

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist II

October 19, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Welcomes You

130 39th Ave. Pl. NW, Hickory, NC 28601

(828) 324-1351

Welcome to St. Alban's. We are grateful for your presence.

Cloth pew bags are available for our younger worshipers.

Please return to the basket as you depart.

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn

Praise to the living God

Hymnal 372

Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Collect for Purity

(Celebrant says)

BCP p. 355

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.***

Gloria

Hymnal S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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.

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 357

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The Lesson: Genesis 32:22-31

(The people sit.)

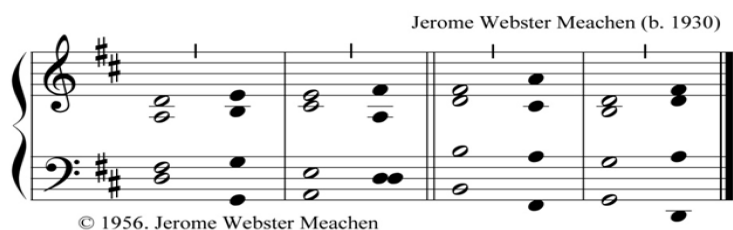
The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Gradual: Psalm 121

(Sung in Unison)



- ¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
²My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
³He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
⁴Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
⁵The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
⁶So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
⁷The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
⁸The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

The Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>

It's me, it's me, O Lord, Stand-in' in the need of prayer;—

— It's me, it's me, O Lord, Stand-in' in the need of prayer.—

1. Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's me, O Lord,
 2. Not the preach - er, not the dea - con, but it's me, O Lord,
 3. Not my fa - ther, not my moth - er, but it's me, O Lord,
 4. Not the stran - ger, not my neigh - bor, but it's me, O Lord,

stand-in' in the need of prayer, not my broth - er, not my sis - ter, but it's
 stand-in' in the need of prayer, not the preach - er, not the dea - con, but it's
 stand-in' in the need of prayer, not my fa - ther, not my moth - er, but it's
 stand-in' in the need of prayer, not the stran - ger, not my neigh - bor, but it's

me, O Lord, stand - in' in the need of prayer.
 me, O Lord, stand - in' in the need of prayer.
 me, O Lord, stand - in' in the need of prayer.
 me, O Lord, stand - in' in the need of prayer.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

¹Jesus told the disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ ” ⁶And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

The Sermon

The Rev. Jonathan Stepp

The Nicene Creed

(All stand)

BCP p. 358

***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

Form VI

(People stand or kneel)

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

[Silence]

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For the leaders of the world, our nation, our state, and our city.

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For those who are sick, especially those on our prayer list, and for all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, for The Episcopal Church and in the Diocesan Cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Luke's, Asheville, St. Luke's, Bone, and St. Luke's, Lincolnton.

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sarah, Archbishop-elect of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Jose, our Bishop, Father Jonathan, the staff of St. Alban's, and for all bishops, priests, deacons, and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

[Silence is kept. The people may add their own prayers, offered either silently or aloud.]

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

[Silence is kept. The people may add their own thanksgivings, offered either silently or aloud.]

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

[Silence is kept. The people may add their own petitions, offered either silently or aloud.]

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 359

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.

Absolution

BCP. 360

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

(All stand)

BCP p. 360

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

The Holy Communion

Anthem

I Will Lift My Eyes

Potter

Doxology

(People stand as the offering is presented)

Hymn 380, verse 3

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C *(Stand or kneel)*

BCP p. 369

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the second for the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant and the fourth for the People. The lyrics are: Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And al-so 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Celebrant and People

S-125

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

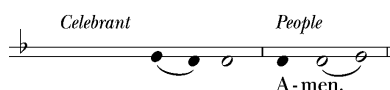
Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.



The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Fraction Anthem

BCP p. 364

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Gluten free waters are available upon request at the altar rail.

Two chalices are offered at the altar rail. The first one is offered to those who prefer to drink from the cup.

The second chalice follow for those who prefer to intinct (dip) the wafer in the wine before consuming.

Please hold the wafer in your open palm to indicate your preference to the server.

Communion Hymn

Lamp of our feet, whereby we trace

Hymnal 627

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

The Blessing

BCP p. 366

Recessional Hymn

God of mercy, God of grace

Hymnal 538

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude

Postlude Andante

H. Götze

***Join us in the Commons Room immediately following the service for refreshments!
All are welcome to participate and check out the kiosk for more ways to Walk in Love!***

Ministers of the Service

Cynthia Haas - Chalicist
Connie Love – Chalicist
Meghan Neely - Lector
Michael and Blake Camby - Acolytes
Chris, Jacob, and Caleb Crenshaw - Acolytes
Bob Klinger – Usher
Mary Klinger - Usher
Maria Headrick – Sound/Streaming

Vestry Members

Judy Caywood - Senior Warden
Bill Perrin - Junior Warden
Charlie Brantley
Jane Earl
Susan Hook
Claudia Moore
Ingrid Peake
Bucky Robbins
Bruce Smith
Chris Oram - Vestry Clerk
Ellen Robbins – Treasurer

Those Who Serve You

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe - Presiding Bishop & Primate of The Episcopal Church
The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin - Bishop, Diocese of Western NC
The Rev. Jonathan Stepp - Priest-in-Charge
Doug Brady - Organist
Janet Dziesinski - Financial Administrator
Cami Roberts - Director of Family Formation
Tammy Shook - Director of Parish Music and Handbells
Lauren Timmons - Associate Director of Parish Music and CantorKids Director
Kim Wagner – Parish Administrator