

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00AM + August 30, 2026

Blessing of the Backpacks



Welcome!

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

Prelude:

Liebster Jesu, wind sie hier, BWV 731,

J. S. Bach (1685 - 1750)

Processional Hymn:

Morning Has Broken

Blue Hymnal 8

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:

Blue Hymnal S 280

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Together, let us pray

The Collect

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Reader: A reading from the Book of Exodus

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 23 Israel came into Egypt, *
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- 24 The Lord made his people exceedingly fruitful; *
he made them stronger than their enemies;
- 25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, *
and dealt unjustly with his servants.
- 26 He sent Moses his servant, *
and Aaron whom he had chosen.
- 45 Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Romans 12:9-21

Reader: A reading from the letter to the Romans

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn:

Book of Books, Our People’s Strength

Blue Hymnal 631

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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.

The Prayers of the People

Kneeling as you are able

Almighty God, you looked upon your people and heard their cries, hear us again and answer us as we pray, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Awaken your church that it might boldly proclaim Christ's good news and continue Christ's mission and ministry throughout the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide our nation and those in authority that ours might be a land not just of promise but of fulfillment, dignity, and peace. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open our eyes to all the opportunities to be your voice and your hands in our local communities so that no needs go unmet. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant us strength, commitment, and perseverance to meet the challenges of our day and to build a sustainable society rooted in our vision of the kingdom. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring healing to all who suffer and mend what is broken or wounded in our lives and in the lives of those we love and care for. Especially we pray for ... [*Names from prayer list in insert*], Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Embrace the dead in your loving arms, grant peace to all who mourn or grieve, and fulfill your promise to us that we might rise again in your new age. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We cannot know your full glory, and yet you have shown us yourself again and again, inviting us into ever-deepening relationship as your people. Continue to lead us and to answer our prayer as may be best for us and always to your glory. Through Christ our Lord who with you and the Holy Spirit stands supreme throughout creation and beyond, now and always, **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

Blessing of the Backpacks

Offertory Hymn:

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Blue Hymnal 653

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:

Blue Hymnal 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:

Come with us, O Blessed Jesus

Blue Hymnal 336

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 lives to praise your name.**

Recessional Hymn:

It is Well with My Soul

LEVAS 188

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:

Improvisation on 'VILLE DU HAVRE'

Phillip P. Bliss

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.
