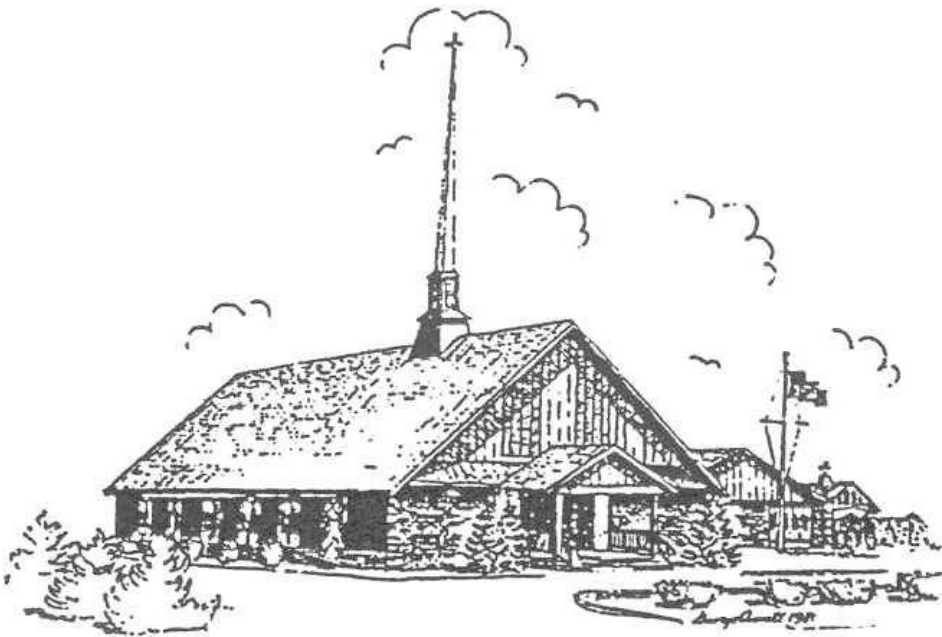


The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 17



The Episcopal Church of The Holy Innocents
31 August, 2025 ~ 9:30 AM

Welcome! In The Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. **BCP** means The Book of Common Prayer (Red Book). You'll find the BCP and Hymnals in the pew rack in front of you.

The Parish Notices

Prelude

Voluntary

Please use this time for quiet prayer and contemplation

THE WORD OF GOD

Entrance Hymn #609 (*please stand*) *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* GARDINER

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

People **And blessed be God's 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. *All: Amen.*

Gloria S-280 (*all sing*) *Gloria in excelsis*

Robert Powell

The Collect of the Day

BCP, p. 233

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.*

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me,
and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, "Where is the LORD
 who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
 in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
 in a land that no one passes through,
 where no one lives?"

I brought you into a plentiful land
 to eat its fruits and its good things.
But when you entered you defiled my land,
 and made my heritage an abomination.
The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?"
 Those who handle the law did not know me;
the rulers transgressed against me;
 the prophets prophesied by Baal,
 and went after things that do not profit.
Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD,
 and I accuse your children's children.
Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,
 send to Kedar and examine with care;
 see if there has ever been such a thing.
Has a nation changed its gods,
 even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory
 for something that does not profit.
Be appalled, O heavens, at this,
 be shocked, be utterly desolate,
 says the LORD,
for my people have committed two evils:
 they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living water,
 and dug out cisterns for themselves,

cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 81:1, 10-16

(Read in unison)

BCP, p. 704

- 1 Sing with joy to God our strength *
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.
- 10 I am the LORD your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, *
"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."
- 11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, *
and Israel would not obey me.
- 12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, *
to follow their own devices.
- 13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! *
that Israel would walk in my ways!
- 14 I should soon subdue their enemies *
and turn my hand against their foes.
- 15 Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, *
and their punishment would last for ever.
- 16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat *
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

The Epistle

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he

has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #635 *(please stand) If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee*

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

The Holy Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** *(All are seated)*

The Sermon *(Please be seated)*

The Rev. Peter De Franco

The Apostles' Creed *(Please Stand)*

BCP, p. 120

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth; I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Prayers of the People: *Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania*

Celebrant We pray for the flourishing of God's gifts to the Church.

Leader God our Father, you give us gifts that we may work together in the service of your Son: bless the leaders of your Church, especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Sally, our Bishop, Peter, our Supply Priest, that they may be firm in faith and humble before you.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Bless those who teach, especially all teachers and students beginning a new school year, that they may be open to your word for them.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Bless those who minister healing, that they may bring wholeness to others, yet know your healing in themselves.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Bless those through whom you speak, that they may proclaim your word in power, yet open their ears to your gentle whisper.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Bless those who work in your world today, especially Colleen our Mayor, Philip our Governor, and Donald our President. that in the complexity of their daily lives they may live for you, fulfil your purposes, and seek your kingdom first.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Bless those who are uncertain of their gifts and those who are powerless in this world's eyes, that they may be made strong in your gift of the Holy Spirit.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Bless those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our Parish Prayer List, and those we remember aloud or in the silence of our hearts.
(*Leader Pauses*) May they may have comfort and strength for renewal.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Bless all our partners in mission, especially the United Thank Offering Coordinator in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, and in the Anglican Communion, The Diocese of Ikara (EE-kah-rah) – The Church of Nigeria, that they may have your love and grace as their inspiration.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Bless all who have died, especially that with them, we may praise you on earth and in heaven.

People **Jesus, Lord of your Church, in your mercy hear us.**

Leader Let us pray for the Vestry and Search Committee as they search for a new rector.

People **Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of the members of our Vestry and Search Committee who shall choose a new rector for Holy Innocents' Episcopal**

Church, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Lord of all, hear our prayer and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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

Confession

BCP p. 360

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.**

Absolution

BCP p. 360

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 *(All stand)*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn #610 *(please be seated)* *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

BLAENHAFREN

Presentation of the Gifts *(All stand)*

All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee

Eucharistic Prayer 1 (Enriching Our Worship)

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus S-129 (all sing) *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

Robert Powell

The Celebrant continues (Please Stand or Kneel)

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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.”

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

Celebrant and People **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the Consecrated Bread. The congregation observes a time of silence.

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Postcommunion Prayer *(Please stand)*

BCP, p. 365

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.

Blessing *The New Zealand Prayer Book*

Christ who has nourished us with himself, the living bread, make you one in praise and love, and raise you up at the last day and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

Hymn #423 *(please stand) Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Postlude

Voluntary

Thank you to Barbara Wheeler for playing for us this morning!

Please join us in Martin Hall for Coffee & Fellowship!

Serving Today

Crucifer ~ John Wall **Lector** ~ Kay DeCicco

Ushers ~ Sue Hughes, Melissa Wall **Chalice Bearer** ~ Vince Contreras

Parish Prayer List – August 31, 2025

PLEASE NOTE: This is the last Sunday in August. All names will be removed from the prayer list unless you have requested to leave them on. If you need to add or remove a name, please contact Lisa Halpin, our Parish Administrator by **Wednesday, September 3rd**.

Lara Sparks Deitz

Mary Ann Crewdson

Dennis

Christian Balint

Christine Hendricks

Warren Lamon

Ann White

Pierro Family

Lovas Family

Debbie & Joe Reising

Connie

Joe

Peg Appleget

Dcn. Judy

Lynne Weidmann

Meg Neff	Rob Meyer	Tino
Florence Lamon	Melanie Harman	Pat
Kathy Rice	Jessie	Rich
Charles Sullivan	Doug Hunter	JoAnn King
Ellis Barbieri	Judy Hamilton	Cindy Wood
Diane	Ray M.	Gia
Jeannine	Phil	Frank
Fran Iozzi	Johnny Johnson, Jr.	Bill Bentley
Dr. John	Scott	Nellie Riley
Mike Phillips	Adam Boulderstone	Chris Mercer
Katie Gillis	Frank, III	Will Locovare
Pilar Wolfe	Ollie	Milt
Ben Giannico	Eric C.	Bill O'Connell
Family & Friends of Donna Kerrihard		Mary Jane Mannherz
Family & Friends of John Hunter		Glenn Servetah
Family & Friends of Marie Kleber		Mary K.
Family & Friends of Alycia Mullin		Tom Serpico

Those serving in the military and other dangerous professions:

Paul Bailey, Justin A. Dumhart, Joseph Alexander, Danny Melega, Andrew Wall, Brandan White

Birthdays: Deborah Hunter (09/3), Erma Green (09/06), Richard Neff (09/06)

Please note that Dcn. Judy's coffee hour brunch in celebration of her ministry here at Holy Innocents' is next Sunday, September 7th. Please contact Maggie Aftanis for details.

CLERGY & STAFF

Rev. Peter De Franco, *Supply Priest* revdefranco@gmail.com
 Mrs. Ellen J. Dondero, *Minister of Music & Organist* ejdondero@comcast.net
 Mrs. Lisa Halpin, *Parish Administrator* hichurch08008@gmail.com
 Office Hours: *Monday through Thursday • 9 AM - 2 PM*

The Episcopal Church of The Holy Innocents
 Pearl & Marine Streets, Beach Haven, NJ 08008