

# The Holy Eucharist

Dedication and Blessing of the Church Interior, Steeple, Bell, Parish Hall, and Kitchen

3 o'clock in the afternoon November 23, 2025

The Right Reverend Jeffrey W. Mello Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Presiding

#### Propers for the Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church

#### The Entrance



6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

#### The Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. *People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.* 

### Gloria (S280)





#### The Word of the Lord

#### **Salutation**

The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

#### The Collect of the Day

Almighty God to whose glory we dedicate the new constructions and renovations of this house of prayer: We give you thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshipped in this place, and pray that all who seek you here may find you, and be filled with your joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

### **The Old Testament** 1 Kings 8:22-30

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me."

Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

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

### **Psalm 84:1-6** (said responsively by whole verse)

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of hosts!

People: My soul longs, indeed it faints

for the courts of the LORD;

my heart and my flesh sing for joy

to the living God.

Leader: Even the sparrow finds a home,

and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts,

my King and my God.

People: Happy are those who live in your house,

ever singing your praise.

Leader: Happy are those whose strength is in you,

in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

People: As they go through the valley of Baca

they make it a place of springs;

the early rain also covers it with pools.

### The Epistle

1 Peter 2:1-5, 9-10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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





The Gospel

Matthew 21:12-16

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the moneychangers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, 'It is written,

"My house shall be called a house of prayer"; but you are making it a den of robbers.'

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read,

"Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### Sermon

The Rev. Kathleen Liles

#### 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.

### A Litany for Christian Service

Leader: God of Hope, you called us into your service and invited us to

continue your saving work in the world.

Give us grateful hearts for all your blessings.

People: And keep us mindful of those in need.

Leader: God of Love, you send your Spirit to make us strong in faith and

active in good works.

Give us eyes to see how we may help our neighbor.

*People:* And direct our steps to follow where you lead.

Leader: God of Compassion, unite us in your Holy Spirit, that we may serve

you with all our hearts and work together in love.

Give us patience and wisdom.

People: That all our works may be dedicated to your glory.

Celebrant: Most gracious and loving God, without whom our labor is lost: Bless

all that is done here today and be with those who labor for the sake of

others; give them strength and patient wisdom as they follow the

example of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit,

lives and reigns, now and forever. Amen.

#### The Peace

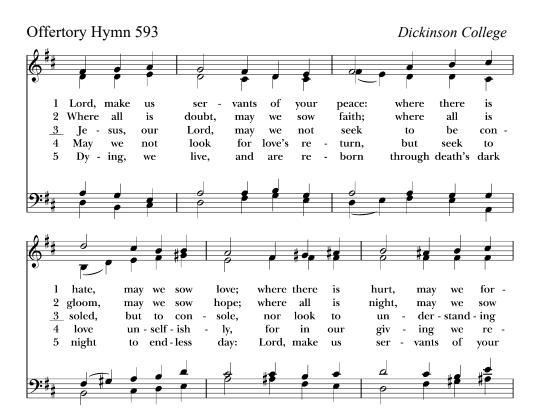
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People: And also with you.* 

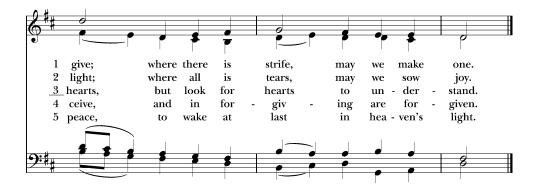


#### All are invited to the Lord's Table

In the Episcopal Church all baptized persons, including those from other Christian Churches, are invited to receive Holy Communion. Others are invited to come forward for a blessing.

## The Great Thanksgiving





## Eucharistic Prayer A

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 him thanks and praise.

### The Celebrant proceeds

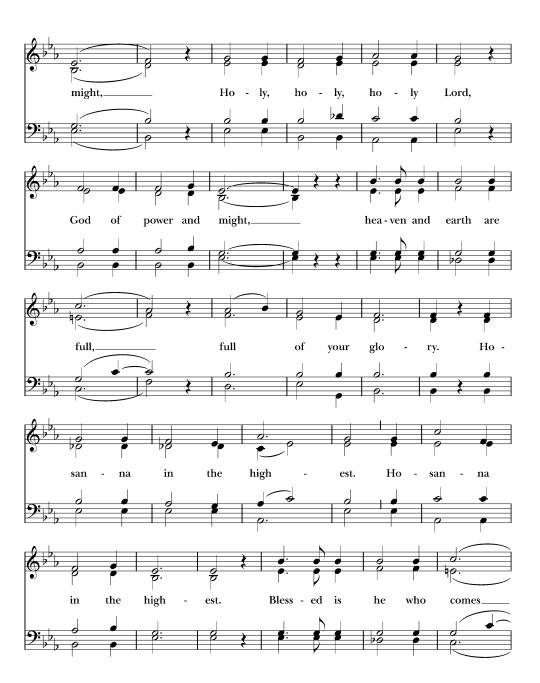
Through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, in whom we are built up as living stones of a holy temple, that we might offer before you a sacrifice of praise and prayer that is holy and pleasing in your sight.

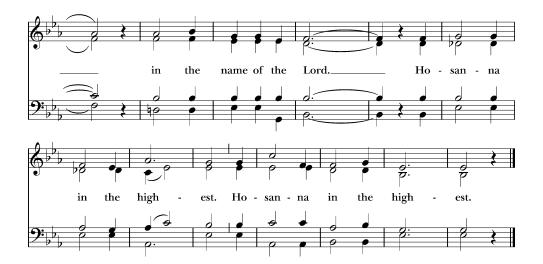
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### Celebrant and People

### Santus S130







The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

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.

#### The Celebrant continues

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.

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*.

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

All: 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

# The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: 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.

#### **The 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*.



# **Dedication and Blessing**

The Bishop takes his place on the chancel.

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Bishop: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you that you have put it into the hearts of your faithful people to make offerings for your service and have been pleased to accept their gifts. Be with us now as we set apart these new constructions and renovations to your praise and glory; through Jesus

Christ our Lord. Amen.

All: Solomon beautified the sanctuary, and multiplied the vessels of

the temple.

Bishop: Oh, the majesty and magnificence of God's presence!

*People:* Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Bishop: Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son has sanctified and transfigured the use of material things, bless+ the renovation of this time-hallowed space. Grant that your people may be strengthened by their worship here, and minister in grace and joy to all who enter this church, through Jesus

Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop takes his place at the North Narthex door.

All: The name of the Lord is a strong tower to all who put their trust

in him.

Bishop: All the ends of the earth shall see:

People: The salvation of our God.

Bishop: Let us pray.

Gracious God, you have called us to worship you and given us this steeple to point us toward heaven. Bless+ the renovation of this steeple, that it may be a sign of your presence in our community, a beacon of hope for all who pass by, and a reminder of your love that never fails to save, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

The Bishop takes his place at the South Narthex door.

All: Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends

of the world.

Bishop: I call to you, my people:

People: My voice is to the children of God.

Bishop: Let us pray.

O God, that your hope shall ring in the ears of all people, bless+ the renovation of this bell, to which we give the name OLD JOYFUL: Grant that in every generation its voice may continually call your people to praise and worship; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

As the newly blessed bell rings, the people follow in procession to the Parish Hall.

The bishop takes his place in the parish kitchen.

All: Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the

glory of God.

Bishop: Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers,

*People:* for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Bishop: Let us pray.

Most generous God, bless+ this kitchen, which we dedicate to JANE BENEDICT FLADER, that the refreshment offered here will be a gift to all who come seeking fellowship and love. *Amen*.

The bishop takes his place among the people in the Parish Hall.

All: They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to

the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Bishop: If we walk in the light, as he is the light,

*People:* we have fellowship with one another.

Bishop: Let us pray.

O God, we pray that you will bless+ this parish hall, which we dedicate to MARJORIE G. SCOTT. May it strengthen our parish life and be a place where all are welcomed, the lost are found, the weary comforted, the joyful shielded, and the troubled filled with peace and hope. *Amen*.

The bishop offers the following Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Benefactors

Bishop: All things come from you O Lord;

People: And from your own gifts do we gift to you.

Bishop: Prosper the work of our hands;

People: Prosper our handiwork.

Bishop: Show your servants your works;

People: And your splendor to their children.

Let us pray.

We bless your Name, O Lord, because it has pleased you to enable our benefactors, the Jean and David W. Wallace Foundation, the Wallace Family, and the Marjorie G. Scott Foundation, to offer these gifts for your worship and fellowship. Remember them for good, and grant that all who benefit from these new spaces and renovations may show forth their thankfulness by using them in accordance with your will. *Amen*.

# The Pontifical Blessing

Bishop: Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

People: The maker of heaven and earth.

Bishop: Blessed be the Name of the Lord.

People: From this time forth for evermore.

Bishop: The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty, the Father, the Son,

and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. Amen.



### The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.



We wish to express heartfelt thanks to the generous benefactors who have made our church additions and renovations possible. May their trust in our stewardship be rewarded and may the seeds that they have planted here be a blessing to all for generations to come.

The Jean and David W. Wallace Foundation and the Wallace Family Marjorie G. Scott and the Marjorie G. Scott Endowment Fund

+ + +

The Parish Hall is dedicated in honor of Marjorie G. Scott

The Parish Kitchen is dedicated in Loving Memory of Jane Benedict Flader

+ + +

A note of thanks to those who worked on our construction and restoration projects:

Steeple and Church Building Restoration: Valley Restoration LLC

Parish Hall Contractor: Robert Bronski

Bell Restoration: About Time Restoration LLC

#### **Parish Notices**

<u>Spirituality Monday</u>! Our Meditation Group meets on the first and third Monday of each month. Our Prayer Group meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month. The meetings begin at noon on Zoom, and the link is available in the weekly eNews. All are welcome and encouraged to participate in both groups.



### Serving at Today's Liturgy

Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey Mello Deacon: The Rev. Allison Brown

Assisting Priest: The Rev. L. Kathleen Liles

Musician: Danny Zelibor Lector: Ginnie Glassman

Greeters: Jennifer and Todd Rossel Altar Guild: Martine Yourieff

# UPCOMING SERVICE: November 30th – The First Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist (Spoken) at 9am Holy Eucharist (with hymns) at 10am with coffee hour following

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The Rev. Kathleen Liles. Priest-in-Charge

IF YOU ARE VISITING TODAY, WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!