

November 25, 2021

Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford

10 a.m.

Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist – Rite II

from *The Book of Common Prayer*, and *Enriching Our Worship 1*

Prelude: Now bless the Lord, my soul BuxWV 212

D. Buxtehude

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

Opening Hymn #290 Come, ye thankful people, come *St. George's, Windsor*

**Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home:
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown:
first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:
grant, O harvest Lord, that we whole-some grain and pure may be.**

**For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his harvest home;
from his field shall in that day all offenses purge away;
give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home;
gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;
there, forever purified, in thy presence to abide;
come, with all thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Collect of the Day

Prayed together

**Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth
in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them.**

**Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty,
for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need,
to the glory of your Name;
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

Joel 2:21-27

First Reading:

Do not fear, O soil;
 be glad and rejoice,
 for the Lord has done great things!
Do not fear, you animals of the field,
 for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit,
 the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad
 and rejoice in the Lord your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
 he has poured down for you abundant rain,
 the early and the later rain, as before.
The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,
 the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years
 that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
 my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
 and praise the name of the Lord your God,
 who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame.
You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
 and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again
 be put to shame.

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

Psalm 126 *In convertendo* *prayed responsively*

BCP, p. 782

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
 then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
 and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
 "The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, *
 and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
 like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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

Sequence Hymn #291 We plow the fields and scatter

Wir pflugen

We plow the fields, and scatter the good seed on the land,

But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand;

He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,

The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

***Refrain:* All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.**

He only is the Maker of all things near and far;

he paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star;

the winds and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed;

much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread.

Refrain

**We thank thee, then, O Father, for all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food:**

the gifts we have to offer are what thy love imparts,

but chiefly thou desirest our humble thankful hearts.

Refrain

The Gospel

The Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

6:25-33

Jesus said, Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if

God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

The Gospeller concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. *People respond:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Thanksgiving Proclamation by Governor Wilbur Cross, 1936

The Nicene Creed

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.

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant will offer a concluding absolution.

Silence.

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 voluntary

The Doxology: Hymn 380 (vs. 3)

Presentation of Gifts

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

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

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP, p. 367

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 him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.

Celebrant:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People: **We remember his death,**
People: **We proclaim his resurrection,**
People: **We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

**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 in 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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

BCP, p. 364

Silence

The Gifts of God, for the People of God.

Invitation to Spiritual Communion**

God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord, Amen.

Communion voluntary: Schmücke Dich op. 122.5 ...

J. Brahms

Postcommunion: A Prayer of General Thanksgiving

BCP, p.101

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

A Blessing

Closing Hymn #397 Now thank we all our God

Nun danket alle Gott

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way,
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us!
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
eternal, Triune God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, evermore.

Dismissal: Let us bless the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God.*

Postlude: Now bless the Lord, my soul BuxWV 214

D. Buxtehude

**Credit: The Rev. Bennet Broeckman, used with permission

In Today's Worship
Celebrant: The Rev. R. Harrison West
Music Director: Mark Sullivan
1st reading and Psalm: Bill Cuddy
2nd reading: Gabrielle Johnson
Prayers of the People: Laura Raymond
Soloist: Leila Mustakos