



# Holy Eucharist

June 9, 2024

Zoom link:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=eig94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz0>

9

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

## Proper 5B, commemorating our Patron, St Barnabas

### Prelude

### Opening Hymn

Hymnal 232

*By all your saints still striving*



By all your saints still striving, for all your saints at rest,  
For Bar-na-bas we praise you, who kept your law of love  
Then let us praise the Fa-ther and wor-ship God the Son



your ho-ly Name, O Je-sus, for ev-er-more be blessed.  
and, leav-ing earth-ly trea-sures, sought ri-ches from a-bove.  
and sing to God the Spi-rit, e-ter-nal Three in One.



You rose, our King vic-tor-ious, that they might wear the crown  
O Christ, our Lord and Sa-rior, let gifts of grace de-scend,  
'til all the ran-somed num-ber who stand be-fore the throne



and ev-er shine in splen-dor re-flec-ted from your throne.  
that your true con-so-la-tion may through the world ex-tend.  
a- scribe all power and glo-ry and praise to God a- lone.

*Presider:* Blessed be God, † Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit

*People:* **and blessed be God's dominion, now and forever.**

*The Presider begins the Collect for Purity*

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 following is sung, all standing as they are able*

## Glory to God

Canticle 20 ♩ = 130

Setting: Doug Howell

*Gloria in excelsis*

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in common time (C). It consists of ten lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. The lyrics are: "Glo-ry to God in the high - estand", "14 peace\_to God's peo - ple, and peace\_to God's peo - ple on\_ earth. Lord God, heavenly", "19 King, Al - migh-t-y\_ God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we", "25 praise you\_ for your\_ glo - ry.\_\_\_\_\_ Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son\_ of the", "31 Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God. You take a - way all the sin\_ of the", "36 world.\_ Have mer - cy on\_ us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the", "43 Fa - ther.\_\_\_\_\_ Re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the". The lyrics are aligned with the notes on the staff, with some words underlined in the original image.

48 Ho - ly One. You a - lone are the Lord. You a - lone are the Most High -  
 51 Je - sus - Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men, A - men.

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## Collect of the Day

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

Almighty God, we remember today your servant Bamabas, whose great joy was to proclaim your love; grant us also the gift of your Holy Spirit. to bring others to know your goodness, to encourage the faint hearted and to minister to those in need; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

## First Reading

Genesis 3:8-15

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>8</sup>They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

<sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,



and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.”

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

## **Psalm 130**

*to be prayed in unison*

**<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;  
LORD, hear my voice; \*  
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.  
<sup>2</sup>If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, \*  
O Lord, who could stand?  
<sup>3</sup>For there is forgiveness with you; \*  
therefore you shall be feared.  
<sup>4</sup>I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; \*  
in God’s word is my hope.  
<sup>5</sup>My soul waits for the LORD,  
more than watchmen for the morning, \*  
more than watchmen for the morning.  
<sup>6</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, \*  
for with the LORD there is mercy;  
<sup>7</sup>with him there is plenteous redemption, \*  
and the Holy One shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

## **Second Reading**

Acts 11:19-30;13:1-3

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Those who were scattered because of the persecution that took place over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and they spoke the word to no one except Jews. But among them were some men of Cyprus and Cyrene who, on coming to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists also, proclaiming the Lord Jesus. The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number became believers and turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch.

When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord. Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they met with the church and taught a great many people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called “Christians.”

At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. The disciples determined that according to



their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler, and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

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

*All stand as they are able.*

**Sequence Hymn**  
*My faith looks up to thee*

**Hymnal 691**

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

*All remain standing as they are able.*

## Holy Gospel

Mark 3:20-35

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

<sup>20</sup>The crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and his disciples] could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.



<sup>28</sup>“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—<sup>30</sup>for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

<sup>31</sup>Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” <sup>33</sup>And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” <sup>34</sup>And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

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

## Sermon

**Bill Stech**

*All then stand as they are able.*

## Nicene Creed

*Presider* Let us affirm the faith of the Church using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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],**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who 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**

*Presider* Brothers and sisters, children of God, being united in the Triune One, and being filled with the Holy Spirit; let us pray.

*Intercessor* Let us pray for the Church in all the world, for its members, and its mission. Lord, as our patron, Barnabas, labored hard and long for the wellbeing of your Church in its earliest days, help us joyfully to take up the work to which you have called us. We pray that your church may embody the love which Christ has for it. St Barnabas, join us as we pray: **Lord, hear our prayers for the Church.**

*Silence is kept*

Let us pray for the Nation and all in authority. Lord, we face challenges as we walk Jesus' way of love as citizens of this country. As St Barnabas sold all that he had and gave generously to the poor, we pray that you will speak through your Spirit to those in authority; that they turn outward with care and concern toward your marginalized ones. May all experience your abundance and your justice in this land in peace. St Barnabas, join us as we pray: **Lord, hear our prayers for the Nation.**

*Silence is kept*

Let us pray for the welfare of the world. Lord, you have given us this planet on which to live. Help us with your Spirit of inspiration and wisdom as we strive to better care for it, preserving this good gift for all who live now, and for those who are to come. As you gave to our Patron, give us that spirit of respect among nations and their peoples, that your will for this place may be done. St Barnabas, join us as we pray: **Lord, hear our prayers for the World.**



*Silence is kept*

Let us pray for the concerns of our local community. Lord, we crave your insight into the ways in which we can respond in love to the needs of those who live in this city of Chelsea, and in the area surrounding it. As St Barnabas had both heart and will to do what you would have him do, help us to work for the good of our neighbors, supporting them in trouble and showing your love to them. St Barnabas, join us as we pray: **Lord, hear our prayers for our community.**

*Silence is kept*

Let us give thanks for all the blessings and mercies we have received. As children of God, we have been granted everything that is truly good. We return our thanks to you, Lord [especially for \_\_\_\_\_]. Let us, with our Patron, never fail in giving thanks to you, Holy One. St Barnabas, join us as we pray: **Lord, we give you thanks and praise.**

Let us pray for those who suffer, and those in any trouble. Lord, those who are in pain and face trouble are many. As our Patron, in his kindness of heart, was known as "son of consolation," may we join him in caring, and asking your mercy on the sick, and on those for whom we are concerned, [especially \_\_\_\_\_] and for all who have asked our prayers. St Barnabas, join us as we pray: **Lord, hear our prayers for the sick and the suffering.**

Let us pray for those who have died. Lord, your only Son took on a human body, and suffered the pains of death along with every person. Comfort and console those who are bereaved. Welcome into your dominion those who have died, [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Show them the light of your love that will never dim. St Barnabas, join us as we pray: **Lord, hear our prayers for the departed.**

*Presider* Grant, O God, that we may follow the example of your faithful servant, our patron Barnabas, who, seeking not his own renown but the wellbeing of your Church, gave generously of his life and substance for the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

*All then kneel as they are able.*

*The Presider says to the people*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

*A Priest stands and says*

Now there is rejoicing in heaven, for you were lost and are found.  
You were dead, and are now alive in Christ Jesus our Lord. Abide in peace.  
The Lord has + put away all your sins. **Amen.**

*The people then are seated.*

## **An Order of Farewell**

*The Presider says*

The church is a family.  
United by the common recognition of Jesus Christ as our Savior,  
we are all brothers and sisters.  
And, for a time, St Barnabas is our home.

Like every human family,  
our church family is formed and reformed over time:  
as members are born, as they die,  
as members are adopted into our family,  
and as they leave our congregation for a new home, in a different place.

For a time, Kathy, Rick, and Julie have lived with us.  
We have shared with each other good times and bad,  
we have shared each other's joys and sorrows,  
we have lightened each other's heavy loads.  
Together we have laughed and cried,  
together we have worshiped and praised God,  
together we have lived.

*Presider and People*

**We feel sorrow in your leaving.  
Yet, we rejoice with you in anticipation of this new phase of your life.  
We will miss your love and support.  
Yet, we know you will add much to the lives  
of those who will be your new church family,  
as you have added much to our lives...**

**We will pray for you, and for the whole family of God.**

*The Presider then says*

Let us pray:

O God, you are the strength and the protector of your people.

We humbly place in your hands Kathy, Rick, and Julie, of this congregation  
who are about to leave us.

Keep and preserve them, O Lord,

in all health and safety, both of body and soul;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Our prayers go with you. **Amen.**

## **Peace**

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*The People then are seated.*

## **Announcements**

## **Holy Communion**

*Presider* O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*

*The people stand as they are able when the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

## **Offertory Hymn**

## **Doxology**

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*The people remain standing as they are able*

## **Great Thanksgiving**

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Presider proceeds*

Covenanting God, you declared your wonders in the heavens,  
 but made known your character in calling a people.  
 You shaped your people's life through Deborah and Elijah, Miriam and Hosea,  
 and all the prophets.

Then in Jesus, you made yourself fully known to us,  
 and in his death and resurrection, you healed the past  
 through forgiveness, and released the future through the gift of life eternal.

In the power of the Spirit, you brought into being your church,  
 calling Barnabas and many new apostles to the work you set aside for them.  
 We are never closer to you, and to them, than when we gather at this table.  
 You delivered us, and we honor you.

We long to gather at your heavenly banquet, with angels and archangels, with Saint  
 Barnabas and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly  
 God of po - wer and might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly  
 God of po - wer and might. Hea - ven and earth are  
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! All  
 hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -

18  
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

24 *molto rit.*  
Bles-sed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

*The Presider continues*

Revealing God, you came among us in the flesh and blood of Jesus, and  
you come among us now, in the materials of daily sustenance and in joyful celebration.

Send down your Holy Spirit + that these gifts of friend and neighbor may become your church,  
and these offerings + of bread and wine may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus  
Christ,  
who, at supper with his disciples, took bread,  
gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,  
"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
"Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith:

*Presider and People*

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

*The Presider continues*

Embodied God, you met us in the body and blood of your Son Jesus,  
and you meet us now in the body and blood we see on this altar.

Show us your face, and the faces of one another, in the body and blood of your church,  
that we, your people, as was our patron, Barnabas, may be filled with the Holy Spirit and with  
faith. May we be taken by you, blessed through you, broken for you,  
and given for the life of your world.

Through this sacrament of thanks and praise, inscribe your church into the life  
of your Trinity, that we may have the creativity of the Father, the passion of the Son, and the  
empowerment of your Spirit.

Bring us, as you brought Barnabas, to your presence on the last day,  
and hasten that time when every tear is dried from every eye,  
all secrets are transformed to your glory, all oppression is healed by your grace,  
and you are all in all. **AMEN.**

*The Presider then continues*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

*People and Presider*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*The Presider says*

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

This is the table, not of the righteous, but of the poor in spirit.  
It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more.  
So come, you who have much faith and you who have little,  
You who have been here often,  
and you who have not been for a long time, or ever before;  
you who have tried to follow, and all of us who have failed.

These are the gifts of God for the People of God.  
**Christ invites everyone to be known and fed here.**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*When all who desire have received, the Presider says*

Let us pray.

*Presider and People*

**Loving God,  
we give you thanks  
for restoring us in your image  
and nourishing us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.  
Now send us forth  
a people forgiven, healed, renewed;  
that we may proclaim your love to the world  
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

*A priest blesses the people, saying*

May God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

May God the Son who, in bursting the grave, has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit, whom the risen Lord breathed into St Barnabas, and all the disciples, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, **+** the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn**

**Hymnal 420**

*When in our music God is glorified*



1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied, \_\_\_\_\_  
2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found \_\_\_\_\_  
3 So has the Church, in lit - ur - gy and song, \_\_\_\_\_  
5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise! \_\_\_\_\_



1 and a - dor - a - tion leaves no room for pride, \_\_\_\_\_  
2 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound, \_\_\_\_\_  
3 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong, \_\_\_\_\_  
5 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise! \_\_\_\_\_

1 it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried\_\_\_\_  
 2 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found\_\_\_\_  
 3 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue,\_\_\_\_  
 5 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways\_\_\_\_

— Al - le - lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

## Dismissal

*Minister* Go forth into this world. Don't be afraid. Don't be ashamed to be people of love. And go forth into this world and help us to change it from the nightmare it often is, into the dream that God intends.

*People* **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!**

## Postlude



**We bid a fond and heartfelt farewell today** to Kathy West, Rick Frye, and Julie West, as they retire from their ministries among us! Godspeed!



## This week in prayer

**Please remember these persons and congregations in your prayers this week:**

**Our Bishops** Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises (TEC); Elizabeth, Donald and Craig (ELCA) **and for** all priests, deacons, Ministry Teams, and those in formation

### Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

June 9 Province de L'Eglise Anglicane du Congo

### Diocese of Michigan Cycle of Prayer:

June 9 St Clement's, Inkster; St James', Birmingham; Advent, San Pedro, DR

**St Barnabas Cycle of Prayer:** Kathy O, Melanie, Larry

**and our continuing prayers for:** Robert, Selenah, Jim M, Mardi

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**Faith in Action** provides leadership in collecting donations of food to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They are in need of our continuing help. You may bring your donations to FIA, or to [Nancy](#) who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*. The **next Food Drive** is next Sunday, **June 16**. Please contribute as generously as you can.

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### Upcoming Commemorations

- June 09 Columba, Abbott of Iona, 597
- 10 Ephraim of Nisibis, Deacon and Poet, 323
- 11 Barnabas, Apostle and Missionary
- 12 Enmegahbowh, Priest and Missionary, 1902
- 13 Gilbert Keith Chesterton: Apologist and Writer, 1936
- 14 Basil of Caesarea, Bishop and Theologian, 379
- 15 Evelyn Underhill, Mystic and Writer, 1947

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### June 9, 2024 – Proper 5B

#### **2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1**

“Our inner nature is being renewed day by day,” Paul says. Renewal takes many different shapes and forms. Renewal can come with expectation or it can take us by surprise. Sometimes, we experience renewal with fanfare and fireworks; sometimes, we only see renewal in the rear-view mirror.

Paul, in his letter to the Romans, also says that inner renewal is what helps us discern the will of God, what is good and perfect and acceptable. We may switch up our surroundings or alter our outward appearances, but those changes are not actually renewal and do not help us discern the will of God.

- On a day-to-day basis, how do you experience renewal?
- Think of a time when renewal of your inner nature has led you to discernment of God’s will in your life.

#### **Mark 3:20-35**

In this passage from Mark, Jesus continues his challenges against the scribes, some of the religious leaders of the day. He tells the crowd that those who do the will of God are his brothers and sisters and mothers, creating a new kind of community of God, one that resembles the close-knit relationships of siblings and parents, closer than mere friends or neighbors or colleagues.

What follows in Mark are several parables about the Kingdom of God. The parables are difficult for many to understand, but Jesus assures his disciples that he has revealed to them secrets of the Kingdom of God. However, Jesus did not reveal the mystery of the Kingdom of God to only the apostles; immediately prior to today’s passage, Jesus called his disciples with the express intention of proclaiming the message.

- What brothers, sisters, siblings, mothers do you see around you doing the will of God?
- How can you help build this new kind of community?

This study written by Joseph Cundiff

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Gloria and Sanctus musical settings by Doug Howell. © 2016 Creative Measures. Used by permission of the composer.

Prayer of Absolution from the BCP, p.451.

Order of Farewell © 1992 UMPH. Prayer by E. Hawkins (England, 1789).

Eucharistic Prayer adapted from Wells, Samuel and Abigail Kocher. Eucharistic prayers. Grand Rapids MI: Eerdmans, 2016, pp.338-339.

Invitation to the Table by Milner-White, Eric; from My God, my glory. London: SPCK, 1954; p.82, alt.

Concluding Hymn tune Abbot's Leigh, found at Hymnal 379.

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### Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ,  
and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of  
Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



### St Barnabas Episcopal Church

A Community of Ministers

20500 W Old US-12

Chelsea MI 48118

[stbarnabaschelsea.org](http://stbarnabaschelsea.org)