

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00AM + August 16, 2026



Welcome!

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

Prelude:

Pazienza

Percy Whitlock (1903 - 1946)

Processional Hymn:

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Blue Hymnal 423

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

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

Gloria:

S 280

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Together, let us pray

The Collect

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Reader: A reading from Genesis

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Reader: A reading from Romans

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord*People:* **Thanks be to God****Sequence Hymn:**

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Blue Hymnal 691

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

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.

The Prayers of the People

Kneeling as you are able

Lord God, let your love dwell within us and shine through our lives that our prayers might lead us into abundant life as we say, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church, that it might be a sanctuary and the wellspring of hope for what is broken in our lives and in our world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nation, that it might live into its promise and be a place of safety, justice, and dignity for all people. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our local communities, that they might become places inspired by Jesus' vision for human community. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our earth, that our land may continue to provide abundantly for our needs and that we might be effective stewards of its riches. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer, that they might be delivered from their distress and know your healing power in their lives. Especially we pray for ... [*Names from prayer list in insert*]. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the dead and the dying, that they may be delivered into your loving embrace and that they and we might rise again in the glory of your new age. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God Almighty, creator of all that is, known and unknown; the entirety of your presence and power are beyond our comprehension. Help us to understand as best we can and to live lives in accord with your will for us as laborers for your kingdom. **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:

There is a Balm in Gilead

LEVAS 203

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

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:

Break Thou the Bread of Life

LEVAS 146

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:

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Blue Hymnal 657

The Dismissal of the Community

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

Postlude:

Toccata from 'Plymouth Suite'

Percy Whitlock (1903 - 1946)

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.
