

# Holy Eucharist for the Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 28)

*From Book of Common Prayer 1979  
Psalm from the Saint Helena Breviary*

**November 15, 2020**

## Holy Eucharist Rite II THE WORD OF GOD

### Hymn 561

**Stand up, stand up, for Jesus**

1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus  
ye soldiers of the cross;  
lift high his royal banner,  
it must not suffer loss:  
from victory unto victory  
his army he shall lead,  
'til every foe is vanquished,  
and Christ is Lord indeed.

2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
the trumpet call obey;  
forth to the mighty conflict  
in this his glorious day:  
ye that are his now serve him  
against unnumbered foes;  
let courage rise with danger,  
and strength to strength oppose.

3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
stand in his strength alone;  
the arm of flesh will fail you,  
ye dare not trust your own:  
put on the Gospel armor,  
and watching unto prayer;  
when duty calls, or danger,  
be never wanting there.

4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
the strife will not be long;  
this day the noise of battle,

the next the victor's song:  
to valiant hearts triumphant  
a crown of life shall be;  
they with the King of glory  
shall reign eternally

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

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 Gloria**

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,*

*Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our  
learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly  
digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope  
of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever  
and ever. *Amen.*

### **The Lessons**

#### **Zephaniah 1:7,12-18**

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the  
Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that  
time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,  
“The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.” Their wealth shall  
be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not  
drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and  
hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior  
cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress  
and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and  
gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and  
battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.  
I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the

blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

### **Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12**

1 O God, you have been our refuge \*  
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, \*  
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; \*  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

7 For we consume away in your displeasure; \*  
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

8 Our iniquities you have set before you, \*  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

9 [When you are angry, all our days are gone; \*  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

10 The span of our life is seventy years,  
perhaps in strength even eighty; \*  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

11 Who regards the power of your wrath? \*  
who rightly fears your indignation?]

12 So teach us to number our days \*  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

## Hymn 312

## Strengthen for service, Lord

1 Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands  
that holy things have taken;  
let ears that now have heard thy songs  
to clamour never waken.

2 Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang  
keep free from all deceiving;  
the eyes which saw thy love be bright,  
thy blessed hope perceiving.

3 The feet that tread thy holy courts  
from light do thou not banish;  
the bodies by thy Body fed  
with thy new life replenish.

The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ according  
to Matthew

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ*

## Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And

the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## The Sermon

**The Rev. Nancy L. Threadgill**

I recently saw a graphic representation of the year 2020 with each number a different height and the first zero being the tallest number of them all. It did look as if the year was giving someone the finger or maybe someone was doing that to the year. I think we have all felt that way at some point during this year. I also think you know me well enough to know that I would never use that gesture nor do I swear but I have been surely tempted many times in the last eight months.

It helps me to get through the day when I remember the truth that we heard from Paul in his letter to the Thessalonians. We are children of light not of darkness. We have the armor of God to put on to protect us get through these trying times.

“But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

I think what I miss the most is contact, physical and in person contact with family, friends, members of the parish, colleagues and other acquaintances, I would love to see the church with people filling every pew. I would love to go out to dinner with friends. I would love to go to a ball game or concert. I would love to visit my family and hug each one and never let go. I even wouldn't mind driving to Pittsburgh for a diocesan meeting so I could talk to fellow clergy without all the other clergy and the bishop listening in which happens when you are meeting by zoom.

My strength and my peace of mind comes from putting on Jesus' breastplate of faith and love every morning so I can go out, stay home or hang out at the church and be Christ to everyone with whom I come in contact. When I read the paper and see the increasing number of cases of Covid-19 in Cambria County or watch the evening news and see the numbers of cases and deaths in this country and around the world, I put on the helmet of the hope of salvation. We will all be with Christ and see each other again in our next lives without the uncertainties and anxieties we know now. It is a hope that we need to share every day so that 2020 will not be known as a year of despair but a year of change for the better. Let us do as Paul suggests: “encourage one another and build up each other”. Let us show the world how to be children of light by loving God and loving neighbor. Amen

### **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.

## **The Prayers of the People**

### **Form III**

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and  
humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Dorsey, our Bishop and for  
all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for Donald, our President, Joe, our President-elect, Tom, our  
Governor and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the  
world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and  
earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and  
strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

### **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be 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.*

The Bishop, when present, or the 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.*

### **The Peace**

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People *And also with you.*

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

# The Holy Communion

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offering and come into his courts. *Psalm 96:8*

## Hymn 598 Lord Christ, when first thou came'st to earth

Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth,  
upon a cross they bound thee, and mocked thy saving  
kingship then by thorns with which they crowned thee;  
and still our wrongs may weave thee now new thorns to pierce  
that steady brow, and robe of sorrow round thee.

O awful Love, which found no room in life  
where sin denied thee, and, doomed to death,  
must bring to doom the powers which crucified thee,  
till not a stone was left on stone, and all those nations' pride,  
o'er thrown, went down to dust beside thee!

New advent of the love of Christ, shall we again refuse thee,  
till in the night of hate and war we perish as we lose thee?  
From old unfaith our souls release to seek the kingdom of thy peace,  
by which alone we choose thee.

O wounded hands of Jesus, build in us thy new creation;  
our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled, we wait thy revelation:  
O love that triumphs over loss, we bring our hearts  
before thy cross, to finish thy salvation.

## Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

*We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;*

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

And now, as our Savior As our Savior Christ  
Christ has taught us, has taught us,  
we are bold to say, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

<i>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.</i>	<i>Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.</i>
<i>Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.</i>	<i>Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.</i>
<i>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.</i>	<i>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.</i>

### **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. [Alleluia.]*

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

For those unable or unwilling to receive the physical Communion at this time please pray the following with me:

*My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

**Communion Hymn 574      Before thy throne, O God, we kneel**

1 Before thy throne, O God, we kneel:  
give us a conscience quick to feel,  
a ready mind to understand  
the meaning of thy chastening hand;  
whate'er the pain and shame may be,  
bring us, O Father, nearer thee.

2 Search out our hearts and make us true;  
help us to give to all their due.  
From love of pleasure, lust of gold,  
from sins which make the heart grow cold,  
wean us and train us with thy rod;  
teach us to know our faults, O God.

3 For sins of heedless word and deed,  
for pride ambitions to succeed,  
for crafty trade and subtle snare  
to catch the simple unaware,  
for lives bereft of purpose high,  
forgive, forgive, O Lord, we cry.

4 Let the fierce fires which burn and try,  
our inmost spirits purify:  
consume the ill; purge out the shame;  
O God, be with us in the flame;  
a newborn people may we rise,  
more pure, more true, more nobly wise.

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

*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.*

May the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God and of God's son Jesus Christ, our Lord, and the blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

**Hymn 680**

**O God, our help in ages past**

Our God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home.  
Beneath the shadow of Thy throne  
Still may we dwell secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defence is sure.  
Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her frame,

From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.  
A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.  
Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly, forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.  
Our God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guide while life shall last,  
And our eternal home.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People *Thanks be to God.*