

The Holy Eucharist

September 24, 2023 The Fourth Sunday of Creation

St. Barnabas Mission Statement

We experience God's redeeming love in all and through all and respond to love through faithful worship, life-long spiritual growth, and committed outreach.

Jonah peevishly misses out on the joy when the astounding miracle occurs of a culture making changes before disaster forces their hand. Will we remember to celebrate and voice support when our communities and leaders do make some positive environmental progress? And remember, like the writer of Philippians, to share and be fed by the stories of encouragement and "good green news," which sustains others as well as delighting our own. The Gospel parable from Matthew 20 insists that "at the end of the day," justice is the acknowledgment of need rather than a childish and vindictive "fairness." There's seldom any good work which is not better set in context by our reliance on God's grace.

A bell tolls.

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

For our St. Barnabas family, here and elsewhere.

THE PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND TRAVELERS

Birthday Prayer

Watch over your children, O God, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be, strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer

Send, O God, your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their homes may be havens of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Prayer for Travelers

Almighty God, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

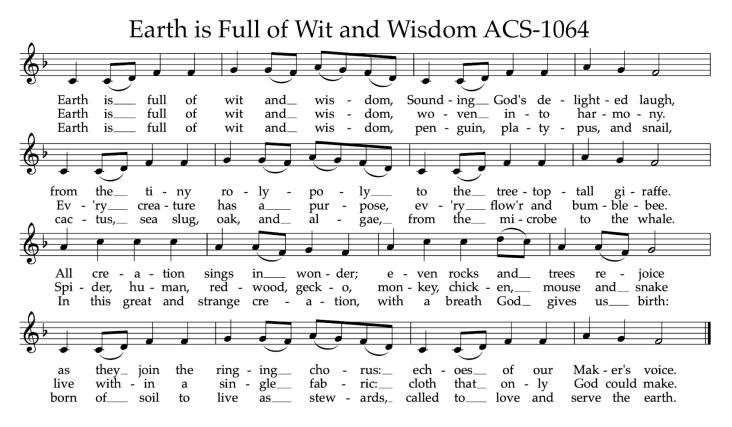
We invite you to quiet your minds and hearts as we prepare for worship.

THE PRELUDE

Adagio Tommaso Albinoni

The Liturgy of Gathering

Please stand in body or spirit. THE GATHERING HYMN (9:30)*



THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

+Blessed be the One who creates all things.

The Holy One's love is new every morning.

This is the day the Creator has made.

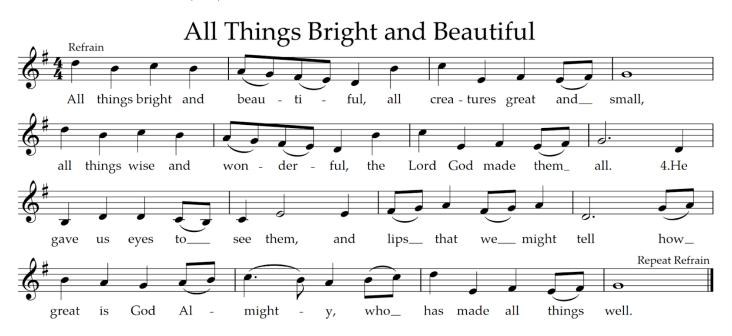
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.

THE KYRIE (7:45) Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE (9:30)*



THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...Grant us, Lord, your vision of a renewed earth in which heaven comes to rest; and even now, while we too often despair of healing and wholeness, to hold fast to your promise and commit again to hope; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**.

THE PRAYER OF DISCERNMENT FOR THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDING BISHOP

Almighty God, source of all wisdom and understanding: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the hearts and minds of those who will choose our next presiding bishop, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for all of your people, equip us for our ministries, and proclaim your word to us and to the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Please sit.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Jonah 3:10—4:11

The reading is introduced.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jonah.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behavior. And God relented by not inflicting on them the disaster that threatened them.

But Jonah grew indignant and fell into a rage. He prayed to YHWH and said, "Please, YHWH! Isn't this exactly what I said would happen, when I was still in my own country? That's why I left and fled to Tarshish: I knew that you were a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness, relenting from violence. Now, YHWH, please take my life! I'd rather be dead than keep on living!"

Then YHWH said, "What gives you the right to be angry?"

Jonah then left the city and sat down to the east of it. There he made a shelter for himself and sat down under the shade to see what would happen to the city. Then YHWH God sent a castor oil plant to grow up over Jonah to shade his head and soothe his indignation. Jonah was delighted with the castor oil plant. But at dawn the next day, God sent a worm to attack the castor oil plant and it withered. And after the sun had risen, God sent a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he was overcome and begging for death, and said, "I'd rather be dead than keep on living!"

God said to Jonah, "What gave you the right to be upset about the castor plant?"

He replied, "I have every right to be angry, to the point of death!"

God replied, "You feel sorrow because of a castor plant that cost you no labor, that you did not make grow, that sprouted in a night, and that perished in a night. Is it not right, then, for me to feel sorrow for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than 120,000 people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, to say nothing of all the animals?"

A brief silence, then: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 145:1–8Exaltabo te, DeusThe psalm is prayed in unison.

- I will exalt you, O holy God, * and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- Every day will I bless you * and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- Great are you, O God, and greatly to be praised; * there is no end to your greatness.
- One generation shall praise your works to another * and shall declare your power.
- I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty * and all your marvelous works.
- They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, * and I will tell of your greatness.
- They shall publish the remembrance of great goodness; * they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

You are gracious and full of compassion, * slow to anger and of great kindness.

Glory to God, Source of All Being, Incarnate Word and Holy Spirit; * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES Philippians 1:21-30

The reading is introduced. A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

For to me, "life" means Christ; hence, dying is only so much gain. If, on the other hand, I am to continue living on earth, that means productive toil for me—and I honestly don't know which I prefer. I'm strongly attracted to both: I long to be freed from this life and to be with Christ, for that is the far better thing; yet it's more urgent that I remain alive for your sakes. This fills me with the confidence that I will stay with you and persevere with you all, for the sake of your joy and your progress in the faith. My being with you once again should make you even prouder of me in Christ.

Conduct yourselves, then, in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ. If you do, whether I come and see you myself or hear about your behavior from a distance, it will be clear that you're standing firm in unity of spirit, and exerting yourselves with one accord for the faith of the Gospel, without being intimidated by your enemies. Standing together without fear is an indication that they will be destroyed and you will be saved. It's a divine signal that God—on behalf of our Savior—has given you the privilege of believing in and suffering for Christ. You're now experiencing the same struggle that you saw in me—and now hear that I still have.

A brief silence, then: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand in body or spirit. THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (9:30)*



Cantor: I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 20:1–16

The Holy Gospel is announced. The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Christ.**

[Jesus said] "The kingdom of heaven is like the owner of an estate who went out at dawn to hire workers for the vineyard. After reaching an agreement with them for the usual daily wage, the owner sent them out to the vineyard. "About mid-morning, the owner came out and saw others standing around the marketplace without work, and said to them, 'You go along to my vineyard and I will pay you whatever is fair.' At that they left.

"Around noon and again in the mid-afternoon, the owner came out and did the same. Finally, going out late in the afternoon, the owner found still others standing around and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?'

"No one has hired us,' they replied.

"The owner said, 'You go to my vineyard, too.'

"When evening came, the owner said to the overseer, 'Call the workers and give them their pay, but begin with the last group and end with the first.' When those hired late in the afternoon came up, they received a full day's pay, and when the first group appeared they assumed they would get more. Yet they all received the same daily wage.

"Thereupon they complained to the owner, 'This last group did only an hour's work, but you've put them on the same basis as those who worked a full day in the scorching heat.'

"'My friends,' said the owner to those who voiced this complaint, 'I do you no injustice. You agreed on the usual wage, didn't you? Take your pay and go home. I intend to give this worker who was hired last the same pay as you. I'm free to do as I please with my money, aren't I ? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

"Thus the last will be first and the first will be last."

A brief silence, then: The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.
THE HOMILY Ms. Patti Walter

Please stand in body or spirit. **THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Let us confess our faith.

Silence for reflection.

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today. We believe in everlasting life in God. And we believe in the hope that one day

God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The refrain* is sung once.



We come before you, Faithful God, during this Season of Creation, bringing our concerns for creation care and environmental justice as we offer these prayers.

For the Universal Church as it responds to its mission: for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Communion; Michael, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; and Kym, Bishop of Colorado. Constant Guardian, guide us as we seek to do your will. (*Pause*) We pray:

Let justice and peace flow.

For Jeffrey, Patti, and our lay leaders as they encourage our creativity in discovering and doing our work. Empowering Presence, help us to fulfill our commission. (*Pause*) We pray: Let justice and peace flow.

For our nation and its leaders: President Joe Biden, the Congress and the Supreme Court; our Governor Jared Polis; and Mayor Michael Johnston that they may help us rediscover government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Abiding Wisdom, sustain our vision. (*Pause*) We pray: **Let justice and peace flow.**

For this glorious creation, Earth, our island home, that together we may discern how to heal the damage done and to secure the bounty of creation for those who come after us. Cosmic Creator, help us to be co-creators with you. (*Pause*) We pray:

Let justice and peace flow.

For our community within these walls and beyond, that we may choose to produce and share what creation needs to grow and flourish. Source of Abundance, encourage us in this challenge. (*Pause*) We pray: **Let justice and peace flow.**

For all who suffer or are in any distress or grief, that they may be sustained by your abiding presence and comforted by our care, especially the people of Carol, Dennis, Bill, Marty & Diana, Larry, Hilary, Tom, Madie

Janet, the people of Maui, the people of Libya, the people of Morocco, and those we name aloud or in silence. (*Pause*) Abiding Comforter, we trust in you and pray: Let justice and peace flow.

For those we love who have entered into larger life, especially those we name in silence or aloud (*pause*), and for those who grieve. Gentle Receiver of all who pass into larger life, we hold this hope and pray: **Let justice and peace flow.**

We bring all these prayers to you, Abba God, Ground of our being and Source of our vision. Amen.

The refrain is sung once more.



THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess to God our sins against the creation.

Silence for reflection.

We confess that we have not paid attention to the whole of creation. In our concern for our own species, we have trampled others. We have not understood how our actions influence the lives of bugs, birds, and fish. We have elevated our existence over that of bears, whales, and dragonflies. We have ignored our scientists and pushed aside the concerns of our children. We beg forgiveness from future peoples. We beg forgiveness from our sibling species with whom we share this planet. God of creation, have mercy on us and help us. Turn us, change us, and heal us, that we might be good siblings and generous partners with creation. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, +forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Peace with yourself. Peace with Creation. Peace with one another. The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

All share a greeting of peace.

The Liturgy of the Meal

THE OFFERTORY The Offertory Sentence

Please sit. **The Presentation of the Bread and Wine**

The Choir Anthem

All Things New Elaine Hagenberg

Please stand in body or spirit. **The Presentation of the Gifts** (7:45) All things come of thee, O Lord, **and of thine own have we given thee.**

The Offertory Hymn (9:30)*



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING The Preface and Proper Preface God be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to God. Let us give thanks to our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, O God, 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 Jesus, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By Christ's blood, we were reconciled. By Christ's 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:

The Sanctus (7:45)

Holy, Holy, Holy, God of power and might,

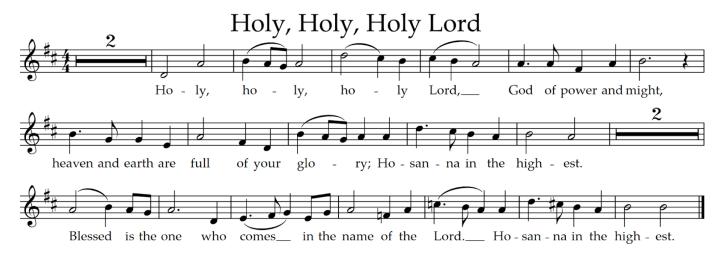
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Sanctus (9:30)*



The Celebrant continues:

And so, Abba God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, 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 Jesus 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, Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now Christ's work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, as we await the day of Christ's coming.

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham and Sarah, God of Isaac and Rebekah, and God of Jacob, Rachel, and Leah; God 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 Christ's name.

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

Accept these prayers and praises, Holy One, 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. **Amen**.

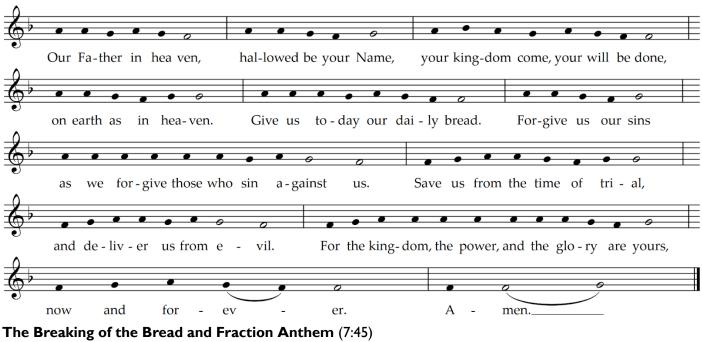
The Lord's Prayer (7:45)

It is our custom to hold hands during The Lord's Prayer. As Jesus has taught us, we pray those words that bind us together:

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 for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (9:30)*

It is our custom to hold hands during The Lord's Prayer. As Jesus has taught us, we pray those words that bind us together:



This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.

All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.

The Breaking of the Bread and Fraction Anthem (9:30)*



The Invitation to Communion**

Jesus invites you to this Table. Come, eat and live.

Please sit. Jesus welcomed everyone to his table, and so we at St. Barnabas welcome everyone to this table. Gather around the Altar as you are directed. You may stand or kneel as is your custom. The Celebrant will place the gluten-free bread into your hand. You have two options to receive the wine. A Chalice Bearer will offer the Common Cup from which you may drink, or you may dip the bread in the wine when a second chalice comes in turn. You may also choose not to partake of the Cup. When you have received the Sacrament, please return to your seat. If you or your children prefer only to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your hands over your chest.

The Hymn During Communion



Please stand in body or spirit.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray...O God,

create in us a new heart and a new vision, that the gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Lead us to transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of Sendi

THE SENDING OUT OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (Occasional)

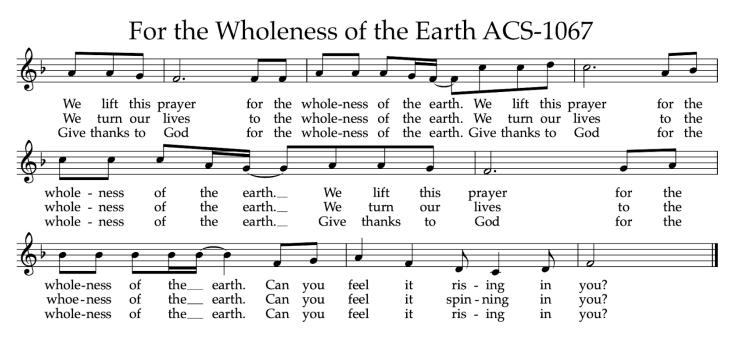
David Ford, in the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one Body, because we all share one Bread, one Cup.

THE BLESSING

The Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all, fill you with the knowledge of God's presence in the creation and the pulsing of Christ within; and the blessing of +the most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity, one God, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN (9:30)*



THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serving Christ and loving creation. Alleluia! Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

THE POSTLUDE

Trumpet Finale Tommaso Albinoni

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