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# ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SEASON OF PENTECOST

AUGUST 22, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist - Rite Two



THE RIGHT REVEREND C. ANDY DOYLE, BISHOP OF TEXAS  
THE REVEREND STEVE KARCHER, RECTOR  
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Prelude "Alleluia, Sing To Jesus" Organist

Processional "Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus" (vs. 1-4) Hymnal 561

**Greetings from Fr. Steve**

**The Opening Sentence**

**Celebrant:** Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

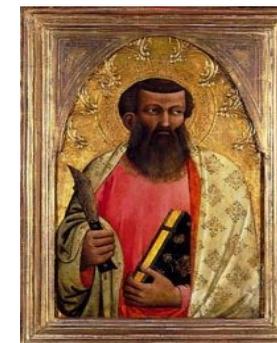
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**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.**

**The Gloria - sung** **BCP 356/Hymnal S-280**

**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.****

Saint Bartholomew the Apostle



August 24 is the feast day of Saint Bartholomew the Apostle. Saint Bartholomew, (flourished 1st century ad—died unknown date, traditionally Albanopolis, Armenia; He was one of the Twelve Apostles.

Apart from the mentions of him in four of the Apostle lists (Mark 3:18, Matt. 10:3, Luke 6:14, and Acts 1:13), nothing is known about him from the New Testament. Because he was always associated with St. Philip the Apostle in the Gospel lists, a 9th-century tradition identified him with Nathanael, who, according to John 1:43–51, was called with Philip by Jesus. Upon seeing Nathanael, Jesus said, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!”

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Please join us for coffee, snacks, and conversation  
in the Parish Hall, after the service.

Please preserve the sanctity of the worship area  
by keeping lengthy conversations to the Parish Hall.

Maintain a quiet, contemplative space  
in the worship and narthex area.

## Communion Hymns

## Songs of Praise (Red) Book

<i>"I Am The Bread Of Life" (vs 1-5)</i>	<b>SOP 36</b>
<i>"I Have Decided To Follow Jesus" (vs 1-3)</i>	<b>SOP 37</b>
<i>"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (vs 1-3)</i>	<b>SOP 410</b>

## Post Communion Prayer

**BCP 365**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

**Celebrant** and People:

**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.**

## The Blessing

**BCP 339**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## The Recessional

*"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" (vs 1-3)* **Hymnal 376**

## The Dismissal

**BCP 366**

**Celebrant:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People:** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Postlude** *"Soldiers Of Christ, Arise" (Hymnal 548)* **Organist**

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## The Collect of the Day

**BCP 232**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The First Reading

**Reader: A Reading from Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18**

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:

"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."

After the reading:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 34:15-22**      *Benedicam Dominum*

**BCP 628**

15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, \*  
and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, \*  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them \*  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted \*  
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, \*  
but the LORD will deliver him out of them all.

20 He will keep safe all his bones; \*  
not one of them shall be broken.

21 Evil shall slay the wicked, \*  
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

22 The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, \*  
and none will be punished who trust in him.

**The Epistle**

**Reader: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians 6:10-20**

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

**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**

**Hymnal S-154**

Celebrant: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

People: Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Draw near, *either in spirit or in person*, and receive them in remembrance that Christ died for us. Let us feed on him in our hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*(All persons are welcome to come to Jesus' table for Communion or a Blessing.)*

On the night he was betrayed he 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, he 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father 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 his name.

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

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, 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**

**BCP 364**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

### **Gospel Processional**

*"O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" (vs 1,2)* **Hymnal 660**

*At the Gospel reading:*

**Celebrant:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

### **The Gospel**

**John 6:56-69**

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

*After the Gospel is read:*

**Celebrant:** The Gospel of the Lord

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

### **Gospel Recessional**

*"O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" (vs 3,4)* **Hymnal 660**

### **The Sermon**

**Fr. Steve Karcher**

*A moment of reflection follows*

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

***Have mercy, Lord, 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 your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his 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 (sung)**

**Hymnal S-130**

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,***

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,***

***heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

*(Please stand or kneel - as you are able)*

### **The Celebrant continues:**

**BCP 371**

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, 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.



Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

**Prayer for Peace** **BCP 815**

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Prayer for those in the Armed Forces** **BCP 823**

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.* **BCP 394**

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Confession of Sin** **BCP 360**

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

*Minister 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 Absolution** **BCP 360**

**Celebrant:** 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.**

**The Peace** *(shared by waving, smiling, peace signs, etc., from one's pew)*

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**Announcements, Newcomers, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Deployments**

**The Holy Communion**

**Offertory Sentence** **BCP 377**

**Celebrant:** Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.