

## **The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**13 September 2026 10:00 am**

### **Holy Eucharist Rite II**

*Hymn #1*

*Father, we praise thee*

The Opening Acclamation  
*Gloria S280*

BCP 355

#### **The Collect of the Day:**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

#### **The Old Testament: 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.

The Word of the Lord

*People: Thanks be to God*

## **Psalm 114**

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

## **The Epistle: 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."

The Word of the Lord

*People: Thanks be to God*

### **Hymn #674**

***"Forgive our sins as we forgive"***

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ*

## **The Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35**

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.”

## **The Gospel of the Lord**

*People: Praise to you Lord Christ*

The Sermon

The Rev. Canon Wes Smedley

Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People

Form III

BCP 387

### **Discernment      Prayer:**

*Gracious and loving God, you teach us that things happen in your time. As we continue to wait for clergy candidates, encourage us, the people of St. Francis in the Fields and St. Mark's Episcopal Churches, to grow steadfastly in our ministries to love and serve our*

*neighbors by sharing the Good News in Jesus Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we open our hearts and minds to new opportunities and ideas, following where you lead — knowing that Jesus Christ walks with us each step of the way. As this discernment period evolves, empower the members of our Vestries and Discernment Committees to share their thoughts openly and honestly; to respect the opinions of others; and to encourage humility, patience, and joy. Finally, instill in us a glorious vision of the future: one where we are united in love and ministry in fulfilling the mission of our baptismal vows; through our savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Concluding collect  
Confession

BCP 360

Exchange of the Peace

### ***Announcements***

***Offertory Hymn #336***

***Come with us***

### ***Doxology***

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

The Great Thanksgiving  
***Sanctus S125***

EP C

BCP 369

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

***The Fraction***  
***Agnus Dei S164***

BCP 364

Communion of the People

***Communion Hymn #397***

***Now thank we all our God***

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

The Blessing

The Dismissal

From *The Book of Common Prayer* 1979

Hymns from *The Hymnal* 1982

For those unable to receive the physical Communion at this time  
please pray the following:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleans and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus. And let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

**Prayers for a New Priest**

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, we humbly ask you to supply your grace to all priests who are called to the ministry of your peoples. Fill them with the Holy Spirit, the truth of your doctrine, and clothe them with piety so that they may faithfully serve where they are called. Open their hearts to the possibility and consideration of a new path whereby they may serve you. We beseech you to guide to us, the pastor you would have shepherd your people at St. Francis in the Fields and St. Mark's. Open the hearts of these parish families to acceptance of your choice for us, so that together, we may increase our faith, devotion, and obedience, and be prepared to readily do the good works you have planned for us to do. We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

### **Remember Today In Your Prayers:**

Jerry & Jane Strittmatter, Catherine McCloskey, Susan Kelly & Michael Teore, Carol Adams, Maryann Marchl, David Wertz & Rebecca Church, Joann Cieslo, Flo Warfel, Sheila Berezansky, and Derwood Copeland.

### **Continue to Remember In Your Personal Prayers:**

Donovan Pendell, William Horner and Family, John Rogers, Cynthia Greig, Bonnie Murray, Vince & Irene Joyce, Richard Burkert, Regina Hoover, Lou Hoffer, Shawn, Tyler & Bethany McKinley, Marlene Rhin.

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Following the 10:00 am Service**

**Nomination of Vestry Members**

**Election of Vestry Members**

**Zoom Available**

#### **POT LUCK LUNCH TO FOLLOW**

#### **Sunday: The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Sunday    September 13<sup>th</sup>    10:00    Holy Eucharist Rt II

Thursday    September 17<sup>th</sup>    10:00    Pet Food Pantry

Saturday    September 19<sup>th</sup>    10:30    Saturday's Kitchen

#### **Next Sunday: The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Sunday    September 20<sup>th</sup>    10:00    Morning Prayer I

### ***Readers and Greeters September 2026***

If you are unable to read on the day you are scheduled, please find a substitute or let Lisa Bell-Loncella or Colleen Curry know so a sub can be found in a timely manner. Thank you.

#### **Sunday Readers**

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| September 13 <sup>th</sup> | Richard Burkert & Joan Lacko  |
| September 20 <sup>th</sup> | Colleen Curry & Doug Zawiskie |
| September 27 <sup>th</sup> | Doug Zawiskie & Tina Grata    |

#### **Sunday Greeters & Ushers**

|                            |                                  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| September 13 <sup>th</sup> | Joann Lacko & Colleen Curry      |
| September 20 <sup>th</sup> | Melissa Babalonis & Aiden Barlow |
| September 27 <sup>th</sup> | Sam & Heidi Buchan               |

#### **September 13<sup>th</sup> Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Holy Eucharist II Canon Wes Smedley, presiding

#### **September 20<sup>th</sup> Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Morning Prayer I Pam Hysong, presiding

#### **September 27<sup>th</sup> Eighteen Sunday after Pentecost**

Holy Eucharist II Rev. Kim Karashin, presiding

**The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
13 September 2026**

**DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER**

Church of the Holy Cross, Homewood,  
and the

Rev. Charles Fischer

**Altar Flowers Given to The Greater Glory of God**

In Loving Memory of

Pat Shaffer

Birthday Remembrance

From Larry and Family

In Loving Memory of

Allie & Job Ireland

Perpetual Flowers

**Next Week's Readings**

Exodus 14:19-31

Psalm 114

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

***Sharing Christ's love unconditionally through  
transformational worship and service***