**Early Communion | Trinity 17 | 8:30 am 26 September 2021**

**Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all:  
**and also with you.**

**Collect for Purity**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden;  
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.**

**Penitence**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy**  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**

**Glory to God**

**Glory to God in the highest,**  
**and peace to God’s people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Collect of Trinity 17**

**Epistle James 5:13-20**

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. 14Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. 16Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. 17Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, 20you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Mark 9:38-50**

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to Mark chapter 9 beginning at verse 38 **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**  
John said to him, ‘Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.’ 39But Jesus said, ‘Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. 40Whoever is not against us is for us. 41For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.  
42 ‘If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. 43If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell., 47And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, 48where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. ‘For everyone will be salted with fire. 50Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.’  
This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon**

“Thou hast formed us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless till they find rest in Thee.” (Augustine, Confessions (Book 1)

**Nicene Creed *page 205***

**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,  
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of 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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who 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**

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Hear the prayers of your people.  
**Grant that what we have asked in faith**  
**we may by your grace receive;**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.   Amen.**

**Prayer of Humble Access**

*Let us pray*

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

**Taking the Bread & Wine and Great Thanksgiving**

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us  
**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**  
The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.   
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Father . . that we might live in him and he in us.  
**He opened wide his arms upon the cross  
and, with love stronger than death,  
he made the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

Lord Jesus Christ . .do this in remembrance of me.  
**Lord Jesus, we bless you: you are the bread of life.**

. . . do this in remembrance of me.  
**Lord Jesus, we bless you: you are the true vine.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ: **dying, you destroyed our death,  
rising, you restored our life; Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Holy Spirit, giver of life, come upon us now; may this bread and wine be to us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts** **make us, who know our need of grace,  
one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. . .for ever praising you and saying:  
**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Thanks be to you, our God, for your gift beyond words. **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Breaking Bread**

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.  
**We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

**Following Communion**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us  
with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**Blessing and Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord **in the name of Christ. Amen**