

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 14

August 10, 2025

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome to Advent Episcopal Church. Our worship service follows the Book of Common Prayer and includes Holy Communion in which all may receive the bread and wine of Christ's Body and Blood. Hymn numbers preceded by the letter "H" are found in the blue Hymnal 1982. The hymn numbers preceded by the letter "L" are found in the red and black hymnal Lift Every Voice and Sing II.
Thank you for joining us for worship today!

Acknowledging the people of the land, the Hohokam, and other indigenous people as the original stewards of this land, we give thanks for our ancestors, our elders, and for all indigenous people who pray for unity and peace today.

Prelude

Hymn L 87

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

All **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.
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 your 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, forever and ever, **Amen.**

The First Lesson Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him,

"This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 33:12-22

- ¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- ¹³ The LORD looks down from heaven, *
and beholds all the people in the world.
- ¹⁴ From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
on all who dwell on the earth.
- ¹⁵ He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.
- ¹⁶ There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; *
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- ¹⁷ The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.
- ¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,
- ¹⁹ To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.
- ²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; *
he is our help and our shield.
- ²¹ Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- ²² Let your loving-kindness, O LORD, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

The Second Lesson 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn L 64

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

Gospel Luke 12:32-40

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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Sermon Mr. Bruce Dockter

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father 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 and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- Leader O God, the creator and preserver of all, we pray for people in every kind of need; make your ways known on earth, and your saving health among all nations. We pray especially for the President of the United States, the Governor of Arizona, and for tribal chiefs and indigenous people throughout this land. Lord, in your mercy,
- People Hear our prayer.**
- Leader We pray for the good estate of the catholic Church; guide and govern us by your good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace and in righteousness of life. We pray especially for Sean our Presiding Bishop. Jennifer our Bishop and the clergy and lay leaders of our parish. Lord, in your mercy,
- People Hear our prayer.**
- Leader We commend to your fatherly goodness all those who are in any ways afflicted or distressed in mind, body or spirit; comfort and relieve them in their need, give them patience in their sufferings, and bring good out of all their afflictions. Lord, in your mercy,
- People Hear our prayer.**
- Leader We remember those who have gone before us in the peace of Christ, and we give you praise for all your faithful ones with whom we rejoice in the communion of saints. Lord, in your mercy,
- People Hear our prayer.**
- Celebrant Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**
- Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
- All 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.**
- 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.
- People Amen.**
- Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- All And also with you.**

THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music

All **Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, brothers and sisters are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

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 God thanks and praise.**

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 you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All **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:

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:

**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 and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Priest Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to receive the bread and wine of Christ's Body and Blood. The wine will be offered by intinction, which means that you may dip the wafer into the small cup of wine offered by the Deacon. Please do not put your fingers into the wine. If you do not wish to receive the wine, just receive the wafer and return to your seat. The Church teaches that you receive the full Christ in either the bread or wine. There is no requirement to receive both.

Celebrant The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Communicant **Amen.**

Assistant The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.
Communicant **Amen.**

Hymn L 192

CLOSING PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.
All **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 the 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

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 Ghost, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn L 205

Assistant Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Dismissal Response **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude