St. Ambrose Episcopal Church

September 13, 2026

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

900 Edgewater Blvd
Foster City, CA 94404

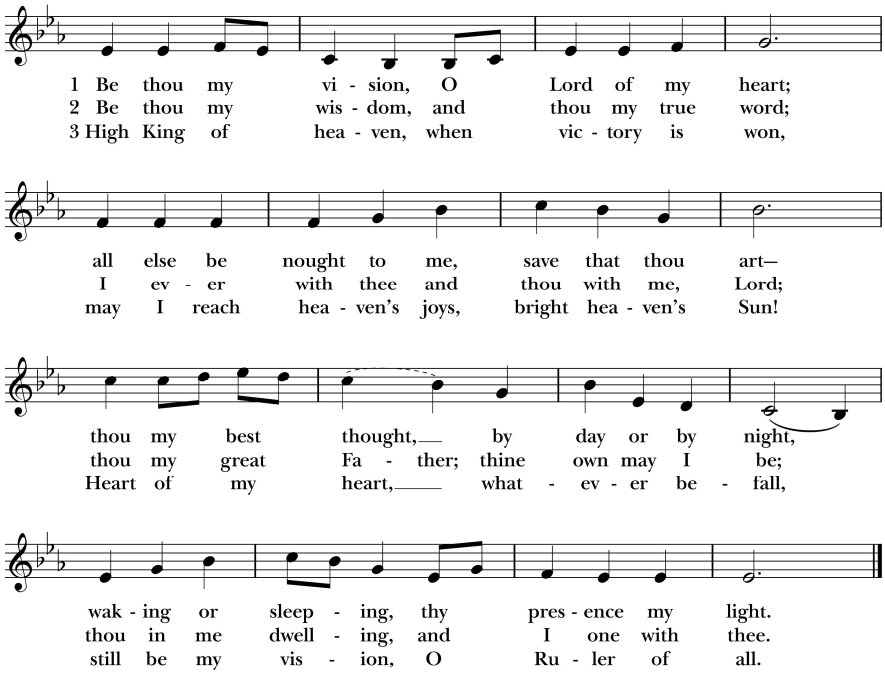
(650) 574-1369 - office@stambrosefostercity.org - http://www.stambrosefostercity.org
Priest-In-Charge • *pastoral calls and emergencies* The Rev. Rebecca Goldberg 650 291-5289
revrebecca@stambrosefostercity.org



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE: Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring **J.S. Bach**

PROCESSIONAL #488 Be Thou My Vision *Hymnal 1982*



Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
***People*:** **And blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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**

S278 Gloria



Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you..
People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: 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.***

First Lesson Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
***People*: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13
Benedic, anima mea

1 [Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.
3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
4 He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
6 The LORD executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.]

8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

Second Lesson Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 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. 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.

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. 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.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

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. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
***People*: Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn Celtic Alleluia



Music © 1985, 1996, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Holy Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 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.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 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. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

Sequence Hymn Celtic Alleluia

Sermon **Reverend Rebecca Goldberg**

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 VI

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For *Sean.* our Presiding Bishop, and *Austin* our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

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

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

Announcements

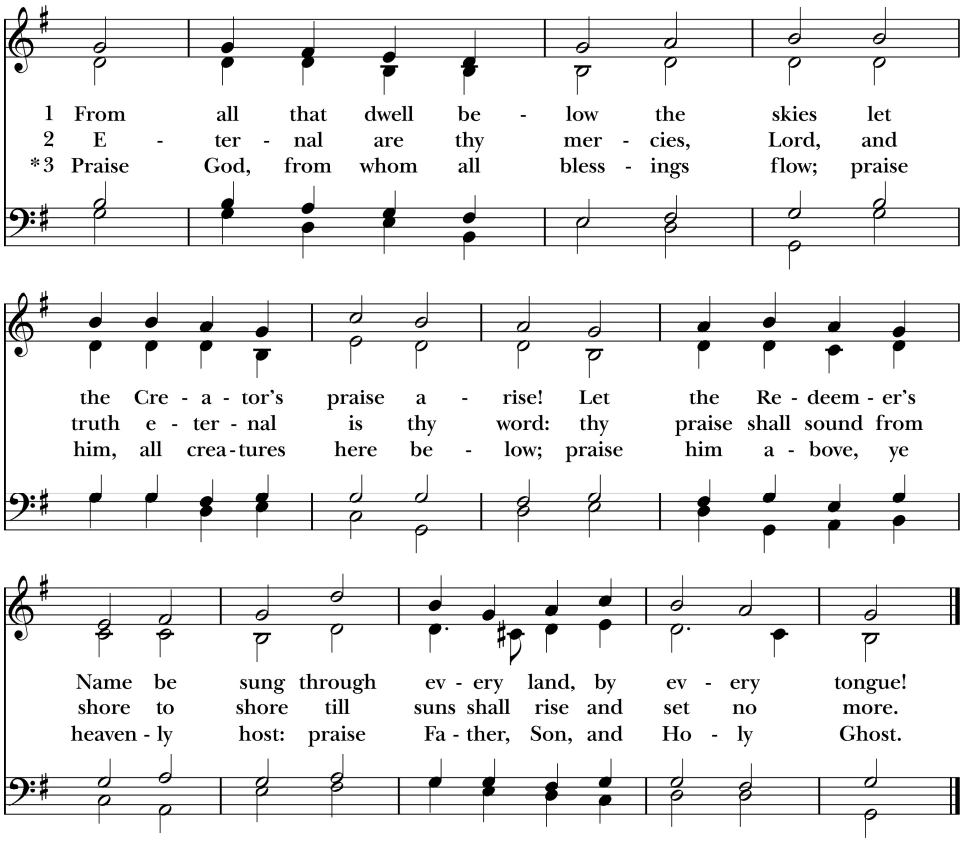
Prayer for a First Holy Communion

Lord Jesus, you promised you would always be with us in the breaking of the bread. You feed us with your body and blood and nourish us well in the life of your Spirit. Be with Colette today in a special way, as she receives Holy Communion for the first time. Fill her heart with joy and make yourself known to her as her heavenly Friend. Fill us, too, with your Holy Spirit as we rejoice with Colette and her loved ones and bind us ever closer to you as we are united in this sacred meal. All this we pray in your name. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: **Forgive our sins as we forgive**

Doxology

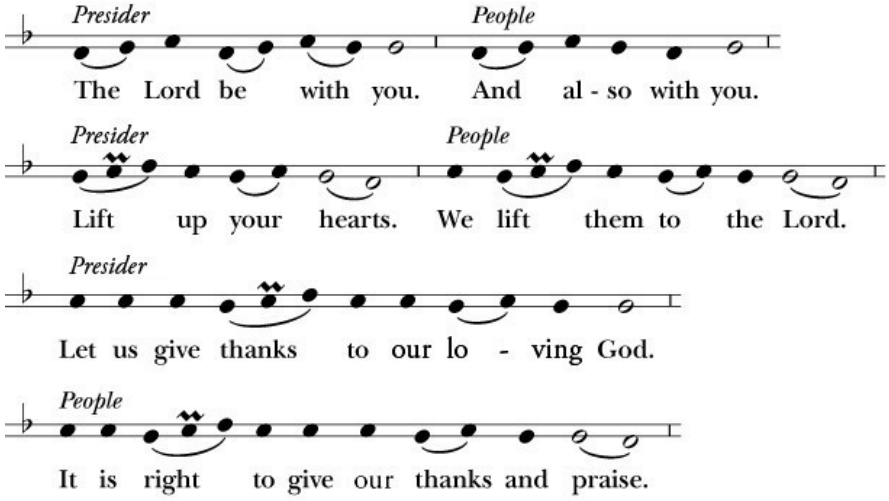
Hymn 380 From All That Dwell Below the Skies Verse 3



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer C



Celebrant 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 our thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

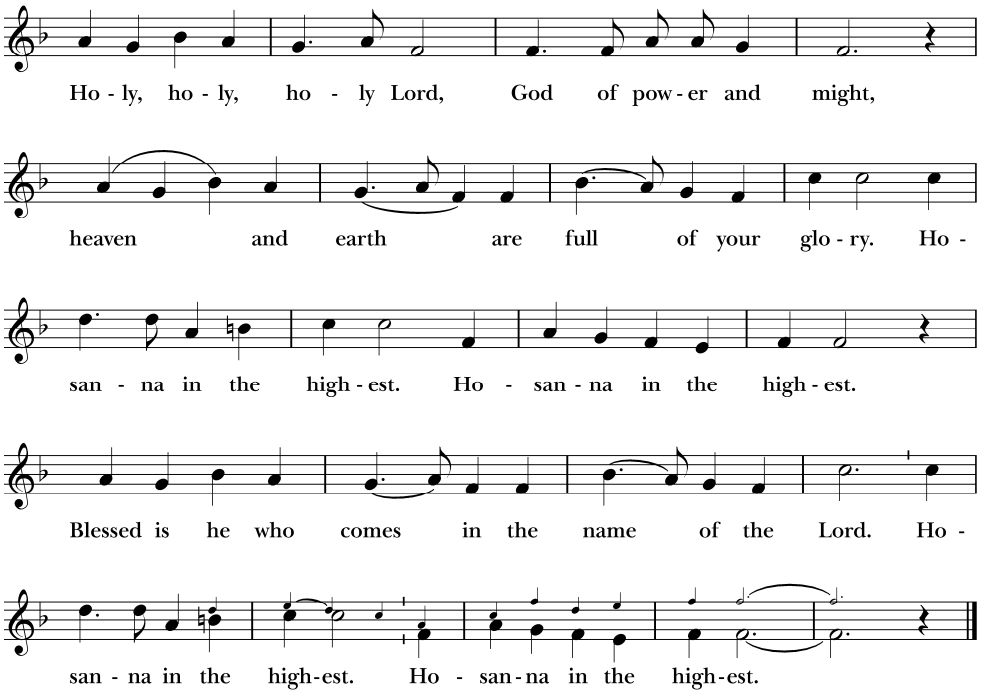
At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus S125



Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.
Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

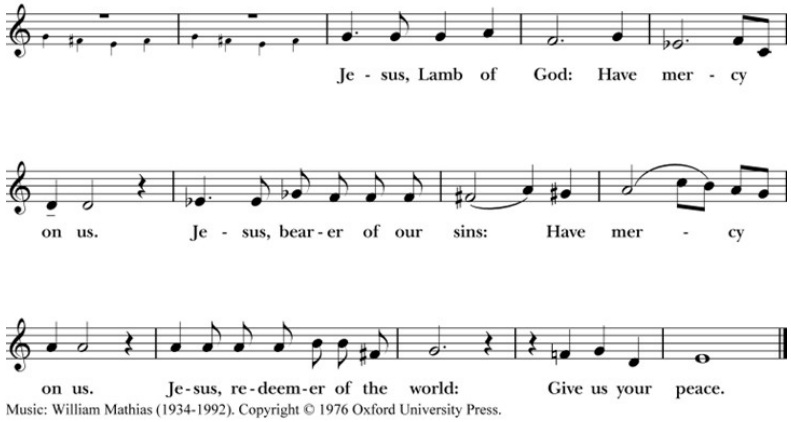
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,	As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

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

S165



Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Invitation

COMMUNION HYMN

#711 Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God *Hymnal 1982*



Post communion Prayer

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.

The Blessing

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

RECESSIONAL

#594 God of Grace and God of Glory *Hymnal 1982*



Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt. By permission of the author. Music: *Cwm Rhondda*, John Hughes (1873-1932).

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: Voluntary in D Major **John Stanley**

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The Mission of St. Ambrose Church of Foster City

Is to proclaim the Good News of God in Jesus Christ as we care for each other and our larger community. We worship in the Episcopal and Anglican tradition, extending an open and inclusive invitation to all people, welcoming children into our church family and serving those in need.

Worship Leaders:
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg
Amanda Yuxin Dai, Music Director
Kay Ballantyne, Sunday School Director

Worship Leader Rota:
Jim Neubert, Intercessor
Lector
Daniel Tate, Eucharistic Minister
Jim Neubert/Usher
Livestream Technician

Next Week's Scripture Lessons
Jonah 3:10-4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

Presider	Date
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday, September 13, 2026
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday, September 20, 2026
Rev. Gilbert Otuo-Acheampong	Sunday, September 27, 2026
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday, October 04, 2026

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church
900 Edgewater Blvd
Foster City, CA 94404

Priest-In-Charge	Reverend Rebecca Goldberg
Music Director	Amanda Yuxin Dai
Sunday School Director	Kay Ballantyne
Office Administrator	Angeli Labrador
Bookkeeper	Ron Cook

Sr. Warden	*David McIntyre*
Jr. Warden	*Elizabeth Peter*
Treasurer	*Alison LeBlanc*
Vestry	*Keith Adolph*
	Suzanne Canada
	Mary Loretta Davila
	George Gardiner
	Janet Gardiner
	Cathy Rincon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Holy Communion
We will be celebrating Colette Padgett's First Holy Communion on **Sunday, 9/13** at the 10:00 a.m. service. Please join us as we rejoice with her and her family on the special day!

Soli Club Recital
On Sunday **September 13** at 3:30pm , you are warmly invited to the Soli Club Recital here in the sanctuary. Soli Club is a fine singing group from the South Bay. The program includes works by Puccini, Andrew Lloyd Weber, Mozart, Bizet, Faure, Dvorak, and others. Admission is free. All are welcome!

Grand Opening of Foster City Community Center
Come and celebrate with the community on this great occasion. The festivities are open to the public on **September 19** from 11 a.m. 2 p.m. St. Ambrose and Sea Breeze have plaques on display on the donor wall inside. Come and meet our neighbors and celebrate the life of our community! The Center is located at 650 Shell Blvd.

Star Valley Choral Center Annual Fall Concert
This event will be held on Saturday, **September 19** at 3:30 pm in the church. Admission is free. A light reception will follow

Off the Grid Wednesday Food Truck Night - 09/23
Sea Breeze School will be represented at the Off the Grid Wednesday Food Truck Night at Leo J Ryan Park on **September 23, from 5-9 PM**. Come and enjoy good food, and get to know your neighbors! For every food purchase made that night, Sea Breeze will receive $1.00. If you have any questions, please contact school principal Jerelyn Weber.

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals
At our Sunday service of Holy Eucharist on **October 4**, we will learn about the life and witness of St. Francis of Assisi. In his honor, and in keeping with his great love of all creation, you are invited to bring your animal companions for a special blessing during the Peace. Stuffed animals and photos of your beloved companions will also be blessed. Then, from **2-4:30 pm** at the Foster City Dog Park, we will offer blessings for the companion animals of our community. All are welcome! Please let Mother Rebecca know if you would like to come to the Dog Park. Thank you.

Lectors and Intercessors needed
Proclaiming the Word and leading the prayers of the faithful are important ministries in the life of our community. We give thanks for those who are currently serving, and we are in need of more volunteers If you would like to read or lead the intercessions, please let Mother Rebecca know. Training will be provided.

Opening for Parish Treasurer
Alison LeBlanc has resigned as our Treasurer effective **July 10**. We thank her for her years of good work! If you have financial experience and would be willing to serve the church in this important ministry, please let Mother Rebecca know. Training will be provided.

Notation of Pledge Contributions
If you are writing a check for your pledge contributions, please indicate "Pledge" in the memo portion of your check. This helps the office accurately account for what is received. Thank you!

Meditation Group

On Monday nights, at 6:30 p.m., St. Ambrose hosts a weekly in-person silent meditation group. The format follows that of the East-West Meditation Program that was offered at Mercy Center, Burlingame, for many years. The format follows the Zen tradition, with a brief introduction and then a 25-minute silent meditation, 5-minute walking meditation (you are not obligated to physically move) and another 25-minute silent meditation. This will be held in the chapel, and bring your own cushion if you wish to sit on the floor. You can also sit in a chair or pew if it is better to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact David McIntyre, ntkod@icloud.com

Questionable Text/Emails

There is a text and scam email that is circulating, signed Rev. Rebecca Goldberg, which requests a copy of the Church directory. Please delete it. None of the St. Ambrose or Sea Breeze staff will send you an email asking you to divulge personal information, or contribute funds to a questionable cause. Please let Mother Rebecca know if you have any questions.

Mother Rebecca's office hours

Mother Rebecca will be in her office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:30-4:30. She can be reached during office hours at 650-574-1369. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call 650 291-5289 revrebecca@stambrosefostercity.org

Coffee Hour

Join us for Coffee Hour after the service at 11:00 am in the parish hall. Please volunteer to contribute (cakes, cookies, finger food or sandwiches) by using the link below or by the signup sheet in the Narthex by the Reflections & Gratitude Board: Sign Up Genius https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-coffee1

Worship Leaders Needed

Please sign up as a Lector for our 10:00* am Eucharist by emailing office@stambrosefostercity.org or the Church signup sheet. We also need Worship Leader volunteers for our 10:00* am Eucharist. There are openings for Intercessors, Lectors, Greeters, Ushers and Acolytes, and Livestream Technicians.

Contact us at office@stambrosefostercity.org or use the following link to signup: Signup Genius or Click on the following link https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-worship **No 8:30am service at this time*

Sunday School 10 AM

Sunday school is at 10:00am every week Please contact Kay Ballantyne rose466@earthlink.net or Raphael Gerber raphaele.gerber@gmail.com

Rides for Gene Hetzer

Gene Hetzer a longtime church member and Karl his guide dog need rides on an alternating basis from church members. Please contact Jim Neubert to schedule a day for driving.

Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 1:00pm, we meet for Bible Study on Zoom and discuss the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday Service. Join us! For questions, please Warren Wong at wwong@nd.edu

Contemplative Meditation
Every Wednesday 10am-11am we meet for Contemplative Meditation on Zoom. Currently we are working through "Reading Van Gogh: An Amateur's Search for God" by Elizabeth Barks Cox. If interested, please contact Hamilton Fong. hfongster@gmail.com

Prayer Support Group
Every 1st and 3rd Sunday after the service at 11:30am, we will be meeting in the sanctuary to have a prayer meeting. Please join us any time as you are able. For questions, please contact Daniel Tate at 650-799-7084, or dtate@ses.cdsp.edu

Prayer list: We pray especially Stavros and Helen Chrysovergis, Verna Labrador Cinotti, Belinda Yuen and family, Keith Adolph, Etta Bates, Dulce Lord's sister Divina, Andra Baker Gleinn, Renee Sheldon and family, Darren Su, Carol Frisch and the Frisch family, Yvonne Sidell, Jerelyn Weber, Miles Martin, Barbara Milligan, Ed Avakoff, Max Gumbert, Clara Padilla, Mirta Padilla, Isabella, Jerry Boykin, Carol Newman, Arjun Katyan, Janet Mc Annally, Elliott Dun, Alison LeBlanc, Peggy Chapman, Ronnie Rosen, Leo Gauthier, Alice Deckel, and the pupils and staff of Sea Breeze School.

***For those who have died*:** Eleanor Hui**,** Bettie Davis**,** Pat Cinotti, Juan Francisco Medina, Veronica Rutledge**,** Paul Rose, Stephen Yuen**,** Charlene Adolph**,** David Labrador**,** Don Peter**,** Alene Karthas**,** Diane Robertson, Bob Gleinn, Doreen Yuen, Veneranda Ramirez**,** Arthur Labrador**,** Buck Schott, Ercira Puig, Zaw-Sing Su, Mike Frisch, John Miller, Eva Rios Chong, Judi Guilford**,** John David Tate, Martin Gardiner *[Please contact the parish office to add any names of the sick and suffering to be prayed for in our monthly cycle of prayer.]*

The Altar Flowers are donated by:
Keith Adolph – In Loving Memory of Charlene Adolph

Birthdays
Mary Bradford – September 14
Dulce Lord – September 15
Megan Franke – September 17

Anniversaries
Scott and Judy Chang – September 17

