

# Saint Andrew's Parish

## Kent, Connecticut

THE FIFTHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
13 September 2020  
Proper 19, Year A

### HOLY EUCHARIST

*We ask that worshippers gather in silence; and when the music begins,  
that this become part of their contemplative time.*

**The Prelude**

*Love for you*

George Potts

### THE WORD OF GOD

*All stand, as they are able*

**Entrance Hymn 390**

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Lobe den Herren

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;<br>O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:<br>Join the great throng, psaltery, organ and song, sounding in glad adoration. | 2 Praise to the Lord; over all things he gloriously reigneth:<br>Borne as on eaglewings, safely his saints he sustaineth.<br>Hast thou not seen how all thou needest hath been granted in what he ordaineth? |
| 3 Praise to the Lord, who dost prosper thy way and defend thee;<br>Surely his goodness and mercy shall ever attend thee;<br>Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee. | 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!<br>All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!<br>Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for ever adore him.          |

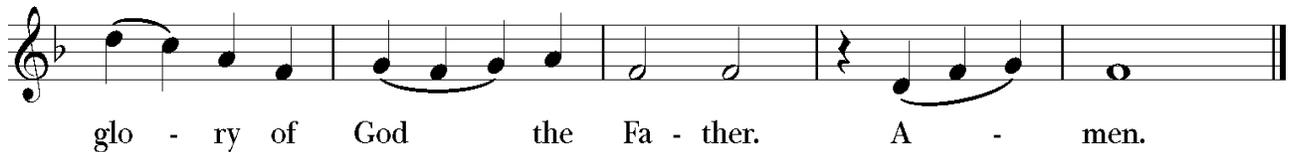
*Celebrant* Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

*Celebrant* 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.



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the



**The Collect of the Day** (*remain standing*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

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.*

*All may be seated*

**The First Lesson**

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God

**The Response:** Psalm 103:8-13  
(*said responsively, by whole verse*)

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

## The Second Lesson

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.

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

*All stand, as they are able*

### Sequence Hymn 478 (all humming)

*Jesus our mighty Lord*

Monk's Gate



1 Je - sus, our might - y Lord, our strength in sad - ness,\_\_\_  
2 Good shep-herd of your sheep, your own de - fend - ing,\_\_\_  
3 Glo - rious their life who sing, with glad thanks-giv - ing,\_\_\_



the Fa - ther's con - quering Word, true source of glad - ness;\_\_\_  
in love your chil - dren keep to life un - end - ing. \_\_\_  
true hymns to Christ the King in all their liv - ing:\_\_\_



your Name we glo - ri - fy, O Je - sus, throned on high;  
You are your - self the Way: lead us then day by day  
all who con - fess his Name, come then with hearts a - flame;



you gave your - self to die for our sal - va - tion.  
 in your own steps, we pray, O Lord most ho - ly.  
 the God of peace ac - claim as Lord and Sa - vior.

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**The Gospel Lesson** (*remain standing*)

Matthew 18:21-35

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People* Glory 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."

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

*All may be seated*

**The Sermon**

**The Nicene Creed**

*BCP p 358*

*All stand, as they are able*

*All* 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**

### **The Confession of Sin**

*BCP p 359*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All kneel, as they are able*

*Silence is kept*

*All* 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.

*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.*

*All stand, as they are able*

**The Peace**

*BCP p 360*

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

*All stand, as they are able*

*All may share the peace, verbally*

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Great Thanksgiving** *Eucharistic Prayer B (remain standing)*

*BCP p 367*

AT THE PREPARATION

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, O Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which the earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the Bread of Heaven.

*People* *Blessed be God forever.*

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, O Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the Cup of Salvation.

*People* *Blessed be God forever.*

SANCTUS  
*(said)*

*All* Holy, holy, holy, 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.

*All may remain standing or kneel, as they are able and prefer*

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(said by all)*

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

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore, let us keep the feast.

*Silence is kept*

*Facing the People, the Celebrant says the following*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

#### **A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

*At the invitation of the Celebrant, all pray*

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live and die in your love. Amen.

#### **The Post-communion Prayer**

*BCP p 365*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* 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**

**Retiring Hymn 494**  
(all humming)

*Crown him with many crowns*

Diademata

*Descant*

5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned a - bove;

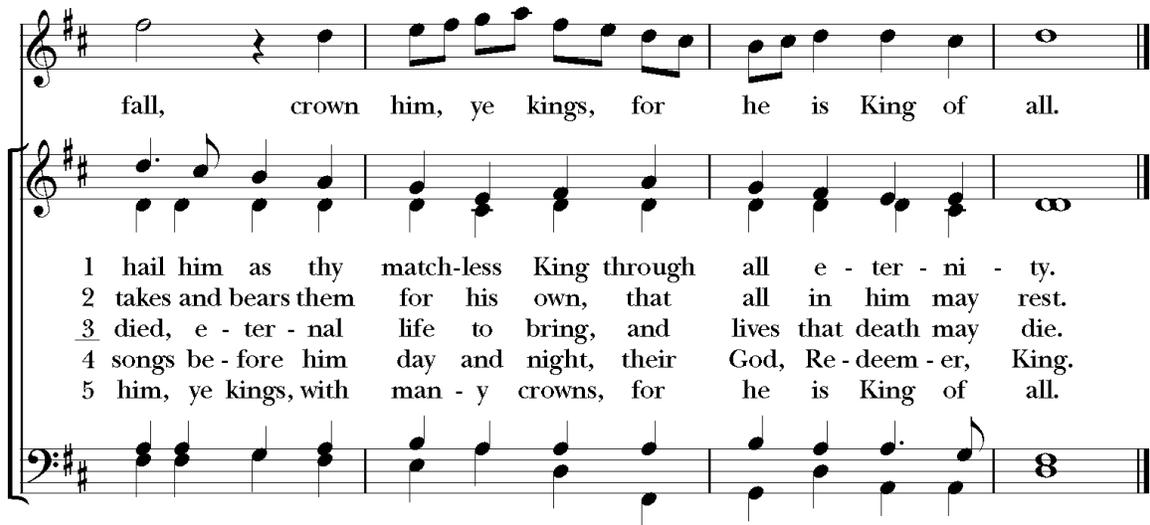
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!  
 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and  
 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and  
 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who  
 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown

crown him to whom is given the won-drous name of Love.

1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -  
 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who  
 3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his  
 4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now  
 5 him the King, to whom is given the won-drous name of Love. Crown

Crown him with man-y crowns, as thrones be-fore him

1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and  
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu-man breast, and  
 3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who  
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their  
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown



fall, crown him, ye kings, for he is King of all.

1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.  
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.  
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

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## Announcements

### The Dismissal

BCP p 366

*Response Thanks be to God.*

*All may be seated or may depart, as they wish*

### The Postlude

*Great dream from heaven*

Joseph Spence

*The flowers this day are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of Bill Armstrong & Floy and Walter Brownell.*

## Worship This Week

<b>Monday, 14 September</b>	Holy Eucharist: <i>Holy Cross Day</i>	6:00 pm
<b>Wednesday, 16 September</b>	Holy Eucharist	6:00 pm
<b>Friday, 18 September</b>	Prayer and Meditation	5:30 pm
<b>Sunday, 20 September</b>	Holy Eucharist	8:30 am (spoken; with healing rite) and 10:30 am (with music)

## Upcoming Holy Days

<b>Monday, 21 September</b>	Holy Eucharist: <i>Feast of St Matthew</i>	6:00 pm
<b>Tuesday, 29 September</b>	Holy Eucharist: <i>Feast of St Michael and All Angels</i>	6:00 pm

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Bell-Ringing Ministry** by Ron Marasco

Saint Andrew's began our little "bell ministry," as we've come to call it, when we rang for 61 days in a row, from the beginning of the pandemic till the official "re-opening" of Connecticut. We rang for all sort of reasons: to celebrate wedding anniversaries, or mark birthdays, or send good wishes to people in the hospital, or to honor a loved one who passed. We rang in solidarity with medical workers risking themselves to care for others, and for clergy doing so much to keep up people's spirits in a hard time.

But we rang for odder other reasons, too. Like for the feast day of a beloved saint (Julian of Norwich), or to count, in bells, the number of a favorite Psalm (23, 91). One night we rang to thank the workers at our local *IGA* for all they've done for Kent, many of whom came out to listen! Another night we rang just to celebrate the amount of years two ladies from town have been best friends. And one night we even rang to celebrate the adoption of a dog, a pit-bull rescue named "Pie."

No matter who the "honoree," we always read aloud something appropriate for them from the *Book of Common Prayer* in the church, beforehand.

And we make a video-tape of the ringing to send people, sometimes across the miles, many of whom have been touched to know that a little Episcopal church in Connecticut was holding them up in prayer and ringing its bell in celebration of the particular goodness they have brought to the world.

We sign off each video, "With love from the Parish of St. Andrews," and, though we no longer ring every night, we are still taking requests at gagowan@mac.com or rmarasco154@gmail.com.

## **Three New Small Groups Are Forming**

We are starting three new small groups, this week. It's not too late to join us! All will meet via Zoom, but with an option to join by telephone if you prefer. Contact Heather or Douglas if you're interested.

- **Book study** will take place on Monday evenings, **beginning 14-September**, from 7:15 to 8:30 (we'll begin with a short time of fellowship / catching up, since we don't see much of one another these days!). Our first subject will be the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams' series on Being: first, *Being Human: Bodies, Minds, Persons* (2018); then, *Being Christian: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist and Prayer* (2014); and finally, *Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life* (2016). Each book is rather short and digestible, but also packed with a lot to think about. We will aim to read 25 – 30 pages a week.
- **Bible study** will take place on Wednesday afternoons, beginning **16-September**, from 4:30 to 5:30. Our approach will be informal but in-depth, proceeding chapter-by-chapter, as the Spirit leads us. We will start with Mark, since it was the first Gospel to be written and also a 'parent' of Matthew and Luke. Our study will also be good preparation for lectionary Year B, which begins in Advent.
- **An anti-racism study group** will be forming, as well. As we confront the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and structural racism, there may be relatively little we can do to help resolve the former, but you may be wondering what you may do about the latter ... or what

"structural racism" even means ... or whether I play any part in it. You may also have doubts or concerns about what you've been hearing. Wherever you are on this spectrum, please consider joining us for a season of discussion, exploration and reflection. We have no fixed agenda, and will decide as a group how to navigate our way.

### **School Supplies Needed**

The Kent Food Bank is currently collecting school supplies for returning students. Many parishes were unable to do their traditional 'blessing of the backpacks' this summer, so the need is higher than usual. Paper, pens, pencils, notebooks, crayons – the list is long and varied. Whatever you are able to provide will be deeply appreciated. You may drop your donations off at the Community House on Thursday mornings (9:00 – 11:00) and Friday mornings (10:00 – 11:45).

### **New Parish Office Hours and Contact Information**

The parish office is now *open every day of the week, except Friday*. Our hours are 9 am – 6 pm (2 pm on Tuesdays). Feel free to call or stop by (but remember to wear your mask!). If you need to get in touch with Douglas, you can also call him at 860-592-0171 or email him at [frdouglas.sak@gmail.com](mailto:frdouglas.sak@gmail.com).

### **Meet with Our New Priest!**

These are hard times for us to get to know one another, for sure. Nevertheless, Douglas is eager to meet as many parishioners as he can—individually, as couples or as families. Meetings can be held in-person (socially distanced and masked), via Zoom or over the telephone. The means are less important than sharing time with each other, getting acquainted and mutually exploring all the good things that lie ahead for St Andrew's. Please contact Heather or Douglas to schedule some time to get together.

### **Diocese Warns of Phishing Attempts**

Bishop Ian has warned us that there have been a couple of attempts by persons claiming to be him (or other diocesan staff members) to solicit store gift cards and other items of value, via emails to individual parishioners. This is what is known as "phishing," and it is illegal. Please know that no one in the diocese will ever attempt to solicit information or money from you via a personal email. If you get an email you feel insecure about, please err on the side of caution!

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