

# The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## 10:00 AM + September 17, 2023

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Welcome! You are invited to participate fully in our worship. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome! Please contact the church office ([aschurch@allsaintschelmsford.org](mailto:aschurch@allsaintschelmsford.org)) if you would like to receive our weekly e-bulletin..

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### The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

### The Word of God

**Prelude:** *Nun danket alle Gott*

*J. S. Bach (1685-1750)*

**Hymn:** *516 Come down, O Love divine*

*Down Ampney*

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

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

*Celebrant* Collect for Purity

**Kyrie**

Blue Hymnal S-88 (Robinson)

*All "S" numbers are found in the front of the Blue Hymnal*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Together let us pray.

**Collect**

Said in unison

**Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### A Reading from the Book of Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

*People's response after the reading*

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 114

Jerome Webster Meachen  
(b. 1930)



- <sup>8</sup>The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- <sup>9</sup>He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- <sup>10</sup>He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- <sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- <sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- <sup>13</sup>As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

## A Reading from the Letter to the 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.

*People's response after the reading*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn:** 674 *Forgive our sins as we forgive*

*Detroit*

## The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 18:21-35

*People*     *Said before the reading*  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Said after the reading*  
**Praise 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.”

**Sermon**

The Reverend Sean Maloney

**The Nicene Creed**

*Spoken by all, standing.*

**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.**

**Prayers of the People—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.***

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

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 peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**Announcements:**

# The Holy Communion

**Offertory:** *Built on a rock the church shall stand* arr. Emma Lou Diemer

## 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 God thanks and praise.

**Celebrant:** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

### *Proper Preface*

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:

### **Sanctus:** *(Powell)*

S-129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### *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.

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.**

**The Lord's Prayer**      BCP p. 364

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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 Breaking of the Bread**

**Fraction Anthem:** (*Near: Jesus, Lamb of God*)

S-166



Setting: Gerald R. Near (b. 1942)

*Celebrant*

*The Gifts You are invited as you feel moved to join us for Communion today. Simply move into the aisle as the Ushers assist you. If you would like to receive communion place your hands out and the priest will give you a piece of bread (or gluten free if needed). You may then receive wine from either the chalice or the individual cup. At this time intinction (dipping) is not permitted. Communion in one kind for any reasons is fully acceptable and has wide use in the tradition. If you don't want to share in communion but want to share in this holy moment come forward with your hands across your heart to receive a blessing.*

**Communion Music:**

**Organ:** Cheshire

Gordon Slater (1896–1979)

**Hymn:** 581 Where charity and love prevail

Cheshire

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

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.

Blessing

Hymn: *397 Now thank we all our God*

*Nun danket alle Gott*

The Dismissal

Postlude: *Nun danket alle Gott*

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)*

Hymn: 516 *Come down, O Love divine*

*Down Ampney*

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn  
3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

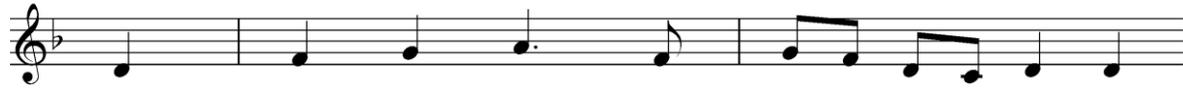
and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,  
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

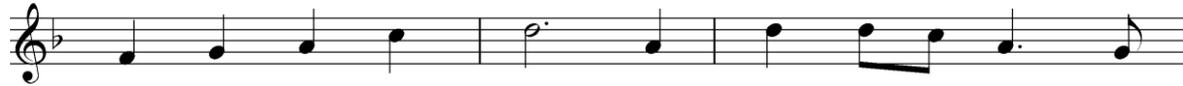
and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Hymn: 674 *Forgive our sins as we forgive*

*Detroit*



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give” you  
2 How can your par - don reach and bless the  
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the  
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and



taught us, Lord, to pray; but you a - lone can  
un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and  
truth we dim - ly knew, how small the debts men  
bid re - sent - ment cease; then, re - con - ciled to



grant us grace to live the words we say.  
will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
owe to us, how great our debt to you.  
God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

Hymn: 581 Where charity and love prevail

Cheshire

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail there God is ev - er found;  
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear his char - i - ty we learn;  
3 For - give we now each o - ther's faults as we our faults con - fess;  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known, let all con - ten - tion cease;  
5 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells God's be - got - ten Son;

1 brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love by love are we thus bound.  
2 let us with heart and mind and strength now love him in re - turn.  
3 and let us love each o - ther well in Chris-tian ho - li - ness.  
4 be his the glo - ry that we seek, be ours his ho - ly peace.  
5 as mem-bers of his Bo - dy joined we are in him made one.

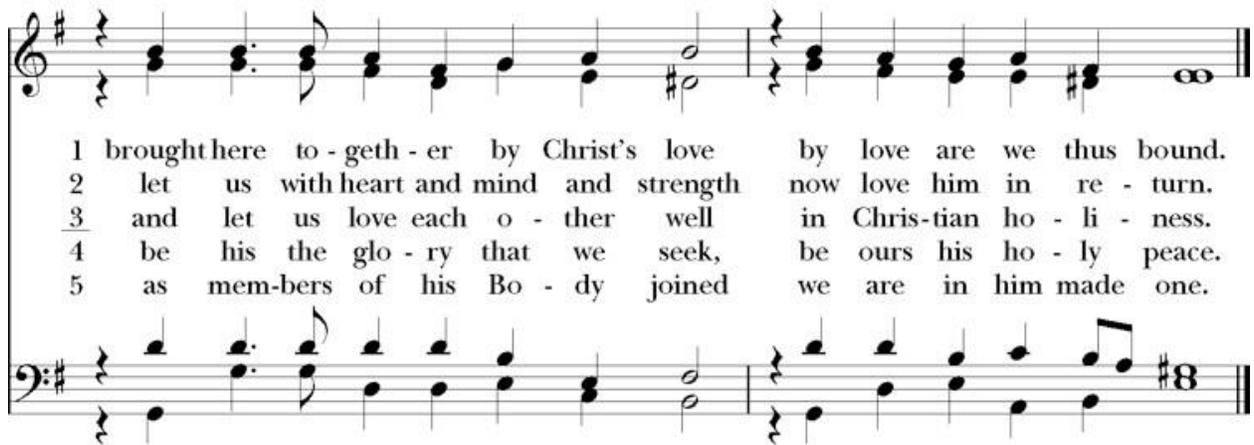
6 Love can exclude no race or creed  
if honored be God's Name;  
our common life embraces all  
whose Father is the same.

Hymn: 397 *Now thank we all our God*

*Nun danket alle Gott*



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