



# ***THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

***SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 9:30 AM***

A warm welcome to all worshipping at Trinity today! If this is your first time to worship with us, we are especially glad you are here and hope you will come again. Please know whatever your tradition, we want you to make yourself at home and participate in the service as you are moved. We also invite you to complete the Connect Card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate so we may greet you personally.

Children are always welcome in worship here. However, we do have a staffed nursery directly below the sanctuary if that feels like a better fit for your family. Activity bags are located at the back for older children, as well as a Worship Guide. If you are curious about any part of our service, please feel free to ask questions! We enjoy sharing the meaning of what we are doing in our worship.

In this worship booklet, the congregation responds with the words in **bold print**. Please stand as you are able (indicated by the \*). Unless otherwise indicated, we sing from the blue Hymnal.

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## ***Organ Prelude***

### ***Welcome***

***\*Entrance Hymn 390      Praise to the Lord, the Almighty      Lobe den Herren***

### ***\*Opening Acclamation***

Blessed be the One who creates all things.

**The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

### ***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.**

### ***\*Gloria in excelsis Deo S277***

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

## ***Collect for the Stewardship of Creation***

Creating God, your name is written on every leaf, every bird, every river, every stone, every living being. We praise and worship you for the magnificence of your creation. Make us attentive to the wounds of the earth and willing to work for the healing of the whole creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## ***THE LESSONS***

### ***First Reading***

***Exodus 14:19-31***

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>19</sup>The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. <sup>20</sup>It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

<sup>21</sup>Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. <sup>22</sup>The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. <sup>24</sup>At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. <sup>25</sup>He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

<sup>26</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." <sup>27</sup>So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. <sup>28</sup>The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup>But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

<sup>30</sup>Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup>Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

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

## **Psalm 114**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

<sup>2</sup>Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.

<sup>3</sup>The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.

<sup>4</sup>The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.

<sup>5</sup>What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?

<sup>6</sup>You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?

<sup>7</sup>Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

<sup>8</sup>Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

## **Second Reading**

## **Romans 14:1-12**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

**Gradual Hymn 516**

**Come Down, O Love Divine**

**Down Ampney**

**\*The Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 18:21-35**

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

**Sermon**

**Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt**

### ***\*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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### ***\*Prayers of the People***

Each of us is finally accountable to God. So let us pray, saying, "Holy God, we are in need of your mercy; *have patience with us.*"

God, we acknowledge that we all sin against our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive us even as we forgive each other. Help us to be merciful to each other in the Church.

*Silence*

Holy God, we are in need of your mercy;

***Have patience with us.***

God, we acknowledge that we desire to repay violence with violence. Open our hearts to forgive even those who commit evil acts towards us and those we love. Help us to live mercifully in our world.

*Silence*

Holy God, we are in need of your mercy;

***Have patience with us.***

God, we acknowledge we do not always appreciate the diversity of your creation. Teach us to live in peace with each other and with your creation. Help us to live mercifully with our world.

*Silence*

Holy God, we are in need of your mercy;

***Have patience with us.***

God, we acknowledge that we do not love our neighbors as you love us. Forgive us for placing ourselves as judge over others when judgment belongs to you alone. Help us to accept the great mercy you choose to show others.

*Silence*

Holy God, we are in need of your mercy;

***Have patience with us.***

God, we pray for those whose lives are broken by suffering or sin. Because of your mercy we believe that whatever befalls them, they belong to you; you care for the brokenhearted. Help us to share your love with all those who are hurting. We pray today for those known to us and beloved, especially Arlene, Maureen, Janet, Rick, Marie, Jennifer, Joyce, Jacky, Gail, Laura, Alveta, Bode, Gracie, Ann, Dick, Martha, Daniel, Elaine, Ann Marie, Beverly, Mason, Marian, Cassie, Linda, Megan, Judy, Nancy, Cheryl, Leon, Melissa, Shirley, Dan, Patrice, Joan, Emily, June, Richard, Shifu, Quinn, Jean, Ann.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions and thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Holy God, we are in need of your mercy;

***Have patience with us.***

God, we remember those who died in violence. We remember those men and women of the armed services, innocent bystanders, first responders, and even those we have called enemies. The dead belong to you, O Lord. Even as we seek your mercy for ourselves, judge all those who have died with mercy.

*Silence*

Holy God, we are in need of your mercy;

***Have patience with us.***

In our ECCT Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. John's, Stamford; Calvary, Stonington; St. Mark's, Storrs. We also pray for the Children and Children's ministries; and ministries for children with special needs.

*Silence*

Holy God, we are in need of your mercy;

***Have patience with us.***

Holy God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen!**

### ***Confession of Sin for a Season of Creation***

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Merciful and sustaining God,  
we have sinned against you.**

**We confess our lack of gratitude  
for the beauty and bounty of your creation:  
teach us to see that your earth sustains us  
and all that lives.**

**We confess that we have misused your earth:  
grant us amendment of life.**

**We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites:  
strengthen us in self-control.**

**We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted:  
make us urgent now for its protection.**

**Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### ***\*The Peace***

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

### ***Announcements***

## ***THE HOLY COMMUNION***

Walk in love, as Christ loves us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

***Offertory Music***

***Bless the Lord, My Soul***

***Arr. Hal Hopson***

***from Cantata 196 J.S. Bach***

Creator of beauty and giver of light, who set the stars shining in dark sacred night; We offer our music with hearts full of praise, with joyful thanksgiving for all of our days. In pastures of heaven, where green valleys sing, and high mountains echo, each prayer to our King; May this song, a gift forever be found, now offered with grace, and eternity bound. The journey of each soul remains in your care, your guidance and faithfulness, always you share; Your spirit, within us, each strength that you send, returned to your glory, a world without end.

### **\*Presentation of the Gifts**

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, money and food bank donations to the celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented.*

### **\*Doxology 380**

#### **\*The Great Thanksgiving**

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 God thanks and praise.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption. Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life.

Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people.

And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:

### **Sanctus S 125**

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**



Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive.  
Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew.

Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all.  
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever. AMEN.

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### ***Fraction Anthem S155***

#### ***The Breaking of the Bread***

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

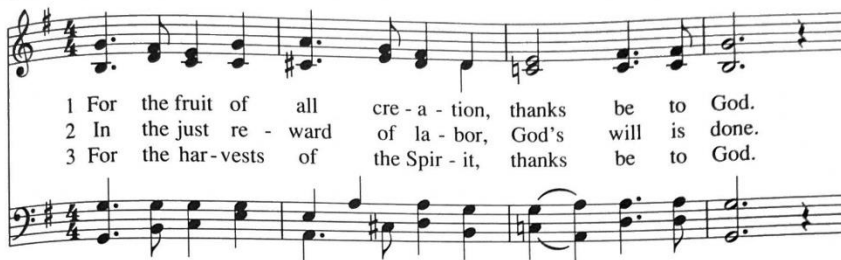
A period of silence is kept.  
Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,  
**therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
Behold what you are.  
**May we become what we receive.**

#### ***Communion***

*If you prefer not to receive communion and would like a blessing, please come to the altar rail with your arms crossed over your chest. If you need communion brought to your seat, please tell an usher. Please indicate at the rail, if you require a gluten-free wafer.*

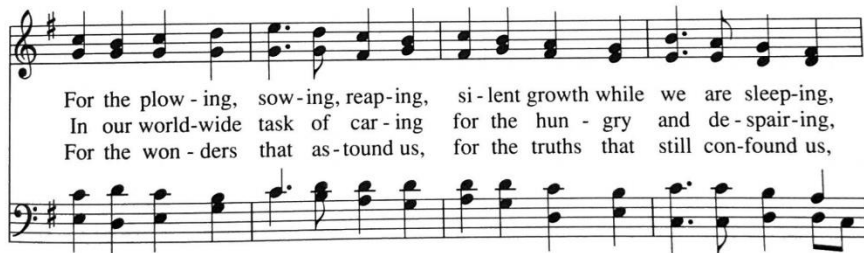
#### ***Communion Music***



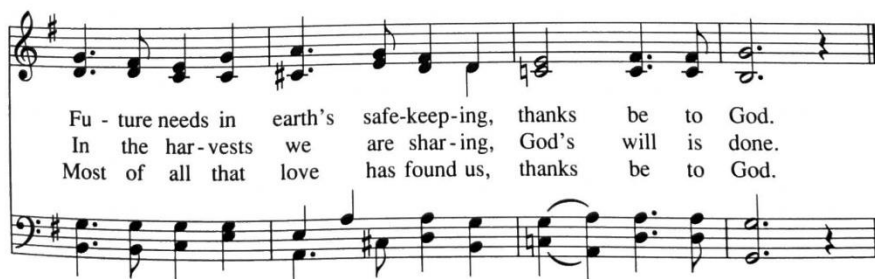
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For God's gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

### ***Sending out of Lay Eucharistic Visitors***

*(LEV: A trained lay person who provides the sacrament to those who are hospitalized, homebound, and in nursing homes. LEV's are trained to lead a brief prayer service before sharing the blessed bread and wine of Holy Communion.)*

In the name of God and of this congregation we send you forth to share this Eucharist with Alveta, Marie, Joyce and Helen. Let us pray. **You carry the prayer of us all as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence. May those who receive it be strengthened and encouraged in the life we find together in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### ***Postcommunion Prayer***

Faithful God,  
in the wonder of your wisdom and love  
you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent  
Jesus to be the bread of life.  
We thank you for feeding us with this bread.  
May it strengthen us  
that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may embody your desire  
and be renewed for your service  
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### ***Blessing***

***\*Recessional Hymn 410 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven Lauda anima***

*As the cross passes your pew, please turn to face the back of the church as we are sent out into the world to love and serve.*

### ***\*Dismissal***

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Our service of worship is now over. Our worship through service now begins.*

## Today at Trinity

<b>Presider:</b>	The Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt
<b>Crucifer:</b>	Tom Swetts
<b>Lectors:</b>	Martha Dayton, David Ericson, Sophronia Scott
<b>Intercessor:</b>	Ashley Erickson
<b>Minister of Communion:</b>	Sophronia Gregory
<b>LEV:</b>	Martha Dayton, Joan King
<b>Ushers:</b>	Mark Benedict, Noel Bellesheim
<b>Trinity Driving:</b>	Theodora Jameson
<b>Coffee Hour:</b>	Jeanne Benedict
<b>Tech Guild:</b>	Cherie Swetts, Floyd Higgins
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Judy LaCroix, George Rockwell
<b>Pianist:</b>	Jennifer Sisco
<b>Organist:</b>	Eric Knapp
<b>Nursery Assistant:</b>	Abby Lye

## STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Presiding Bishop:	The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Bishops of Connecticut:	The Rt. Rev. Jeff W. Mello, Bishop Diocesan The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragen
Rector:	The Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt
Priest Associate:	The Very Rev. Canon Alan Dennis
Music Minister:	Jennifer Sisco
Children's Ministry Coordinator	Frances Chamberlain
Communications & Membership Director:	Kim Merrill
Bookkeeper:	Paige Fischer
Sexton:	Jack Qubick
Wardens:	Bob Gardner, Sue Roman
Clerk:	Tom Swetts
Treasurer:	Noel Bellesheim
Vestry:	Cindy Anderau, Nancy Cole, Patrick Corrigan, Patrick DeBrock, Christina Lye, Lisa Mages, Jessica O'Meara
Delegates to the ECCT Convention	Bennett & Kara Leake

**For those celebrating a birthday this week:** Teddy Jameson, Judy Rowley, Nancy Cole, Nina Porretta, Curt Symes, Marianne Noyes-Ryder

**For those celebrating an anniversary this week:** Joan & Ronald Fuest



Help | Hope | Healing



Would you like to make a  
contribution to our general fund?