

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00AM + August 23, 2026



Welcome!

You are invited to participate fully in our worship. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, welcome!

(The service this summer is from the New Zealand Prayer Book.)

Prelude:

Aria Semplice,

Siegfried Karg-Elert (1877 - 1933)

Processional Hymn:

God, my King, thy might confessing

Blue Hymnal 414

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

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Holy God, be in our minds, that we might let go of all that diminishes the movement of your spirit within us. Discerning God, be in our eyes, that we might see you in the midst of all the busyness that fills our lives. Loving God, be in our hearts, that we can be open to those we love, to those with whom we share ministry and to the whole human family. Gracious God, be in that grace-filled silence that lies deep within us, that we might live in Christ as Christ lives in us.

Amen

Glory to God in the highest,

S280

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

The Collect

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.

First Reading:

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Reader: A reading from the book of Exodus

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they

imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm

Psalm 124

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.

Reader: A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn:

The Church's one foundation

Blue Hymnal 525

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

People: **Praise and glory to God.**

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to Christ, the Word.**

The Sermon

Rev. Sean Maloney

The Nicene Creed

Spoken by all, standing.

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

Kneeling as you are able

Heavenly Father, through Christ you came into the world to be truth and life to all who know you. Give us the insight to claim your kingship in our lives and to proclaim this truth to the world as we pray, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church, for those who lead worship, for those who pray, for those who prophesy, for those who teach, and for those who serve the world in your name, that together we might fulfill your mission. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this nation, for all in authority and for those who strive to better the lives of all people in our country, that it might be a place of promise and possibility. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the welfare of the world, for those who are persecuted and cry for justice, for those who hunger for knowledge and freedom, for those who work for the common good, that we may know peace and justice in all the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the needs of our communities, for the hopes of families, and for the needs of each of us gathered here, that we might live abundantly. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer, for their relief and comfort, and we pray for all who are in need. We ask also that we may be part of this healing in meaningful ways. Especially we pray for ... [Names from prayer list in insert], Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the dying and the deceased, that all may find a loving home in the kingdom promised to us through our savior. We pray also for those who mourn, that they may be comforted now in their time of need. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We offer all these prayers and praises to you, O God and ask that they may be granted as may be best for us and for the world. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins to God. (*Silence may be kept.*)

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.

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements:

Offertory Hymn:

This Little Light of Mine

LEVAS 221

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

You are the source of all life and goodness; through your eternal Word you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image; male and female you created us. When we sinned and turned away you called us back to yourself and gave your Son to share our human nature. By his death on the cross, he made the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world and freed us from the bondage of sin. You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory. In him you have made us a holy people by sending upon us your holy and lifegiving Spirit. Therefore with the faithful who rest in him, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Sanctus:

S 129

**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.

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father; on the night before he died your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Glory to you, Lord Christ; your death we show forth; your resurrection we proclaim; your coming we await; Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

Therefore loving God, recalling your great goodness to us in Christ, his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life and this cup of salvation. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which we offer through Christ our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Blessing, honour and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and for ever. Amen.

The Communion

As Christ teaches us we pray:

**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 from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.

The Invitation

Draw near and receive the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ in remembrance that he died for us. Let us feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Almighty God, obeying the command of your Son, Jesus Christ, who took bread and said: This is my body, we also take this bread, and pray that through your Word and Spirit it may be for us the sacrament of the body of Christ. **Amen.**

Almighty God, obeying the command of your Son, Jesus Christ, who took the cup and said: This is my blood, we also take this wine, and pray that through your Word and Spirit it may be for us the sacrament of the blood of Christ. **Amen.**

Communion Hymn:

One Bread, One Body

LEVAS 151

Prayer After Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name.

Recessional Hymn:

O Jesus, I have promised

Blue Hymnal 414

The Dismissal of the Community

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. Alleluia, Alleluia, ALLELUIA.
Amen. We go in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia, ALLELUIA

Postlude:

Fantasy in D Major

Karg-Elert



Thank you for joining us today!

If you would like to receive our weekly e-bulletin, please contact the church office (aschurch@allsaintschelmsford.org). To learn more about us, visit <https://www.allsaintschelmsford.org> or call us at: (978) 256-5673.
