

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church September 24, 2023, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

900 Edgewater Blvd Foster City, CA 94404 (650) 574-1369 - office@stambrosefostercity.org - http://www.stambrosefostercity.org

Rector • pastoral calls and emergencies The Rev. Jason B. Lucas-Green 612.865.5442

frjason@stambrosefostercity.org

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: Theme, from Symphonic Dances

S. Rachmaninoff

Processional Hymn 522 Glorious things of thee are spoken





Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt. Music: *Austria*, Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1807); desc. Michael Y. Young, (b. 1939). Descant Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Blessed be the 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. *Amen.*

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

First Lesson Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:1-8

Exaltabo te, Deus

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, * and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you * and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; * there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another * and shall declare your power.

- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty * and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, * and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; * they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, * slow to anger and of great kindness.

Second Lesson Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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



Words: Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt. Music: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932).

Holy Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Offertory Hymn Sing A New Song Unto The Lord

D. Schutte

Sermon

The Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green

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.

Form IV

Deacon or other leader

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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 AND ABSOLUTION

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*.

Celebrant: 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.

People: Amen.

The Peace

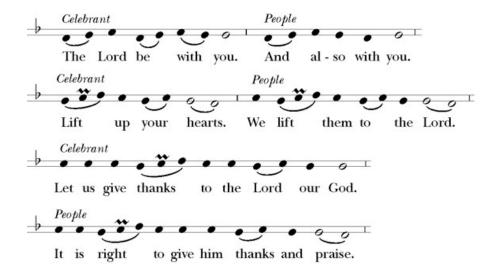
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn: "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," BWV 147, J.S. Bach

Eucharistic Prayer B



Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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



The people stand

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 <u>Ambrose</u> 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.

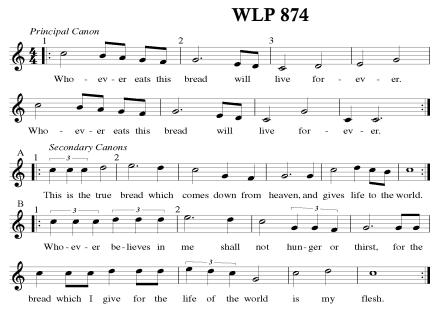
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

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

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



Invitation

Spiritual Communion

(Those watching at home, may, if they wish, say this prayer during the time of Communion.) In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of our Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly my own parish and those worshiping there, I long to offer praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessing of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given me: (Here, those watching at home may add particular blessing for which they wish to give thanks). I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen

Communion Hymn Here I Am, Lord 802



Postcommunion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Dismissal

Closing Hymn 390 | Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



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Postlude: Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees

African-American Spiritual

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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:

The Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green, Rector Frank Saunders, Organist

Worship Leader Rota:

Intercessor
Warren Wong, Lectors
Usher
Alison LeBlanc, Livestream Technician

Presider	Date
Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green	Sunday, October 1, 2023
Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green	Sunday, October 8, 2023
Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green	Sunday, October 15, 2023
Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green	Sunday, October 22, 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastoral Visits

Fr. Jason would love to come and visit you. If you would like a visit with Fr. Jason please use this link https://calendly.com/frjason-1 or you can email him at Frjason@stambrosefostercity.org.

Blessing of the Animals:

Bring your pets and beloved stuffed animals to the 10 o'clock service on October 1st. Father Jason will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis by blessing the animal friends who bring joy to our lives. From **12:30 to 2 p.m**. Father Jason will set up shop at the Foster City Dog Park to bless members of the Foster City Community (and St. Ambrose parishioners who couldn't make it earlier) and their pets. If you have questions, please contact Steve Yuen (315-9662, stevebyuen@aol.com)

Sandwiches on Sunday - October 29th

We will again assemble the sandwiches and brown bags the day before, i.e., Saturday, October 28th, at the church from noon to 2 p.m. They will be distributed at the Fair Oaks Community Center in Redwood City on Sunday, October 29th from 11:45 to 12:15 p.m. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Steve Yuen (cell 650-315-9662, stevebyuen@aol.com

Rector Discretionary Fund

1st Sunday of the month: any loose offerings will be designated for the Rector Discretionary Fund.

Bayview Mission Needs (Updated 7/10/2023)

I have been in communication with Deacon Nina at Bayview Mission. Their needs have changed; they are asking if we can supply Peanut Butter, Tuna, and Feminine Hygiene Products. I thank you for your continued generosity of our Outreach Project.

Sunday School 2023-2024

For the upcoming school year, we are looking for:

- Helpers for welcoming new families at the Blessing of the backpack (end of August/ beginning of September)
- Helpers for Sunday School class: Youth and older
- Materials for godly play activities (crafts to illustrate God's creation, Nativity, Protecting our planet etc.) All suggestions of games/songs/activities are welcome.

St. Ambrose Choir

If you wish to join the choir, please contact Father Jason at the service or email: frjason@stambrosefostercity.org

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers for coffee hour, summer days and stewardship dinner. If you are interested, please contact me at valentin fe@yahoo.com! *Thank you*

Coffee Hour

Join us for Coffee Hour after mass at 11:00 am in the courtyard. Coffee hour will be hosted by the Vestry on the <u>first Sunday</u> of the month. Please volunteer for the <u>other weeks</u> 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 8:30 am and 10:00 am Mass by emailing <u>office@stambrosefostercity.org</u> or the Church signup sheet. We also need Worship Leader volunteers for our 10:00 am Mass.

There are openings for Intercessors, Lectors, Greeters, Ushers and Acolytes, and Livestream

Technicians. Contact us at <u>office@stambrosefostercity.org</u> or use the following link to signup: <u>Signup</u>

<u>Genius</u> or Click on the following link https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-worship

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.

Prayer Support Group

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday after the service at 11:30am, we will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall 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

<u>Prayer list:</u> We pray especially for Yvonne Sidell, Jerelyn Weber, Charlene Adolph, Miles Martin, Barbara Milligan, Ed Avakoff, Max Gumbert, Isabella, Jerry Boykin, Carol Newman, Clara Padilla, Bettie Davis, Arjun Katyan, Janet Mc Annally, Elliott Dun, Alison LeBlanc, Peggy Chapman, Ronnie Rosen, Leo Gauthier, Alice Deckel, Mike Frisch, and the pupils and staff of Sea Breeze School. *For those who have died*: Eva Rios Chong, Judi Guilford, John David Tate, Martin Gardiner

The Altar Flowers are given by:

The Altar Guild to the Glory of God

[Please contact the parish office to add any names of the sick and suffering to be prayed for in our monthly cycle of prayer.]