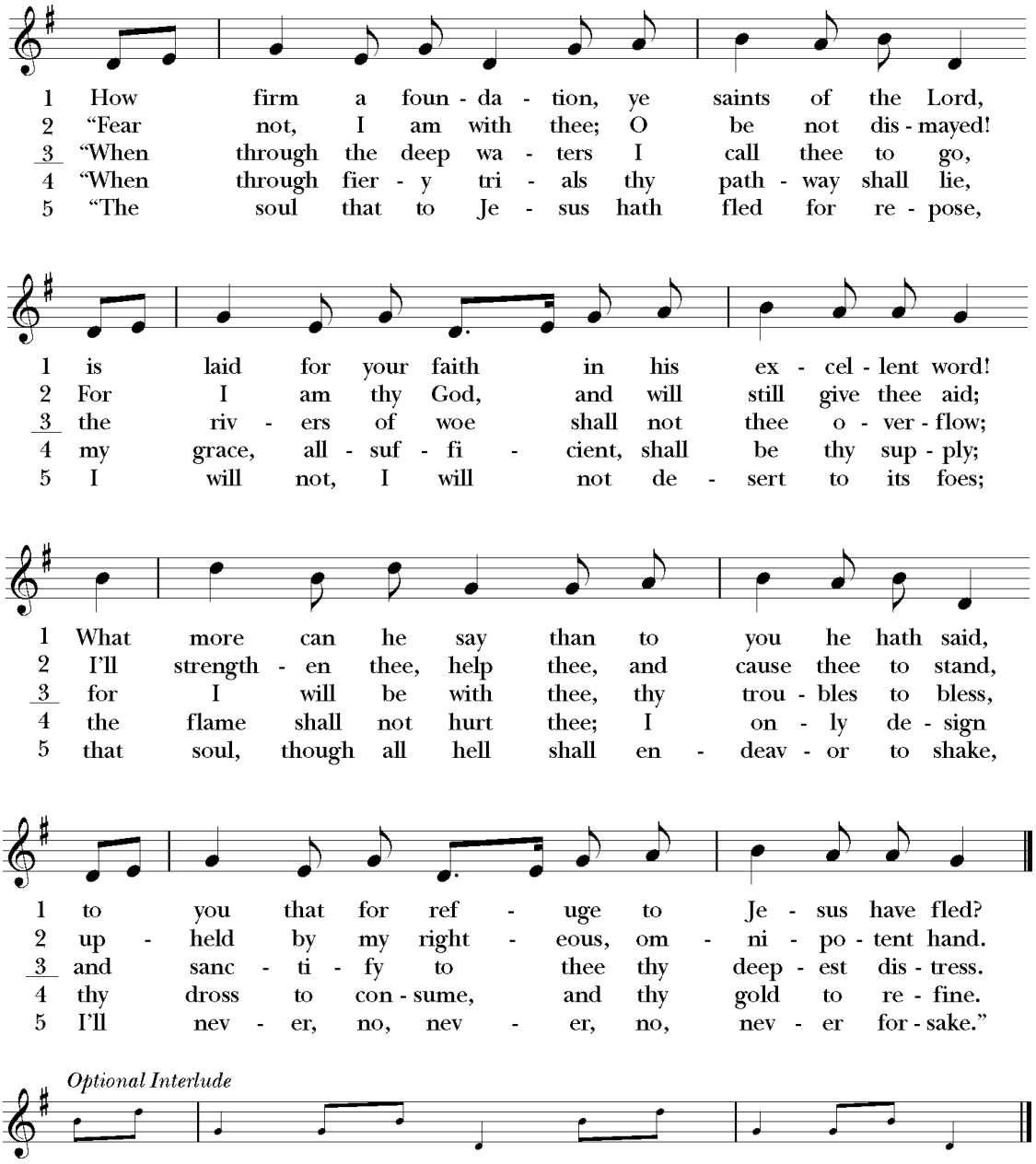
Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN - 637 *Lyons*



THE GOSPEL — Mark 9:30-37

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

The people may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON — The Rev'd Denise Schiavone

The people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

All: **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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

May we always show forth the face of Christ. Volunteers come to Christ Church in rugged gear, equipped with tools and a desire to keep our place of worship clothed in strength and dignity. May gratitude and generosity flourish in all who give of their labors, time, and material. We pray, **May we always reflect your love to all whom we meet and all those in need.**

You have blessed us with a bountiful heritage, and Christ Church remains a gathering place for people of many needs. Strengthen our resolve to sustain and keep our facilities responsive to these needs. Help us to always welcome as a reflection of You. **May we always reflect your love to all whom we meet and all those in need.**

We reflect Your image through ministries near and far. Open our hearts to support these efforts not only financially but with time and talent, especially with the coming influx of Afghan refugees to the area, and to support those suffering housing insecurity due to hurricanes and floods. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Church of the Province of Uganda. In our diocese, we pray for Good Shepherd, Towson; Holy Comforter, Lutherville; and Holy Nativity, Baltimore. **May we always reflect your love to all whom we meet and all those in need.**

We pray for all those struggling in relationships; may they find strength in these difficult times. We pray for all who are ill or anxious and for those providing their care and comfort. Within our congregation, we pray for Kelmie Snider, and those you now name. We pray also for those who have died, including Father Jim Shields, and those you now name. **May we always reflect your love to all whom we meet and all those in need.**

We pray for all our government leaders. We pray for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; Diocesan Bishops Eugene and Robert; our Rector Manny; Mother Marcia and Deacon Denise. We pray for parishioner Rebecca Warlow, as she discerns a call to the diaconate. We give thanks for staff members Todd, Aisha, Yetti, and Chris, and for our Senior Warden, Sara and Junior Warden, Jan. We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. We give a heart-felt welcome for those new to our parish or visiting with us today. **May we always reflect your love to all whom we meet and all those in need.**

We celebrate the many gifts of time, talent and treasure within our congregation. We know you call us to give as we are able, not only from our places of abundance but also our places of scarcity—with trust and joy. We pray you guide us in discerning the ways we can serve as good stewards of your Church.

As we remain anxious over earthly things, we hold fast to You, Lord, who shall endure. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

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

All: **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.

People: **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

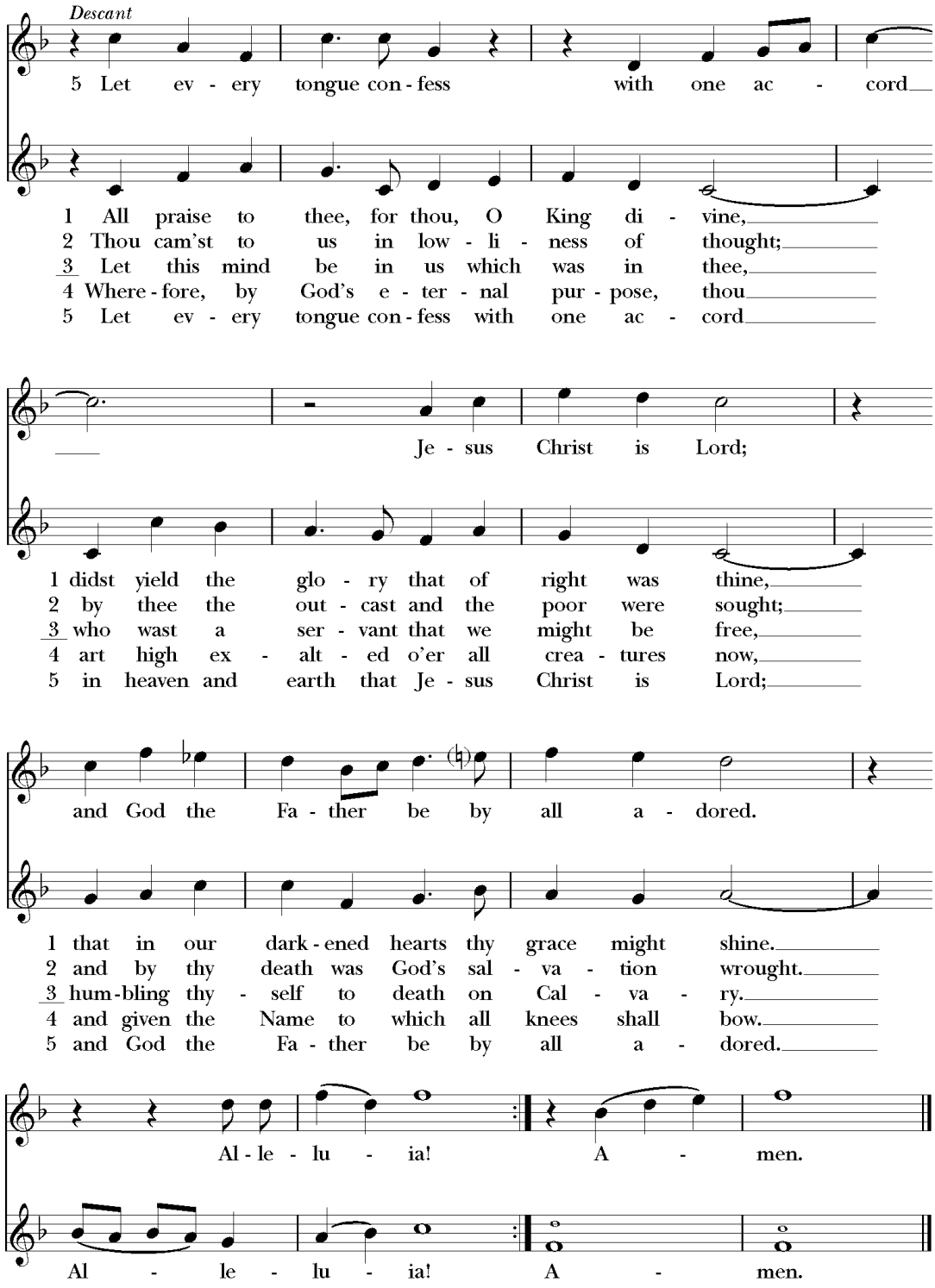
People: **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord and then be seated.

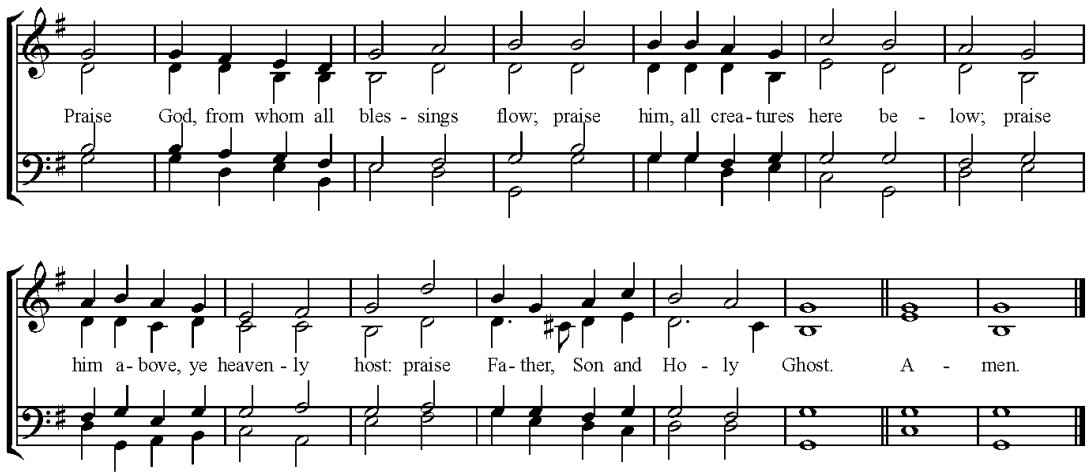
Welcome and Announcements

OFFERTORY HYMN - 477

Engelberg



DOXOLOGY *Old 100th*



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

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

Celebrant: 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."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant: 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.

All: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All: **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.

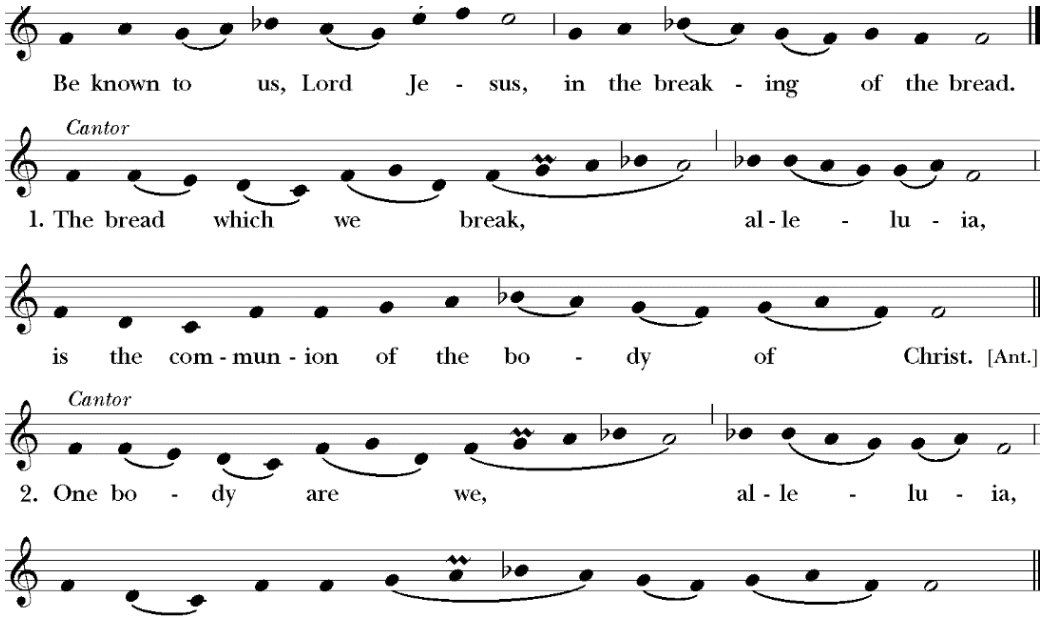
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

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

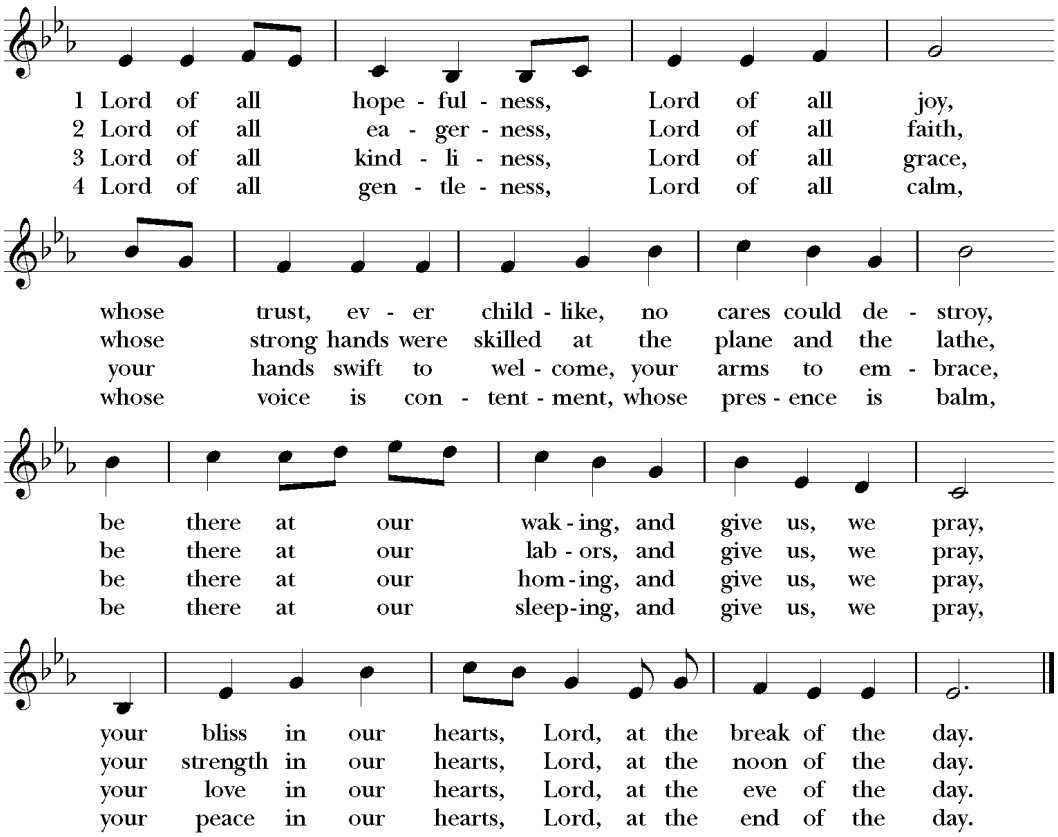
FRACTION ANTHEM

Mode 6 melody; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)



COMMUNION HYMN - 482

Slane



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **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.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the People, who respond ***Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN - 492

Finnian



DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people, who respond:
Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

The Organist for today's 10:30 worship is Nelda Clelland

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Christ Church Sunday School | Sunday School is back! The registration form is located here, and you can send them to ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org to enroll your child(ren). Elementary school sessions begin at 9:15 a.m. and you can receive the Zoom link by emailing Jennifer Atkins at dandjatkins@verizon.net. The older youth session begins at 9:30 a.m. and is run by our new Youth Minister, Todd Domer. You can reach Todd at youthministry@christchurchcolumbia.org for Zoom details.

Adult Forum: Sunday Circle | After months of time away from Christian education opportunities, Christ Church is excited to welcome back our Adult Formation in-person gatherings. Sunday Circle is an in-person, community-circle Adult Forum. This gathering meets between worship services from 9:30-10:15 a.m. each Sunday during the school year and is located outside when the weather permits, or in Old Brick when it doesn't. Every month, there is a new theme of lessons with opportunities for discussion, sharing, fellowship, and prayers; each week, there are new topics for discussions and Christian enrichment along with opportunities to develop deeper relationships among parishioners. This Sunday is *Your Relationship with Others, family, and friends* (*click here for info*)

Bible Study: Wednesdays | Bible Study is back to in-person meeting the Great Hall each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Bible Study will be a discussion on the readings for that coming Sunday. Next week's gathering focuses on these readings. You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join in and let's all study together. If you're interested, simply gather with us on Wednesday morning

Christ Church Book Club Returns: Fridays | Our Book Club is again gathering virtually this Friday from 7:30 to 9 p.m., and our first read is *What Did Jesus Ask?* a collection of essays by theologians and notable people on questions asked by Jesus in the New Testament. You can find this book at the usual retailers or download this week's essays from our website here and here. Please email Ellen Hoke at efboudreau1@gmail.com if you have any questions. We hope that you'll find time to join us for this engaging and enlightening group discussion. The Zoom link is here,

Meeting ID is 894 0227 6226 and the Password is CECbooks. After this book, we will discuss *The Dream of God* by Verna Dozier. We hope that you'll find time to join us for this engaging and enlightening group discussion.

CEC Fall Retreat: October 1-3 | Great news! All of the rooms have now been reserved for the retreat and we'll gather at the A. Felix duPont Memorial House in Rehoboth Beach the first weekend in October. The details are on our website and you can email Ellen at efboudreau1@gmail.com or Donna at donnacam100@gmail.com for more information. The CEC Fall Retreat is a unique and enriching parish event and we're looking forward to gathering in a gorgeous location to get acquainted with one another and deepen our faith.

WOCC Meeting: October 4th | The WOCC's next monthly meeting will take place on Monday, October 4th, at 1:00 pm. Once again, we will be meeting via the Zoom meeting app, which is free and available for sign-up on www.Zoom.us. Please go to their site and sign up prior to the meeting. If you're a woman 18 and older, you're already a member of the WOCC, so feel free to join us! The Zoom link is here, the meeting ID is 843 0204 4790 and the password is cecWOCC.

Annual Meeting: Sunday, October 17th | Please mark your calendars - the Christ Church Annual Meeting takes place on Sunday, October 17th, following Holy Eucharist. This year, it will be a hybrid event that can be attended in person or online via Zoom. During this meeting, we will elect several new Vestry members, and the candidates are Tim Beaty, Jan DeBoissierre, Simone Kolnik, Isaac Olajide, Alfred Titus-Glover, and George Toth. You can read more about each candidate on our website later this month.

If you are a CEC committee or ministry leader, please submit your Annual Report submissions to our Communications Administrator, Chris, at communications@christchurchcolumbia.org no later than Thursday, September 30th. Thank you.

Donate to the Christ Church Auction! Deadline is October 10th | Time to donate your items for the 32nd Annual Christ Church Auction, by offering gifts ranging from dinners, day trips, vacations, a bottle of wine, handmade artworks... endless possibilities! All CEC Auction donors are asked to use the following link (one form per item): https://christepiscopalchurch.schoolauction.net/auction2021/donate_items/new and please do so by the deadline of October 10th. The Silent Auction takes place from 7:00 p.m. on October 30th through 3:00 p.m. on November 6th and the Live Auction takes place in New Brick at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 6th. There will also be a 50/50 drawing available for both the online and in-person portions. This is Christ Episcopal Church's major fundraiser for the year and we hope you will all plan on participating; its success depends entirely on each and every one of us! No item is too small, or too large to donate - please start searching your home now! And then log in to the site and donate.

Christ Church Needs a Few Volunteers | We are looking for more volunteers to help with our Morning and Evening Prayer livestreams. Some people are currently handling more than one day each week, and we'd like to lighten their load. It's a very simple process; we will provide training via Zoom so that you have all of the information needed. We're also in need of Ushers to help seat people during Sunday services. Training for this will take place in New Brick. To assist with either of these (or both), please speak with Yetti on Sundays, or email her at ministry@christchurchcolumbia.org

Join Us for *Conversations on Race* this Fall | Christ Church's Racially Aware Group of Episcopalians is pleased to announce our fall programming line-up, which aims to help our congregation fulfill our baptismal promises to *seek and serve Christ in all persons, strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being*. Join us as we Educate, Pray, and Act to end racism in all its forms. All parishioners are welcome! On Tuesday, September 21, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m., we will explore our own inherent biases. We ask those joining the conversation to take about 20 minutes to complete the Race Task Implicit Bias survey in advance, at https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html. Please note your results to keep in mind for Tuesday's discussion. Zoom details to follow. You can find the rest of the 2021 schedule on our website. We hope you will join us in demonstrating God's love through our day-to-day

work to dismantle the persisting sins of systemic racism and white privilege in our world. If you have questions about this ministry, feel free to contact ministry leaders Duane Smith and Lexi Couch, or Deacon Denise.

Go for Gold! Help Fight Homelessness via Bridges to Housing Stability's 2021 Chili & Challenge | Due to the pandemic, Bridges to Housing Stability is once again hosting a virtual event to raise critical funds to support programs that help individuals and families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness in Howard County find and maintain stable housing. You can support this event in three ways (the first two will help Christ Church compete for the Golden Ladle!!): 1) purchase meal tickets ($20 each), a portion of which ($12) will be donated to Bridges; 2) donate directly; and 3) participate in Bridges' virtual silent auction online. The congregation that raises the most money through 1 & 2 above (meal ticket proceeds and/or direct donations) by Friday, October 8, will win the Golden Ladle. Two runners-up will win silver ladles as Christ Church did in 2020. Help Christ Church go for the Gold and prevent homelessness by using this link to purchase meal tickets and/or donate directly: Bridges to Housing Stability - Christ Episcopal Church 's fundraiser (networkforgood.com)

1) Bare Bones Grill and Bar is providing three delicious chilis (beef, chicken, and vegetarian) this year with cornbread and coleslaw. Chili meals are available for purchase at the link above until Monday, October 4, 2021. *All meals must be picked up curbside between 12 – 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 10*. Bare Bones is located at 9150-22 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042. Curbside pickup details will be provided closer to the event date.

2) If you want to donate toward Bridges' $12,000 goal for its operations and housing programs, please do so by Friday, October 8, through the Christ Episcopal Church link above. If you prefer to donate via check, please make it out to Bridges to Housing Stability (not Christ Church) and note Christ Episcopal Church/Chili & Challenge in the memo line. You must get it to Christ Church by Wednesday, October 6, so that we can take checks to Bridges in time to count toward our total on October 8.

3) Bridges' virtual silent auction is being hosted by "Charity Auctions Today" between Friday, October 1 and Saturday, October 9. The high-quality baskets will be available for viewing online soon. Please see the Christ Church event page on Bridges' website and future Gatherings notices for updated information. You can also check out Bridges' web page Chili & Challenge (2021) – Bridges to Housing Stability (bridges2hs.org). Alternatively, you can go to Bridges' website directly to purchase meal tickets and/or donate. If you are purchasing meals, you can click on the congregation you are supporting in an information section after saying how many meals you want. If you are donating directly, you can enter Christ Episcopal Church/Chili & Challenge in the donor scroll box. If you do not want it to show publicly, click on the box.

Save the Dates: Grassroots Meal Drop-Offs on Monday, Sept. 20, Monday, Oct. 18 | Once again, parishioners and volunteers who join their efforts are looking ahead to the monthly meal that we provide at Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center. Save the dates: Sept. 20 and Oct. 18, arriving between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. at the parking lot outside Old Brick. Plan to bring a side dish, a dessert, or items for their pantry to be enjoyed round-the-clock by the 50 residents of the live-in facility on Freetown Rd. To sign up, use our electronic registry no later than noon on the Sunday prior to the meal on Monday. Click on the Christ Church Grassroots Meal link on SignUpGenius to view requested items and to tell coordinators what you'll bring. As usual, co-coordinator Nancy Winchester acquires fried chicken at Weis and meets the other volunteers (see photos of July 19). Nancy then transports the hot or cold foods to Freetown Road for handoff to the staff of Grassroots. Christ Church continues to support Grassroots' Day Resource Center (DRC) at the Dorsey Center. The DRC has not yet resumed the hot meals that Christ Church had helped serve prior to the pandemic, but it fulfills other needs of our homeless friends. Grassroots lists some other needs for curbside distribution at the DRC or for the pantry at the Freetown Road facility. Look for its attached file at our sign-up link. For any questions contact Nancy or co-coordinator Shahra Toth or email outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org.

The rest of this week's CEC Outreach activity can be found on our website's Outreach Blog, located here.

VESTRY CANDIDATE – Alfred Titus-Glover



My name is Alfred Titus-Glover and I am a current member of the Vestry finishing my first term.

I am from Ghana, West Africa. I was baptized and confirmed in the Anglican Church. My father was Anglican, and all my siblings were also baptized and confirmed into the Anglican (Episcopal) faith - all except for my mother, who remained steadfastly Methodist.

Christ Episcopal Church has been my home church for the last 16 years and my family and I have been tremendously blessed to be part of this wonderful and accepting church. The least I can do to give back, is to serve the church wherever I am needed. I worked in leadership roles in my former church prior to Christ Episcopal Church as a member of the Board of Trustees and Staff/Parish Relations Committee. I learned so much about church operations, outreach, engaging with parishioners, as well as the importance of service to God and Church. My current first term on the Vestry has been a wonderful listening and learning experience which will serve me well from this point forward. I am ready once again to assist and to contribute to a more perfect grounding for the church.

Having attended a Presbyterian Boys' Boarding High School in Ghana, I thus grew up in a church community. My educational journey continued in Montreal, Canada where I received my undergraduate diploma and I later earned two graduate degrees from colleges here in the United States. I have been employed for over 30 years in Engineering and Urban Planning for both private/government agencies in the Baltimore/Washington region and currently work in Environmental Engineering and Planning in the Washington area.

I am married and my wife Doris and I have three big boys who have all graduated college and graduate schools. I have a twin brother who lives in New Jersey, a sister who attends Christ Episcopal Church, and her twin brother who also lives in New Jersey. The two sets of twins in my family have the same birthdate three years apart.

I have been blessed to congregate with members from Methodist, Presbyterian and Anglican churches throughout my life and have gained diverse experiences that will continue to serve me on our Vestry, if selected once again. I strongly believe there is so much I can continue to contribute to Christ Episcopal Church. Together we can achieve the mission and goals of our beloved Christ Episcopal Church.

God Bless Christ Church and God Bless us all.



Dearly Beloved,

Times of uncertainty push us to engage our faith and deepen our caring in ways that we may not in more stable times. This is especially true for faith communities like ours. As we draw close to two years of persevering through challenges, negotiating change, and facing new and unprecedented community needs, Christ Episcopal Church remains committed to being a touchstone of consistency for its parishioners and those whom we serve.

Throughout 2021, worship itself has continued to evolve. Some of the virtual worship options created in the early days of the pandemic will remain, even as some of us have returned to in-person worship. Through these options, Christ Church has become a church that serves its parish flexibly, allowing us to remain a community as we strive to keep ourselves, and our families, safe and well.

We have maintained our service commitments to the Route 1 Shelter by providing for those who receive services there, and to Lake Elkhorn Middle school, where we support families and children in need of school supplies, and more. We have hired a new Youth Minister, Todd. We plan to substantially increase our annual support to Outreach. And we are presently exploring the possibility of supporting refugees from Afghanistan. These are only a few of the many ministry initiatives that Christ Church is supporting.

Even as we return to some sense of normalcy, the financial needs of the parish remain. Your contribution to the Ministry Resource Budget will help sustain the home and heart of our faith community so that it may go on providing for the needs of our community-at-large in whatever way we must rise to next. Your pledge also allows Christ Episcopal Church to continue gathering on Sundays, in person and remotely, providing for those in need at home and abroad, and supporting our community members through life's trials.

It is our joy to assure you that there are several ways in which you may return your pledge information for the upcoming year. Enclosed in our recent postal mailing is a pledge card that we hope you will bring to church on Pledge Sunday, November 7th. They will also be made available in the narthex. Once you complete the information, you can mail the pledge card back to the church. Alternatively, you can go online at **www.christchurchcolumbia.org** to make your pledge. You can click on the *"Pledge for 2022"* banner at the top of the page, or **click here for a direct link**.

Dwelling ever deeply on our annual theme, ***"Be One Body in Christ, Belonging to Each Other,"*** we will be counting on your generosity and kindness.

Sincerely,
The Stewardship Committee
Hugh Fatodu, Chair
Anne Moore
Germai Kwerkeh
Nancy Schempp
Jim Schempp
Andrea Leeman
Andrew Eaton
Kelly Tokasz
Elizabeth Everett



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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*
The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*
The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*
Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*
Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*
Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*
Catherine Hinton, *Staff Soprano*
Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Vestry

Sara Kirkpatrick (*Senior Warden*) • Jan DeBoissiere (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)
Tim Beaty • Alfred Titus-Glover • Lynn Foor • W. Ben Jackson III • Greta Pike-Barnes •
Jason Whong • Jane Adams • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Beth Johnson • Andrea Leeman