

# Sunday, September 29, 2024

## Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM RITE II



# St. Peter's

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# Episcopal Cathedral

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## PRELUDE

**THE OPENING HYMN** *Hymnal 377*  
*"All People that on Earth Do Dwell"*  
(Stanzas 1,2,3)

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

**THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND  
COLLECT FOR PURITY** *BCP 355*

**THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO**  
*BCP 356*

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## THE LESSON: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And

what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

**THE RESPONSE: Psalm 124**  
(*The lector reads the portion in light face type; the people respond with the text in bold face type.*)

1 If the Lord had not been on our side,  
let Israel now say;

2 *If the Lord had not been on our  
side, when enemies rose up against us;*

3 Then would they have swallowed us up  
alive in their fierce anger toward us.

**4 Then would the waters have  
overwhelmed us and the torrent gone  
over us;**

5 Then would the raging waters  
have gone right over us.

**6 Blessed be the Lord! he has not  
given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare  
of the fowler; the snare is broken, and we  
have escaped.

**8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, the  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**THE GOSPEL HYMN Hymnal 676**  
*“There is a Balm in Gilead” (Stanzas  
1,2, before the Gospel; Organ  
acclamation after the reading)*

**THE GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-50**

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. “For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves and be at peace with one another.”

**THE SERMON**

The Very Rev. Stephen Brehe, retired  
Dean of St. Peter’s Cathedral

**THE NICENE CREED BCP 358**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Dear friends, let us offer prayers to the Lord for the church and the needs of the entire human family.

For Bishop Marty, along with clergy and laity who will gather in this cathedral next weekend,

**THE EPISTLE: James 5:13-20**

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

that you will guide and direct them as they work for the renewal and mission of your church. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For leaders in church and community to know that true greatness lies in serving others and following you.

**Hear our prayer.**

For the courage to root out ongoing injustices in our lives, especially antisemitism, racism, misogyny, and all forms of prejudice created by moral blindness and fear of the other. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For our nation, in this time of polarization, we recommit ourselves to the sacred aspirations of life, freedom, justice, and unbounded hope. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For the elderly and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and the sick and the suffering and all who care for them. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For peace, especially for people suffering the senselessness of war, that we may work and pray to be instruments of God's peace more fully. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

For the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will join the saints in the everlasting praise of God. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Giver of all good gifts, Lord God, you never cease to grace us with your Spirit of love. Help us share your love by the joyful service of all. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE CONFESSION** **BCP 360**

*Please kneel or sit reverently, as you are able.*

**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.**

## **THE PEACE** **BCP 360**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please be seated.*

## **PRAYER FOR A NEW DEAN**

*Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. Peter's Cathedral. Be with us and lead us as we seek the next Dean for our church. Enlighten with your grace the Search Committee. We ask for discernment, wisdom, and guidance. We pray for whom you guide to our parish, that they hear your calling and join our congregation swiftly, with joy in their hearts. We pray for the life of our parish, that we may joyfully continue to be strengthened in our mission to "Love God and Our Neighbor and Make Disciples for Christ." Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

## **PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS** **BCP 830**

*Watch over your children, O Lord, 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.*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **THE OFFERTORY HYMN** *Hymnal 536*

*"Open Your Ears" (The words celebrate the coming of the Messiah and include the Hebrew affirmation, "Torah Ora," which means "The Law is Our Light." The tune is a Hasidic melody arranged by Richard Proulx (1937-2010).)*

*The ushers bring the offering to the altar during the signing of the hymn]*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

Eucharistic Prayer A            BCP 361

THE LORD'S PRAYER            BCP 364

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your 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 PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*(The priest offers a prayer for those watching  
on the internet and are unable to be present.)*

## THE MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All members of God's family are welcome.  
Gluten free Communion is available upon  
asking.*

## THE COMMUNION MUSIC

*Organ Meditation*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 365

*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.*

## WORDS FROM OUR CHILDREN

*The children come forward to share today's  
Sunday School experiences.*

## THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING HYMN            *Hymnal 688*  
*"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

THE DISMISSAL                            **BCP 366**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## POSTLUDE

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