

Holy Baptism with Holy Communion

Proper 19B, Pentecost 16

September 12, 2021

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=eig4MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: stb

Prelude

All stand as they are able

Opening Hymn

Tune: *Bunessan*

Baptized in water

Unison or harmony

Bap-tized in wa- ter, sealed by the Spi- rit,
Bap-tized in wa- ter, sealed by the Spi- rit,
Bap-tized in wa- ter, sealed by the Spi- rit,

Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:

Heirs of sal- va- tion, trusting his pro- mise,
One with his ri- sing, freed and for- gi- ven,
Born of one Fa- ther, we are God's chil- dren,

Faith-ful-ly now God's praises we sing.
 Thank-ful-ly now God's praises we sing.
 Joy-ful-ly now God's praises we sing.

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**
Presider There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Presider One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

|
Collect of the Day

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

O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

First Reading Ezekiel 36:24-28 *read by Kelsey McCoy*

A Reading from the book of Ezekiel.

²⁴I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. ²⁸Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

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

Remain seated

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.**

³He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,**

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me**

all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

read by Laura Hirschman

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Church in Corinth.

¹⁷If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

You're called by name, forever loved

Tune: *Maryton*

You're called by name, for ever loved, a- dopt- ed
 Marked as Christ's own, signed by the cross where Je- sus
 Raised to new life, a life of grace, set free from
 Sealed by the Spi- rit, Lord of life, sus- tained and

as a child of God. Now one with us, the
 for our sins once died, with Je- sus bur- ied
 sin, in Christ to grow; his re- sur- rec- tion
 strengthened by his might. Joined to the church to

fa- mi- ly of those who know and love the Lord.
 in his death, called to con- fess Christ cru- ci- fied.
 to pro- claim, his love in all of life to know.
 share, with us, the com- pa- ny of saints in light.

Holy Gospel

Mark 10:13-16

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Bill Stech

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Presider blesses the water of Baptism

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Presider dips the foot of the Paschal Candle in the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The candidates, parents and godparents, stand as they are able.

The Presider says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Sponsors.

Sponsor

I present **Sarah Elizabeth Schubring** to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present **Kailyn Trace Schubring** to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Presider then asks each candidate when presented

Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate

I do.

Then candidates who are unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Parents and Godparents

Parents and Godparents

I present **Ellery Lou Schubring** to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present **Hannah Jean Schubring** to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented, the Presider then asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Presider

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Presider asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After all have been presented, the Presider addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in his life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Presider then says

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ, and renew our own baptismal covenant.

All stand as they are able

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our
Lord,**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Deacon Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**



Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Deacon Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

Intercessor Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Presider then says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

The candidates are presented by name to the Presider, who then pours water upon each candidate, saying

N.N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Then the Presider places a hand on each person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

When this action has been completed, the Presider, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over the newly baptized, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them inquiring and discerning hearts, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

The Presider then says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Presider and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

All remain standing as they are able.

The Prayers of the People

Presider Almighty God, you spoke, and your words brought endless worlds into existence. Remind us that our words and our lives matter. May our words and actions partner with each other in your holy purpose. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Intercessor Empower the body of Christ to speak your truth to the world. Let our words and our actions be both simple and powerful, kind, and gentle. Bless our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig. Bless all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our brothers and sisters worshipping at Church at Crossroads, Detroit, St Stephen's, Troy; and Church of the Incarnation, La Romana, in the Dominican Republic. Bless our leadership with language to encourage your people to deepen their relationship with you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

Speak peace to the hearts of the world's leaders. Let their words and actions be those of integrity. Bless the children of all ages and all nations with a future that reflects your justice and loving-kindness. Give your people the courage to speak up for those who have no voice in this world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

In thanksgiving for the beauty of the earth, the fruits of the sea, the rising and setting of the sun, and all the marvelous gifts of God's creation, [especially _____] that in our wonder we may rededicate ourselves to a stewardship of the environment, so that generations to come may enjoy such pleasure.

Whisper words of hope and healing to the hearts of those who are ill or anxious and who struggle with themselves or with their families. We pray for wholeness for _____.

We pray for those who have recently been called home, [especially _____] and pray for those who mourn their loss. When words fall short, let our presence reflect your love for them in their grief. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Silence is kept.

Presider May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts always be acceptable to you O Lord, our strength and our redeemer. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Presider says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

A Minister then says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept.

Minister 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.**

A Priest stands and says

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.**

Peace

All stand as they are able.

Presider The peace of the Lord 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.

Announcements

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

The People then are seated.

Holy Communion

How the Holy Communion is prepared

The Presider, other Eucharistic Ministers, and any participating Acolytes must wash their hands, or use hand sanitizer, before celebrating and before distribution. Gloves will not be used.

The Presider alone will bring the bread and wine from the credence table to the Altar at the time of the offertory. All of the elements for Holy Communion will be placed on the Altar for the Eucharistic Prayer. The Presider alone stands at the altar, with others 6 feet or more away.

The **priest's wafer and chalice** will be uncovered in front of the Presider during the Eucharistic Prayer. They **are for the Presider alone**. They are consumed entirely by the Presider, or appropriately disposed of after the service.

The priest's wafer and the people's wafers will be kept separate at all times. The **people's wafers will be a container** on the Altar, which will remain covered throughout the Eucharistic Prayer.

During consecration, the Presider will touch the container, not the wafers.

The **distribution** of consecrated wine is not permitted at this time (as of June 19, 2020 Diocese of Michigan directive).

How the Holy Communion will be distributed

Everyone distributing communion will use hand sanitizer before they begin distribution. Gloves will not be used.

Communicants will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer before receiving. Hand sanitizer will be available at the service.

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The people will come to the Altar rail as they are able. The Minister will place the bread in the hand. The distribution will happen without directly touching the hand of the person receiving. Hand-to-mouth distribution is not permitted. If hand-to-hand contact happens, the minister will re-sanitize.

If a blessing is preferred, the blessing will be given without touch.

The people stand as they are able as a minister brings forward the alms basin.

Offertory Hymn

Doxology

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

The people remain standing.

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.**

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 the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

5
God of po - wer and might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

9
God of po - wer and might. Hea - ven and earth are

12
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! All

15
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 people continue to stand, or kneel as they are able.

The Presider continues

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:

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

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.

The Presider then continues

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Presider says

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Presider says

Christ makes himself known to us in the breaking of bread.

He offers us his body broken for our sake
and his blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins.

**We accept his promises and gifts
and depend on his life to sustain ours.**

**In turn we offer ourselves in thanksgiving
to the risen Lord who has conquered death.**

So we celebrate his victory here and now
and anticipate the joyous feast in his coming kingdom.

**United around one loaf and cup,
we receive strength and courage
to continue our pilgrimage with God in the world.**

The Presider continues

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, those who are not physically present here join us in offering you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since they cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into their hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us all with your grace, Lord Jesus, and never let us be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

**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 Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.**

**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing

A priest blesses the people, saying

Go into the world, and know how much a tired and hurting world needs your strength and gladness. For there are deeds of compassion and courage that will never be done, unless you do them; and words of hope and healing that will never be spoken, unless you speak them.

And may God's blessing + be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen.**

Concluding Hymn

LEVAS 221

This little light of mine

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon - na let it
2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it
3. Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon - na let it

Oh

1. shine, This lit - tle light of mine,
2. shine, Ev - 'ry - where I go,
3. shine, Je - sus gave it to me,

Oh

1. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ This lit - tle light of
 2. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ Ev - 'ry - where I
 3. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ Je - sus gave it to

Oh _____

1. mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
 2. go, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
 3. me, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it

Oh _____

1. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____
 2. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____
 3. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____

Dismissal

Minister My brothers and my sisters, let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



Congratulations to the newly Baptized and their Families!

Sarah Elizabeth Schubring
Kailyn Trace Schubring
Ellery Lou Schubring (Sarah and Tim Schubring)
Hannah Jean Schubring (Jessica and Kevin Schubring)
Ellery's Godparents: Kelsey McCoy, Kevin Schubring
Hannah's Godparents: Sarah Choi, Tim Schubring
Ellery's Grandparents: Bob and Debbie Daniels, Jan Schubring
Hannah's Grandparents: Jim and Laura Hirschman, Jan Schubring
Kailyn's Grandparents: Pat and Tracy Leonard, Jan Schubring

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OFFERING OUR DONATIONS OF FOOD AND FUNDS TO FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Action is continuing to provide leadership in collecting donations to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They are in need of our continuing help. ***The usual "TOP ITEMS" needed are:*** baked beans, coffee, canned tomatoes, hamburger helper (or any helper), spaghetti sauce, small cans Campbell's soup, ketchup, ranch dressing, cereal, 64oz fruit juices, chips, crackers, toilet paper, laundry soap, cleaning products. 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 at the church** will **September 19**. Please leave your donations at the church on that day.

Financial donations to help us combat the continuing effects of the pandemic can be made by PayPal at www.faithinaction1.org, by [Facebook](#), or by mailing a check to *Faith in Action*, 603 S. Main Street, Chelsea MI 48118. **If you need help, please call FIA at (734) 475-3305**

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Upcoming Commemorations

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|--------------|---|
| September 12 | John Henry Hobart, Bishop, 1830 |
| 13 | Cyprian of Carthage, Bishop and Martyr, 258; and,
John Chrysostom: Bishop of Constantinople, 407 |
| 14 | Holy Cross Day |
| 15 | Cyprian: Bishop and Martyr of Carthage, 258; and,
James Chisholm: Priest, 1855 |
| 16 | Ninian, Bishop, c. 430 |
| 17 | Hildegard of Bingen, Mystic and Scholar, 1179 |
| 18 | Edward Bouverie Pusey, Priest, 1882 |



BULLETIN INSERTS

Exploring the Way of Love: GO

As we discover the Way of Love and the practices through which we can follow Jesus more closely, we realize that Jesus did not stay in one place very often.

The pursuit of Jesus can often mean moving out of our circles of comfort and going to other places – geographically, culturally, economically, spiritually. Because if there is one thing Jesus did, it is that he went – out of his home, out of his town, out of his community - to engage with other cultures and people, to listen and dignify their stories, no matter their culture or station in life.

Jesus was a listener and witness to outcasts and sinners, drinkers and tax collectors, strangers and foreigners, the rich and the poor. He uplifted women who were considered unequal to men. He dignified people of other faiths or no faith at all, and showed them the values of the Kingdom of God, through his teaching, through his healing, through his listening, and through his meeting them where they were and putting love into action.

The Scriptures teach us that it is also our mission to go out into the world. As the writer of John’s Gospel quotes Jesus, “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And as the first letter of John tells us, “Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.”

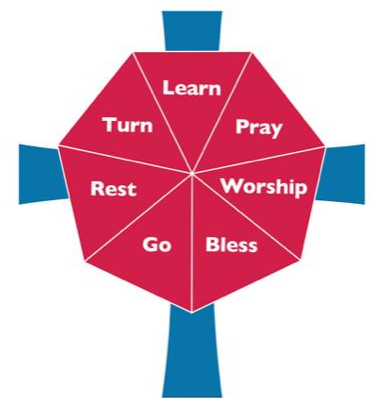
Are you ready to make the commitment to go beyond your boundaries? To listen and talk, to love and serve, to use your gifts in the struggle for dignity and justice for your neighbor and for people who are outside your comfort zone?

Are you ready to challenge yourself to forge new friendships, open yourself up to new perspectives, and build bridges where once there were walls?

The Way of Love challenges us to Go.

As the writer of Hebrews tells us: “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” We are called to give freely of our resources, our stories and experiences, our time and our attention. And we are called to invite others into this Way of Love. We bless ourselves in the process.

Learn more about the Way of Love at episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove. You can find suggestions on getting started and going deeper with Going at iam.ec/explore.



THE WAY OF LOVE
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

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Entrance Hymn text at *LEVAS*, #121 Tune *Bunessan* at *Hymnal*, #8.

Sequence Hymn text at *Wonder, Love and Praise*, #766 Tune *Maryton* at *Hymnal*, #660.

Concluding prayer at the Intercessions adapted from *The Armed Forces Prayer Book*, 1951.

Sanctus musical setting from *St Barnabas Mass*, by Doug Howell. © 2016 Creative Measures. Used by permission of the composer.

Invitation to the Table from <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/bcr-132/> Accessed 12 June 2019

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.



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