

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2026



*We seek to be instruments of God's peace, bearing
witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ for all people.*

ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Ministers: Every member of the Congregation



Welcome in the name of the living Christ to St. Francis Church! May you find renewed grace and peace as we worship together today. St. Francis is an Episcopal Church, part of the wider ministry of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts. If you are visiting with us today, please help us get to know you by introducing yourself at the door, and also by signing our guest book or filling out a pew card. *Please be sure to include an email address if you wish to be added to our mailing list.*

Please remember to take your cell phone or electronic device off silent mode at the end of worship.

You are invited to enter in reverence and awe of God's presence in this holy place. Before the liturgy begins we commend the keeping of silence as a time for prayer and reflection.

All baptized persons – regardless of denomination or age – are invited to receive the sacrament with us. All are welcome to the Table; even if you choose to not receive, you may wish to receive a blessing. Gluten-free bread is provided for those who request it; please be in touch with one of the clergy or ushers to make this request.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP:

The liturgy that we use for worship is from the red Book of Common Prayer (**BCP**). **Bold** print is to be spoken by the people of God.

At 10:00 a.m. our hymns and service music is from the blue Hymnal found in the book racks in the pews. Numbers that begin with an S- are in the front of the Hymnal.

HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING HYMN: 10:00 a.m.

God of grace, and God of glory

Hymnal 594

ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

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

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

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.

GLORIA:

BCP 356

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in
safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: *Genesis 32:22-31*

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 17:1-7, 16

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord;
give heed to my cry; listen to my prayer,
which does not come from lying lips. | 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law;
in your paths my feet shall not stumble. |
| 2 Let my vindication come forth from your
presence; let your eyes be fixed on justice. | 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;
incline your ear to me and hear my words. |
| 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night,
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me. | 7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness,
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right
hand from those who rise up against them. |
| 4 I give no offense with my mouth as others
do; I have heeded the words of your lips. | 16 But at my vindication I shall see your face;
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding
your likeness. |

SECOND READING: *Romans 9:1-5*

I am speaking the truth in Christ-- I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit-- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: *Matthew 14:13-21*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

SERMON:

John Bell

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

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 - FORM III

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of your Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Miguelina, our Bishop; for our own parish of St. Francis, our clergy, staff, wardens and vestry; for the ministry of unCommon Ground; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Donald, our President; Maura, our Governor; and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints, who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others...

...for The Church of the Province of Uganda; for the parish of Trinity Church, Shrewsbury; for the mission of Dismas House and Dismas Farm;

...for peace throughout the world; for the victims of war and terrorism, for the people of Ukraine and Afghanistan, for peace in Sudan, Yemen, and the region of the Middle East; and for those facing famine and drought in Somalia and the Horn of Africa;

... for all Federal and State employees, for the men and women of the Armed Forces and their families, especially J. Pigsley, Gregory Smith, Jason Haynes, Mark Williams, Jacob Pezzini, Tyler Jeck, David Lane, Riley Smith, James Cimochowski, Sam Richenburg, Liam DeLeon;

...for the peace and well-being of all international students, studying abroad in the United States;

...for those in our Parish Cycle of Prayer: Michael Reno; Joseph and Donna Reynolds; Sarah Ribeiro; Carolyn Ricardi;

... Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, those in prison, and for those in need of healing: : Rich, Eric Warner, Kathleen Lloyd Jones, Jack, John Dougherty, Paul Stanovich, Tom, Judy Crosby, Brenda, Hilda Schinsing, Judy Capone, Mary Lee and Bob Kraushaar, Jen Gadowski, Jeanette, James Kelly, Carmelita Bello, Andrea McDonald, Mary Mullahy, Kathy Vogel, Richard, Donna Giuliani, Patrick Kelly, Priscilla Morris, Maryann Bello, Mark, Lisa, Jane, Jim Emard, Brook, Lauretta Henning, Dan and Jan, Ida Nix;

...those suffering from homelessness and all types of addiction and mental illness; the residents and staff of Holden Nursing Home; and those who mourn;

...for those who have died;

Celebrant adds a final collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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

BCP 360

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN: 10:00 a.m.

Blest are the pure in heart

Hymnal 656

OFFERTORY PRESENTATION AND DOXOLOGY

All things come of thee, O Lord. And of Thine own have we given thee.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: 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.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

***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.***

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.

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 is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 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.**

FRACTION ANTHEM:

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP 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

CLOSING HYMN: 10:00 a.m.

Take up your cross, the Savior said

Hymnal 675

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Go in peace, and walk in the Way of Love.

Thanks be to God.

SERVERS THIS WEEKEND:

Altar Guild: Roz Glanville, Julie Russell, Carol Perkins, Kari Currie

Nursing Home: Karen Kappes

8:00 a.m.

Reader/LEM: Dick Delorme

10:00 a.m.

Ushers: Jeffrey and Nancy Plante

Reader: Mary Cook

LEM: Laura Caswell

St. Francis Episcopal Church



Bearing Witness
to
Christ's Love

Office Phone: 508-829-3344 Email: parishadmin@stfrancisholden.org
Web Page: www.stfrancisholden.org

Rector: The Rev. Patrick R. Perkins
Music Minister: Elizabeth Keusch
Parish Administrator: Elena Poirier
Church School: Amy Mellors

rector@stfrancisholden.org
music@stfrancisholden.org
parishadmin@stfrancisholden.org
churchschool@stfrancisholden.org

