

# Holy Eucharist

October 17, 2021

Zoom link:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=eig4MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

[4MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09](#)

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

## The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 24B

### Prelude

### Announcements

### Opening Hymn

Voices Found 107

*Let all things now living*

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
2 His law he en - for - ces, the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant-ly raise, who fash-ioned and  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; the hills and the

made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who still guides us  
moun-tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the deeps of the

on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, his  
o - cean pro - claim him di - vine. We too should be voic-ing our

light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin-ing forth in the  
love and re - joic-ing; with glad a - dor - a - tion a song let us

night, till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is  
raise, till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks -

ban - ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
giv - ing: "to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

All standing as they are able, the Presider says

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

People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

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

## Song of Praise

to be sung through twice

Chorus Book 22

This is the day

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "This is the day, this is the day That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made. We will re-joice, we will re-joice And be glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that the".

**Chord Progression:**

- System 1: Eb, Eb2 Eb, Eb2 Eb, Ab/Eb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, Bb9
- System 2: Bb6, Bb7, Bb, Cm/Bb, Bb7, Bb, Cm/Bb, Bb7, Gm/Bb
- System 3: Fm/Eb, Eb, Fm/Eb, Eb, Fm/Eb, Eb, Ab

Lord has made. We will re-joyce and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

## Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

## The Lessons

### First Reading

Job 38:1-7,34-41

A Reading from the book of Job.

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together, and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?”

Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'? Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together? Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert? Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 104:1-9,25,37b**

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul; \*

O LORD my God, how excellent is your greatness!  
you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

<sup>2</sup>**You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak \*  
and spread out the heavens like a curtain.**

<sup>3</sup>You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above; \*  
you make the clouds your chariot;  
you ride on the wings of the wind.

<sup>4</sup>**You make the winds your messengers \*  
and flames of fire your servants.**

<sup>5</sup>You have set the earth upon its foundations, \*  
so that it never shall move at any time.

<sup>6</sup>**You covered it with the Deep as with a mantle; \*  
the waters stood higher than the mountains.**

<sup>7</sup>At your rebuke they fled; \*  
at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.

<sup>8</sup>**They went up into the hills and down to the valleys beneath, \*  
to the places you had appointed for them.**

<sup>9</sup>You set the limits that they should not pass; \*  
they shall not again cover the earth.

<sup>25</sup>**O LORD, how manifold are your works! \*  
in wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.**

<sup>37b</sup>**Hallelujah!**

### **Second Reading**

Hebrews 5:1-10

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

<sup>1</sup>Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup>He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; <sup>3</sup>and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. <sup>4</sup>And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup>So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn**

*to be sung through twice*

Chorus Book 5

*Make me a servant*

G Em Am<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup><sub>sus</sub> D<sup>7</sup> Am<sup>7</sup>

Make me a ser- vant, hum- ble and meek; Lord, let me

C<sub>D</sub> D<sup>7</sup> C<sub>G</sub> G A<sub>G</sub><sup>m</sup> G B<sup>7</sup> Em Em<sub>D</sub>

lift up those who are weak; And may the prayer of my

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef and a bass clef. The treble clef part has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "heart al - ways be: Make me a ser - vant, make me a". The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "ser - vant, Make me a ser - vant to - day." The chords are indicated above the notes: A7/C#, Cm6, G/D, D7sus, D7, G/D, D7sus, D7, C/D, G.

**Holy Gospel**

Mark 10:35-45

*All stand as they are able.*

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

<sup>35</sup>James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” <sup>36</sup>And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” <sup>37</sup>And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” <sup>38</sup>But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” <sup>39</sup>They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; <sup>40</sup>but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

<sup>41</sup>When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. <sup>42</sup>So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. <sup>43</sup>But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”



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

## **Sermon**

## **Nicene Creed**

*All stand as they are able.*

*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

*All remain standing.*

*Presider:* Gracious God, you manifest your power primarily in showing compassion and love for all humanity: Listen to us as we call upon you in prayer, saying: O God, how excellent is your greatness; the earth is full of your creatures, Alleluia!

*Intercessor:*

You have called your Church to become a community of humble servants, having been baptized with the baptism of Jesus. We pray for our bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig, all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our brothers and sisters worshipping at Canterbury MSU, East Lansing, St George's, Milford; and Church of the Great Commission, Dona Lila, in the Dominican Republic. Guide your people into such faithfulness, that we may serve the world in your name and make intercession on behalf of all. O God, how excellent is your greatness; **the earth is full of your creatures, Alleluia!**

*Silence is kept.*

In this fallen world, there are rulers who lord it over you children, and great ones who are tyrants over others: Honor the sacrifice and sufferings of your lambs, and take away these perversions of justice, so that the great among us will be servants, and those who wish to be first will become slave of all. O God, how excellent is your greatness; **the earth is full of your creatures, Alleluia!**

*Silence is kept.*

Hear our prayers and supplications through our great high priest, Jesus, as we intercede for all who suffer throughout the world, especially those who live under the rule of tyrants, or who face violence, oppression, or poverty. O God, how excellent is your greatness; **the earth is full of your creatures, Alleluia!**

*Silence is kept.*

You have bound us to you in love and called us to share in your ministry of service: Empower those in our community who give their lives as servants of others, that the will of the Lord may prosper. O God, how excellent is your greatness; **the earth is full of your creatures, Alleluia!**

*Silence is kept.*

Hear our intercession for the sick, the troubled, and all those for whom we pray [especially\_\_\_\_\_].

You are gracious to your servants, and we give you thanks [especially for \_\_\_\_\_].

Let those who have died sit with the triumphant Christ in glory [remembering especially \_\_\_\_\_].

O God, how excellent is your greatness; **the earth is full of your creatures, Alleluia!**

*Presider:* Almighty God, through your servant Jesus Christ, you have made many righteous, raising him from suffering into glory: Let your resurrection power be present to all in need as you strengthen us for service in your name; through the same Jesus Christ, our savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns in unity and love, forever and ever. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Presider says*

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

*A minister then says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*A period of silence is observed.*

*Minister and People together say*

**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*

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.*

***The People then are seated.***

## **Holy Communion**

*The Presider then says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

*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.

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.

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.*

*The Presider says*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Thanks and praise belong to you, Lord God, now and forever, because when you laid the foundation of the earth the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy.

You called your chosen people to be a priestly kingdom and a holy nation, and to Jesus you said, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"

Although he was your Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered on the cross; and having been made perfect, he became through the resurrection the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

And so with all the company of heaven we sing your song of glory.

## Sanctus

S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Presider continues*

Humble God, in Christ you were great among us by being our servant, and you were first among us by becoming slave of all.

You invite us to your table and serve us as your guests.

We rejoice to be here because in Jesus you gave us your life as a ransom for many.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us as we sit at your right and left hand, sharing the cup that you drink.

By that same Spirit, sanctify these gifts of bread and wine,  
that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, at the table 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 they had eaten, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Presider continues*

Our God and King, in the power of your Holy Spirit visit all who live under tyranny today.

Lift up the hearts of your children who languish with loud cries and tears.

Deal gently with the ignorant and the wayward, since in Christ you took on the mantle of our weakness.

Inspire your church to become the high priest of all creation, and make your people perfect through obedience.

Hasten the day when heaven comes to earth, and the world is full of your glory, ever one God, gracious Father, servant Son, gentle Spirit,

Trinity of mercy and love. **AMEN.**

*The Presider then says*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**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 for ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*The Presider says*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The Presider says*

God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.  
The table of Christ's body and blood is now made ready.  
It is the table of company with Jesus.  
It is the table of sharing with the poor and lowly of the world,  
with whom Jesus identified.  
So come to this table you who have much faith  
or you who would like more; you who have been here often  
and you who have not been here in a long time.  
Come. It is Christ who invites you to meet him here.  
**Amen. As the bread and wine we now eat are transformed,  
may we be changed into the likeness of Christ; bone of his  
bone, flesh of his flesh, loving and caring for 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.



**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

*A priest blesses the people, saying*

May God give you Grace never to sell yourself short:  
Grace to risk something big for something good.  
Grace to remember that the world is too dangerous  
for anything but truth and too small for anything but Love.

And the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with  
you, and remain with you this day and always. **Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn**

*I, the Lord of sea and sky*

WLP 812



*Unison*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my  
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my  
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the

peo - ple cry. All who dwell in deep - est sin My hand will  
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn a -  
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, My hand will

save. I who made the stars of night,  
way. I will break their hearts of stone,  
save. Fin - est bread I will pro - vide

I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my  
 Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my  
 Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my

light to them? Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_  
 word to them. Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_  
 life to them. Whom shall I send? \_\_\_\_\_

*Refrain*

Here I am, Lord. \_\_\_\_\_ Is it I, Lord? \_\_\_\_\_ I have

heard you call-ing in the night. \_\_\_\_\_ I will go, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_

if you lead me, I will hold your people in my

heart. heart.

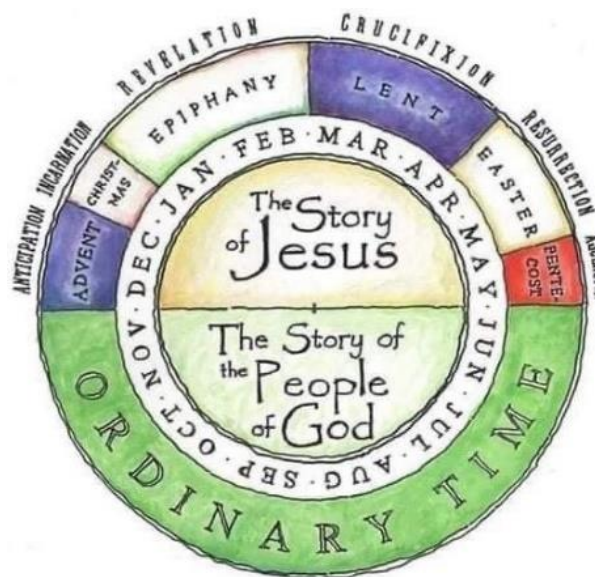
## Dismissal

*A minister says*

And now, my siblings in Christ, I bid you go in peace  
to love and serve our Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude



**CONTINUING OUR DONATIONS OF FOOD AND FUNDS**  
**TO FAITH IN ACTION**

Faith in Action provides 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 be **TODAY, October 17..** 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](http://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**

+++++

**Our Sunday School program**—dormant for a number of years—is in need of materials. Donations will be gratefully accepted! A list of needed items can be found here:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/3hRmTDi?ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_un\\_un\\_wMACWbqcf9XGH](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/3hRmTDi?ref=cm_sw_em_r_un_un_wMACWbqcf9XGH) If you have questions, please contact Kathy O. Thanks to anyone who can help with this!

+++++

**A reminder** that our Social Time is still active every Tuesday evening from 7:30-8:00 on Zoom! The link can be found on the church web site calendar, and also here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86367804283?pwd=eW9jelFKTTdaaUlXR0ZxMEc1NlM3Zz09> Meeting ID: 863 6780 4283, Passcode: 894503

+++++

**Upcoming Commemorations**

- October 17 Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr, c.115
- 18 Luke the Evangelist

19 Henry Martyn, Priest and Missionary, 1812; and,  
 William Carey: Missionary to India, 1834  
 23 James of Jerusalem, Brother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and Martyr, c. 62

+++++



**Proper 24B October 17, 2021**

**Job 38:1-7, 34-41**

We’ve been following the story of Job, a man who once had it all, and now he grieves the loss not only of his wealth and status, but also his children. Job has been pushed to the ultimate breaking point. He is at a complete loss as to how he is supposed to keep his faith in the God he loves when he has lost absolutely everything else. This passage has fascinated readers for centuries, probably because this is the moment that God finally shows up for Job, and God shows up in a way that is completely unexpected from a benevolent, loving God. God has a knack for doing the unexpected. What is unfathomable to Job is also unfathomable to us. If God is good, then why do bad things happen? God’s answer to Job shows of God’s goodness. Look at all of these wonderful things I have created. I have created a world full of good things that all interact with one another. Sometimes in those interactions, creatures are hurt. Job finds himself the victim of hurtful interactions with creation.

- What if you were at the point of despair, and all you wanted was an answer from God, and this was the answer you received? What would you think about God?
- Can you think of other times in scripture when God gives unexpected answers?
- Can you think of other victims in creation that suffer hurt from interacting with other creatures?
- What is one way we, as a human family, can lessen our negative impact on the other creatures that God has made?

**Psalm 104:1-9, 25, 37b**

In this psalm, we have another beautiful description of the good things that God has made. When one stands back to consider all the manifold works of the creator, it can be overwhelming.

It is often easier to see the glory of God in the majestic ocean or a beautiful mountain range than it is to see it in ourselves. The truth that we see in this psalm, as well as in Job, is that the same God that created the sun, moon, and stars also knit us together with the same care and love.

- Do you remember the first time you saw the ocean, or a beautiful mountain range? How did it make you feel about God?

- Why can it difficult for us to see ourselves as beautiful creations of God, fearfully and wonderfully made?
- Why is it hard sometimes for us to see one another the same way?
- In what ways does this hold us back?

**Hebrews 5:1-10**

“In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears...” God chose to enter the world as one of God’s very own creations, a human being. And in God’s human state, God suffered all of the hurt and pain that humans face each day. God suffered ultimate betrayal and utter desolation. Sometimes it is impossible to find good news when we, like Job, are lost in a sea of pain and confusion. The good news is not that God will take our pain away, but that God will walk with us in that pain, and that God knows our pain intimately, as if it were God’s own.

- Take a moment to think about a time you have felt pain. Tell God what that pain was like for you, and ask God where he/she was.
- Think about what words of comfort God might offer you next time you are feeling pain. Share with a group if you’d like.

**Mark 10:35-45**

Here we have another surprising answer from God. James and John ask Jesus how to become the greatest, and Jesus says that to become great you must be a servant to others, and to be the first, you have to be a slave to all.

- How does this contradict what you might think about how to become great?
- What does our society teach us about how to become great?
- What would it look like for us to follow Jesus’ command to be a servant to others in today’s society?
- How can we better serve not only one another, but also the other beautiful creatures God has made?

*This study was written by Maggie Foster*

+++++

**From** riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2021 Church Publishing Inc.  
**Prayers of the People** from *Planning for rites and rituals: Year B*. New York: Church Publishing, 2017, p.287.  
**Confession of Sin** from *Enriching our worship*, p.19  
**Eucharistic Prayer** from Wells, Samuel and Abigail Kocher, *Eucharistic prayers*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2016, pp.306-307.

**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.

The Son of Man  
came not to be  
served but to serve  
and to give his life  
a ransom for many.  
Mark 10:45



**St Barnabas Episcopal Church**

20500 W Old US-12  
Chelsea MI 48118  
[stbarnabaschelsea.org](http://stbarnabaschelsea.org)