

# St. Ambrose Episcopal Church October 1, 2023 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

900 Edgewater Blvd Foster City, CA 94404

(650) 574-1369 - <u>office@stambrosefostercity.org</u> - <u>http://www.stambrosefostercity.org</u> Rector • pastoral calls and emergencies The Rev. Jason B. Lucas-Green 612.865.5442 <u>frjason@stambrosefostercity.org</u>

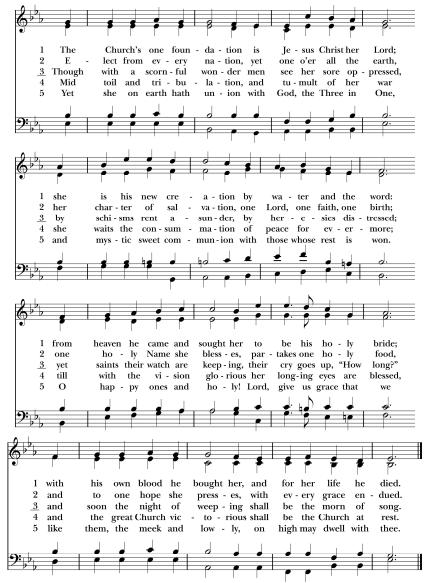
# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Prelude: Teddy Bear's Picnic Processional Hymn 525

J. Bratton

Processional Hymn 525 The Church's One Foundation



Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900). Music: Aurelia, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1818-1876).

# **Opening Sentences**

Celebrant:Blessed be the God, Father, Son, and Holy SpiritPeople: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.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

# First Lesson Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

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

# Psalm 25:1-8

### Ad te, Domine, levavi

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \* let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame;

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \* and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \* for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

# Second Lesson Philippians 2:1-13

- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, \* for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \* remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; \* therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right \* and teaches his way to the lowly.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. *Reader*: The Word of the Lord *People*: Thanks be to God.

### Hymn Celtic Alleluia – two times through



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# Holy Gospel Matthew 21:23-32

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

# 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.

# The Prayers of the People

For the artistry of spinning spiders, the industry of ants, for all alert animals of field and forest, for the squirrels that gather, chipmunks that chatter, for mice that burrow, and pigs that root,

# WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.

For the splendor of the great deep and sparkling streams, for the water bugs and dolphins, for all fish and all sea life, and for enormous whales. **WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.** 

For all things that fly, for pelicans and parakeets, barn owls and peacocks, for eagles that soar, and for birds that nest in eaves and at-tics. **WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.** 

For beasts that lumber, for elephants and hippos, grizzly bears and tortoises, porcupines and three-toed sloths, and for all creatures that remind us not to hurry. **WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.** 

For the graceful beasts, the great cats, and for gazelles, for giraffes, and for flamingos, foxes, and fawns. **WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.** 

For the animals that work for human good, for horses, oxen, mules, and beasts of burden, for dogs, who lead those who cannot see or hear, track the lost and rescue the stranded. **WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.** 

For the animals that share our homes, for faithful dogs and purring cats, for all animals that teach us how to love without judgment, for rabbits, hamsters, birds, assorted reptiles, and freshwater fish.

# WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.

For the loving pets we no longer see nor hold, who served us in faithfulness and trust, and now live on in our hearts and minds. **WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD.** 

Celebrant: Give us the grace, O Lord, to learn from the animal kingdom that you created all things: And bring us to your peaceable kingdom where lion and lamb lie down together. Amen

# THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION (standing)

*Celebrant*: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All*: 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.

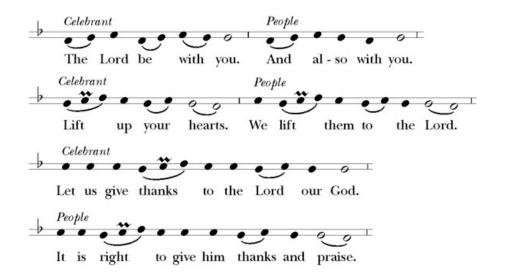
*Celebrant*: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant:The peace of Christ be always with you.People:And also with you

Offertory Hymn: Variations on Hymn 405, All Things Bright and Beautiful

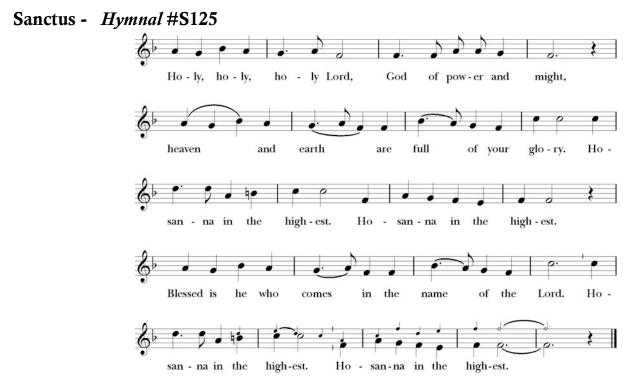
### THE HOLY COMMUNION



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



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

# Celebrant and People Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*Celebrant*: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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** 

# 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. **THE FRACTION** le - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer CV sins: Je - sus, bear-er of our Have on us. mer CV Je-sus, re-deem-er of the world: Give us your on us. peace.

# 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

# THE INVITATION

*Celebrant:* Brothers and Sisters draw near with faith come to this holy table where ALL are WELCOME, ALL are FED, and ALL are LOVED. These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

### **Communion Hymn** *O Jesus, I Have Promised #665 [seated]*



### THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **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 BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

# Closing Hymn | All creatures of our God and King #400

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us *2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a - *3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless-ings on our 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your *6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble-
1 sing: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
2 loft, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
<u>3</u> hear, Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
4 way, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
5 part, O sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
<u>6</u> breath, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
7 ness, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the
1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - thy gleams,   2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars sil - ver moon that gen - thy gleams,   3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,   4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so   5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, for   6 home the child of God, for   7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and
O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,
ai - n - 10 - 18, ai - n - 10 - 18;

The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Words: St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistiche Kirchengeseng*, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

# Postlude: Go Now In Peace

### N. Sleeth

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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 Lectors Usher Alison LeBlanc, Livestream Technician

Presider	Date
Mr. Daniel Tate	Sunday, October 8, 2023
Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green	Sunday, October 15, 2023
Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green	Sunday, October 22, 2023
Rev. Fr. Jason Lucas-Green	Sunday, October 29, 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 <u>https://calendly.com/frjason-1</u> or you can email him at <u>Frjason@stambrosefostercity.org</u>.

#### **Blessing of the Animals:**

Today, October 1<sup>st</sup> -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, <u>stevebyuen@aol.com</u>)

#### 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, <u>stevebyuen@aol.com</u>

#### **Rector Discretionary Fund**

1<sup>st</sup> 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 <u>valentin\_fe@yahoo.com</u>! *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 <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-worship</u>

#### **<u>Rides for Gene Hetzer</u>**

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 <u>dtate@ses.cdsp.edu</u>

<u>**Praver 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.]