



# The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 6

June 16, 2024

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

*The people stand.*

## WELCOME

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

*Priest and people*

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.

## KYRIE ELEISON

*Priest* Lord, have mercy.

*People* Christ, have mercy.

*Priest* Lord, have mercy.

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Priest* Let us pray.

*Priest and People*

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The people are seated.*

## THE FIRST READING

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

*Reader* A reading from the first book of the Prophet Samuel.

Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

## PSALM 20

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble, \*  
**the Name of the God of Jacob defend you;**

Send you help from his holy place \*  
**and strengthen you out of Zion;**

Remember all your offerings \*  
**and accept your burnt sacrifice;**

Grant you your heart's desire \*  
**and prosper all your plans.**

We will shout for joy at your victory  
and triumph in the Name of our God; \*  
**may the Lord grant all your requests.**

Now I know that the Lord gives victory to his  
anointed; \*  
**he will answer him out of his holy heaven,  
with the victorious strength of his right hand.**

Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, \*  
**but we will call upon the Name of the Lord our  
God.**

They collapse and fall down, \*  
**but we will arise and stand upright.**

O Lord, give victory to the king \*  
**and answer us when we call.**

*The people stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

## SERMON

Tracey Forfa, P.H.O

*The people stand.*

## 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 truly human. 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. 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.**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

We pray for comfort, healing, courage and hope for **Angie Ricks, Jean Isaac, Crystal Parmalee, Greg Kostka, Yvonne McDonald, Judy Conroy, Matt Cross, James Parker, Lyn Pusey, Deborah Cela, Maggie Parkerton, Tom Sampson, Carolyn Schubert, Doris Chin**, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for peace in the world and for the victims of war everywhere. We also pray for all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families.

We pray for all those affected by, suffering from, and killed by gun violence throughout our country.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Nancy Carman in memory of her husband John H. Carman and her father, William H. Thomas.

The flowers are also given by David Tabor in loving memory of his father, Edward R. Tobar, Jr.

We give thanks for the recent birthdays of **Eileen** Brittain, **Adeline** Hedd-Williams, **Erin** Martinko, **Matthew** Williams, **Faith** Broderick, **Stephanie** Mitchell, **Lisa** Murdock, **Karl** Didavi, **Jazmin** Diaz Guzman, **Kevin** Blanc, **Nicholas** Wong, and **Richard** Brown.

## FATHER'S DAY PRAYER

O God, today we ask you to continue using each father in a special way to be a positive influence in the lives of their children. We ask you to prosper every father, to provide them with a good job so that they have the income to meet the needs of their family. We pray for those parents who have struggled to relate well with their children; put in them the love and desire to care for and protect their children. Bless each father with a good relationship, care and words of encouragement with their children. Bless the fathers to whom you have given the great privilege and responsibility of being a foster parent. Make them all able to foster their children in faith. Help all the "spiritual fathers", who care for the children of others and assume their task with love. We ask you to send the Holy Spirit of Comfort to fathers who have lost children, who are sick or separated from their families, who are in danger or have problems of any kind. Show them your mercy and give them strength and serenity. We remember with love and joy fathers who are no longer with us, who are now in your presence as a result of their efforts on earth. All this we ask in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

### *Celebrant*

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

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

### *Silence may be kept.*

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. 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 the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Celebrant* Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. (Psalm 50:14)

*The altar is prepared for Holy Communion and an offering is received to support Ascension's ministry of sharing God's love with the world. Text ASCENSIONMD + Amount to 73256 to give a donation using your text messaging Or scan the QR code*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION



*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.**

*Celebrant* It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel or remain standing. The Celebrant continues.*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah, you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

*Celebrant and People*

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People:* **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* God’s Holy gifts for God’s holy people. Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love. Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in faith. Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole in Christ. Come to Christ’s table, there is room for all.

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

## **PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

**Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. We offer you praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim your resurrection. We love you above all, and long for you in our souls. Since we**

cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Church of the Ascension. Please follow the directions of the Priest. In addition to using a communion kit or receiving bread only, you may now receive in both parts but with the caveat that intincting (“dipping”) is not permitted; only receiving the wine by drinking from the cup.*

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. We thank you for the Body of Christ, the bread of heaven, and for the offering of Christ’s holy presence, the gift of spiritual communion, which feeds us when we must be apart. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we become One Body in the sacrament of Christ’s Body. Transform our lives with your life, for the love we share becomes bread for the world. AMEN.

## BLESSING

Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And may the blessing of the one who made us, who journeys with us, who breathes us into life moment by moment, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be upon you this day and always. Amen.

*The people are seated for the announcements.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*For more information about activities and events coming up at Ascension, please refer to the bulletin insert. At the direction of the Celebrant, the people stand as able, and all sing the hymn.*

## DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### *Service Participants:*

The Rev. Javier García Ocampo – Rector

The Rev. Rosa Briones – Deacon

Tracey Forfa – Postulant for Holy Orders

The Ascension Tech Team

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