

Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Prelude: There is a Spirit that delights to do no evil (from A Quaker Reader)

N. Rorem

Opening Hymn #636 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord vss. 1–3

Foundation

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you that for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.”**

Opening Acclamation

EOW, p. 50

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Collect for Purity

BCP, p. 355

Hymn of Praise S 280: Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*

R. Powell

**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.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Prayed together:

**Grant to us, Lord, we pray,
the spirit to think and do always those things that are right,
that we, who cannot exist without you,
may by you be enabled to live according to your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Word of God

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

1:1, 10-20

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah!
What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord;
I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts;
I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.
When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand?
Trample my courts no more; bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me.
New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation--
I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.
Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me,
I am weary of bearing them.
When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.
Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes;
cease to do evil, learn to do good;
seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.
Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow;
though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.
If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land;
but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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

Psalm 50 *Deus deorum* * *prayed responsively*

1. The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
The LORD has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
2. Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God is revealed in glory.
3. Our God will come and will not keep silence; *
before God there is a consuming flame, and round about a raging storm.
4. The Lord calls the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of all people.
5. "Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."
6. Let the heavens declare the rightness of the Lord's cause; *
for God alone is judge.
7. Hear, O my people, and I will speak: "O Israel, I will bear witness against you; *
for I am God, your God.
8. I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; *
your offerings are always before me.
23. Consider this well, you who forget God, *
lest I rend you and there be none to deliver you.
24. Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me; *

but to those who keep in my way will I show the salvation of God."

Second Reading:

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

Sequence Hymn #545 Lo! what a cloud of witnesses vss. 1-3

St Fulbert

**Lo! what a cloud of witnesses encompass us around!
They, once like us with suffering tried, are now with glory crowned.**

**Let us, with zeal like theirs inspired, strive in the Christian race;
and, freed from every weight of sin, their holy footsteps trace.**

**Behold a Witness nobler still, who trod affliction's path:
Jesus, the author, finisher, rewarder of our faith.**

The Gospel: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke

12:32-40

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Gospeller concludes: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Harrison West †

Nicene Creed

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.

Prayers of the People: Form VI

BCP, p. 392

Please join with me in this morning's Prayers of the People. We'll follow Form Six.

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 this community, the nation, and the world.

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

Remembering our call to be good stewards of all that you place in our care;

we pray for the just and proper use of your creation;

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

Remembering those who are vulnerable and defenseless; let us pray 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 our cycles of prayer, we pray for the clergy and people of St. Peter's, South Windsor; Epiphany, Southbury; St. Paul's, Southington and for The Church in the Province of the West Indies; as we pray for the peace and unity of the Church of God.

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

For our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishops Ian and Laura, our Bishop-elect Jeffrey, Rector Harrison, and all bishops and other ministers.

For all who serve God in His Church.

For all victims of violence, for all who are contending with Covid-19 disease; and for all facing financial hardship; for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including all those commended to the prayers of the parish; Baby Fiona, Bill C, Sheward, Jane & Gene, Paul, Bill & family, Sarah L, Maxim, Geri, and Kelly. Please also keep in your prayers Julie, Janice, Sandy, Kasha, Nancy, Betty; and for those on your hearts.

Petitions may be added aloud or in silence.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

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

Thanksgivings may be added aloud or in silence.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for the repose of James Longenbach, and all whom we hold in blessed memory, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence may be kept.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Leader and People

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

EOW, p. 56

Minister and People

God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,

that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant declares the Absolution

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

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

Announcements and Greetings

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Offertory solo: My Lord, what a morning

trad. spiritual, arr. H. T. Burleigh

The Doxology: Hymn 380 (vs. 3)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 1

EOW, p. 57

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also 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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful to give you thanks,
All-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing
and fed us with your constant love;
you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ
and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit you replenish us
and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels
and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Celebrant and People – Hymnal S-129: Sanctus

R. Powell

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
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.**

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards

and show forth your bountiful grace.
But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.
Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
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.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said:

“Drink this, all of you:

This is my Blood of the new Covenant,

which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection,

we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us

the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit

and live as Christ’s Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons,

that with [_____ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,

we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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

Fraction Anthem LEVAS 154 – Refrain: Taste and see

BCP, p. 364

Moore

**Taste and see. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
O Taste and see. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.**

Invitation to Communion: The Gifts of God for the People of God

Spiritual Communion Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I cannot now worship you at the altar of the church in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, yet in spirit I would join myself with all those who in your Holy Church offer you the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Visit me, I pray, with your mercy, pardon, and blessing, and fill me with faith and love and repentance, and so strengthen and sustain me by your grace that I may with pure heart and mind follow you, the only God, now and forever. Amen.

Communion solo: O Lord, whose mercies numberless (from *Saul*)

Leila Mustakos, Soprano

G. F. Handel

Postcommunion Prayer:

**Loving God, your Son is our peace and his cross the sign of reconciliation:
help us, who share the broken bread, to bring together what is scattered
and to bind up what is wounded, that Christ may bring in the everlasting
kingdom of his peace; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.**

EOW, p. 70

Blessing

Closing Hymn #533 How wondrous and great thy works, God of Praise!

Lyons

**How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise!
How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!
O who shall not fear thee, and honor thy Name?
Thou only art holy, thou only supreme.**

**To nations of earth thy light shall be shown;
their worship and vows shall come to thy throne:
thy truth and thy judgments shall spread all abroad,
till earth's every people confess thee their God.**

Dismissal: Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Voluntary VIII

W. Boyce

* from "An Inclusive Language Psalter", based on the Psalms from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, General Theological Seminary, NYC, used with permission

Today's flowers are in celebration
of summertime in Guilford

In Today's Worship
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. R. Harrison West
Music Director: Mark Sullivan
Usher: Kay Claiborn
1st Reading & Psalm: Jean Valentine
2nd Reading: Beth Brause
Prayers of the People & Communion Prayer: Susan Leonard
Chalice Bearers: Ed Seibert, Annie Rae

Upcoming Calendar Events



Sunday, August 7 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Prayer – 9:00AM in the Garden weather permitting

Holy Eucharist – 10AM (streamed and in-person) with organ and hymns

Lemonade in the Shade following 10AM Service

Youth Interfaith Service Day - w/ Jerusalem Peace Builders – 8:30AM – 3PM - Trinity New Haven & Green

Wednesday, August 10 – Book Group led by Rev. Mary Anne Osborn – 6:30PM in the Rectory (see below)

Sunday, August 14 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Prayer – 9:00AM in the Garden weather permitting

Holy Eucharist – 10AM (streamed and in-person) with organ and hymns

Lemonade in the Shade following 10AM Service

Tuesday, August 16 – Finance – 5:00PM via Zoom

Thursday, August 18 – Vestry – 6:50PM via Zoom

Also commended to the prayers of the parish: Wick & Barb, Russ & Joan, Dave and Winnie and their families, Kevin L, Brennie, Jean W, Molly, and Babs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beating Guns: Hope for People who are Weary of Violence will begin Wednesday, Aug. 10th and meet every other week for four weeks at 6:30p.m.: Aug 10, 24, Sept. 7 and 21. Haven't signed up yet; you're not too late! We'll meet in the rectory living room where there is AC. Although one book remains available in the rectory entry hall for \$15; a digital version can be obtained online. Please let Mary Anne Osborn know if you would like to participate: revmao28@gmail.com.

Tag Sale News: Be sure to have Saturday, September 24, 8:30AM to 3PM on your calendar; to that add the opening reception on Friday, September 23 hosted by the Vestry. At the reception, you'll have a first chance to review and purchase sale items for a \$10 entry. Donations of like-new housewares are now being received on Sundays during service times and Tuesdays-Thursday, 10AM-2PM in the former Nursery. We are not accepting books or DVDs and only furniture that will fit into a car. Co-chairs Rose Robinson and Patti Kron welcome your participation.

ECW's ongoing and much needed "New Sox and Underwear" project and Food Bank memorial projects continue. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

The Guilford Food Bank requests help with the following items: Black tea, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Hot chocolate (mix), Sugar, Canned tomatoes, Household cleaner, Laundry detergent, Paper towels. Please leave your donations in the bin by the north (Town Hall-side) door to the Narthex.

COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Tests are available on a first-come, first-served basis on the Ushers' Table and in the rectory entry hall.

Looking Ahead

Chapel-on-the-Green sandwich-prep, Saturday, August 20 – hosting, Sunday, August 21

Vacation Bible School – August 22-26

Staff Meeting – Thursday, August 25 – 3:00PM

Choir to resume – Thursday, August 25 - 7PM