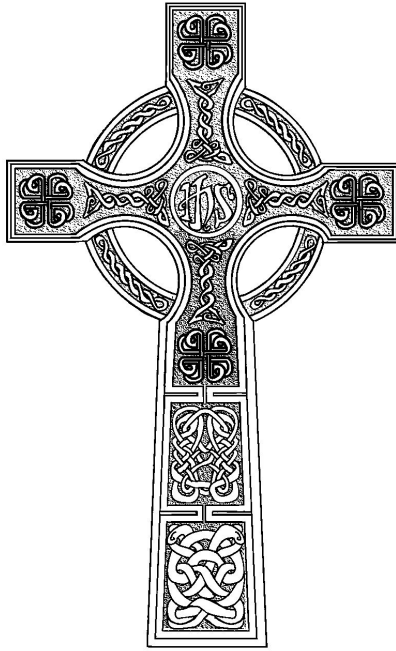


*The 23rd Sunday
after Pentecost*

Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10:00 a.m.

November 8, 2020



Saint Theodore's Episcopal Church

Bella Vista, Arkansas

The Right Reverend Larry R. Benfield,

Bishop of Arkansas

Saint Theodore's Episcopal Church

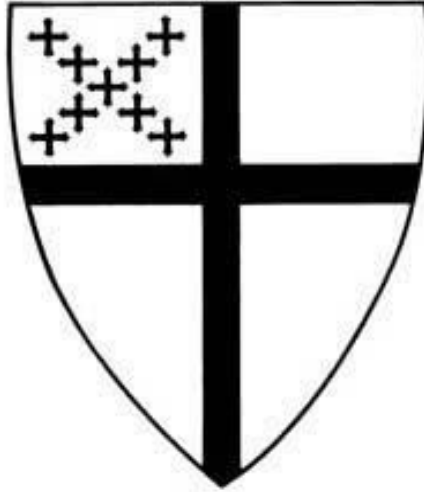
1001 Kingsland Road † Bella Vista, Arkansas 72714

(479) 855-2715

website: www.sainttheodores.com

e-mail: sttheodoresoffice@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sainttheosbv



2020 Vestry

Sharon Moravits, Sr. Warden

Al Addington & Colleen Whitney, Co-Jr. Wardens

Blair Cromwell • David Wade • Joyce Winter

Jerry Schaefer • Bill Schernikau • Carolan Weaver

Diane Landmesser, Clerk

This little symbol will allow you to scan the code with your smart phone camera and be directed to the giving page on our website. From there you can follow the instructions to make your donation. Please check the “cover processing fees” box so that we will receive the full amount of your contribution. Thank you!



All of the following service can be found in the

1979 Book of Common Prayer

Scripture lessons are taken from the

Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Year A and are from
the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible

Organ Prelude *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier* (2 settings) Bach

The people standing, the celebrant says

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Collect for Purity

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.*

Glory to God

Said in unison

**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

Celebrant **O God, whose blessed Son came into the world
that he might destroy the works of the devil and
make us children of God and heirs of eternal life:
Grant that, having this hope, we may purify
ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes
again with power and great glory, we may be
made like him in his eternal and glorious
kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
 Amen**

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God

Celebrant GOD OF ALL POWER AND LOVE, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lessons *(Sit)*

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac;

'Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region

beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.'

Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.'

But Joshua said to the people, 'You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.' And the people said to Joshua, 'No, we will serve the LORD!' Then Joshua said to the people, 'You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.' And they said, 'We are witnesses.' He said, 'Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.' The people said to Joshua, 'The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.' So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

Psalm 78:1-7

Sung by cantors

Antiphon

Our forefathers have told us of the power of the Lord,
and the wonderful works he has done.

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power
of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

Antiphon

Our forefathers have told us of the power of the Lord,
and the wonderful works he has done.

- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law
for Israel,*
which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know, and the
children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,

but keep his commandments;

Antiphon

Our forefathers have told us of the power of the Lord,
and the wonderful works he has done.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Organ interlude before the Gospel reading

The Holy Gospel (*Stand*) Matthew 25:1-13

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ
 according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

Sermon (*Sit*)

Chris Schaefer

The Nicene Creed (*Stand*)

(BCP 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.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Let us pray.

***Celebrant:** Gracious and Holy One, you have made us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Enliven us to be alert and responsive to your awakening word, that we may participate in your work of healing and reconciliation, as we pray: Awaken us, O God, that we may always be alert for your coming among us.*

Litanist: Arouse your church with such mindfulness and hope, O Holy One, that we will be ready and prepared to welcome you as you visit us with your call of healing and reconciliation, peace and justice.

Awaken us, O God,

People: that we may always be alert for your coming among us.

Litanist: Visit our leaders and all who have authority in the nations and the world, that they may put their trust in you and not forget your deeds, but keep your commandments.

Awaken us, O God,

People: that we may always be alert for your coming among us.

Litanist: Come to the aid of your children throughout the world to bring out all who live in the house of oppression; protect them along their way and bring them into safe communities of peace and prosperity.

Awaken us, O God,

People: that we may always be alert for your coming among us.

Litanist: Let your love be manifest in this community to fill us with hope and sustain us in constant wisdom, so that when

Christ comes again with power and great glory, we all may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom.

Awaken us, O God,

**People: that we may always be alert for your coming
among us.**

Litanist: We put our trust in you; hear our prayers for all for whom we intercede, especially for Don, Amanda, Becky, Karen Kay, Michael, James, Valerie, Mary, the Rector Search Committee and all those who have contracted Covid-19 and all who care for them. *(Pause)*

Hear our prayers of thanksgiving and praise, especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; Larry, our bishop; Lowell, our interim supply priest; and Chris, our Candidate for Holy Orders. In the diocesan cycle of prayer for Emmanuel, Lake Village; St. Paul's, McGehee; and All Saints', Bentonville. And we give thanks for all those in our parish family celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week.

We do not grieve as others do who have no hope, for we believe that Jesus died and rose again. May God bring to Jesus all who have died, where they will be with the Lord forever. We remember especially all those who have succumbed to the Corona virus. *(Pause)*

Awaken us, O God,

**People: that we may always be alert for your coming
among us.**

Celebrant: *Let your church offer to you our sincere worship and prayer, O God, that we may be wise and responsible stewards of your earth and inheritors of the glorious kingdom you have promised through Jesus Christ, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit we worship, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

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

Leader and People

**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.**

The Celebrant says

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.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

*Organ music is played and the People remain standing as
the Celebrant prepares the Table.*

After the Table has been prepared, the Celebrant says:

All things come of thee, O Lord

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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:

Celebrant and People

**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 people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new

Communion is received by the Celebrant

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Celebrant and People

**Beloved Jesus,
I believe that you are present
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you
in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you.
Let me never be separated from you
in this life or in the life to come. Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Celebrant and People

(BCP 366)

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Encourage one another to be wise, alert and prepared daily for the coming of God into our lives.

Welcome with joy your invitation to the wedding banquet of Christ our bridegroom, for Jesus has died and is risen.

Be awake for the Spirit's call, that you may respond willingly whenever the door of possibility opens for you.

And the blessing of our surprising God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and enliven you, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

The Celebrant says the words of dismissal

People respond: **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Postlude

Simple gifts

Kosche

Participants in the Service

Celebrant The Reverend Lowell Grisham

Preacher Chris Schaefer

Organist Annette Zehring

Acolyte Wayne Whitney

Cantors Marc & Charista Paine

Readers Nancy Nagle, Colleen Whitney