

15 after Pentecost, Proper 19

September 17, 2017



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
1512 Willow
Blytheville, AR 72315

The Rt. Rev. Larry Benfield, Bishop of Arkansas
Fr. John Scott Trotter

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Entrance Rites

The people stand as they are able.

Gathering Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #516 - Come down, O Love divine

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People *Glory to God for ever and ever.*

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.*

Song of Praise

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #280 - Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people sit.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Word of God

The people sit.

First Reading

A reading from The Book of Exodus (14:19-31).

¹⁹The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. ²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." ²⁶Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea,

the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰
Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw
the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that
the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and
believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People

Thanks be to God

A period of silence is kept.

Psalm 114

BCP p. 756

In exitu Israel

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

A period of silence is kept.

Second Reading

A reading from The Letter of Paul to the Romans (14:1-12).

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People

Thanks be to God

A period of silence is kept.

The people stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing II #228

1. When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo-ple go;
2. The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go;
3. They jour - neyed on at his com - mand, let my peo-ple go;
4. Oh, let us all from bond - age flee, let my peo-ple go;

1. op - pressed so hard they_ could not stand, let my peo-ple go.
2. to lead the chil - dren of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple go.
3. and come at length to_ Ca - naan's land, let my peo-ple go.
4. and let us all in_ Christ be free, let my peo-ple go.

Go down, — Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land; —

tell old Pha - raoh to let my peo-ple go.

Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (18:21-35).

Glory to you, Lord Christ

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy–seven times. ²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord
People
Praise to you, Lord Christ

The people sit.

Sermon

The people stand as they are able.

The Nicene Creed

All say together

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 people stand, or kneel as they are able.

Prayers of the People

Leader

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For [N. our Presiding Bishop, and N. (N.) our Bishop(s); and for] all
bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A period of silence is kept.

Absolution

Bishop or Priest

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 people stand as they are able.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The people sit.

Our work this week

BCP 377

The Priest says

O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*

The people stand as they are able.

Offertory Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 # 380, vs 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures, here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

The Great Thanksgiving

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 him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand, or kneel as they are able.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she

might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with [_____ and] all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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. *AMEN.*

The People respond Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

***People and
Celebrant***

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

A period of silence is kept.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

The Priest invites the people to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with
thanksgiving.

*All are invited to receive communion. Come to the rail, extend your
hands one over the other, the minister will place bread in your palm,
which you consume; to receive wine raise your hands, the minister will
offer you the chalice, please guide it to your lips and sip. If you choose
not to receive your may receive a blessing; cross your arms over your
chest and the priest will bless you. You may choose to remain seated.*

Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #328 - Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord

1 Draw nigh and take the Bo - dy of the Lord,
2 Saved by that Bo - dy and that ho - ly Blood,
3 Sal - va - tion's giv - er, Christ, the on - ly Son,
4 Of - fered was he for great - est and for least,
5 Ap - proach ye then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,

1 and drink the ho - ly Blood for you out - poured.
2 with souls re - freshed, we ren - der thanks to God.
3 by his dear cross and blood the vic - tory won.
4 him - self the Vic - tim, and him - self the Priest.
5 and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

6 He that his saints in this world rules and shields
to all believers life eternal yields;

7 with heavenly bread he makes the hungry whole,
gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

8 Alpha-Omega, unto whom shall bow
all nations at the doom, is with us now.

Words: *Bangor Antiphoner*, ca. 690; tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.
Music: *Song 46*, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

The people stand as they are able.

Postcommunion Prayer

God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life
and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

The Bishop or Priest says
God's Blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always. *Amen.*

Going Forth

The Hymnal 1982 #336 - Come with us, O blessèd Jesus

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Prayers

Sandy, Lisa, Ethan, Logan, and Emily, Joe, Bill, Chris, Brandon,
Charles, Chuck, Matthew, Michael, Avery, Jimbo, Angie, Marcel, Vivian
and Family, James II and family, the Gaymens, James, Blake, Bailey
and family, Melissa and Ben, Bath and Amy, Linda, Roland and Vivian
Hughes, Janet, Bob, Myra, Mary, Friday Families, meals on wheels,
making better men of young men, those suffering from seasonal
storms and fires, those serving our country, those traveling, and for
those we now name:

Those who have died:

This week at St. Stephen's

9/17 15th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 19

9:00 am Eucharist

10:00 am Fellowship

9/19 6:30 pm Al Anon

9/20 6:30 pm Vestry

9/22 6:00 pm Family Friday

9/24 16th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 20

9:00 Eucharist

10:00 Fellowship

Worship Leaders

Date	Service	EM	Reader	POP
			Psalmist	
9/17 15 Pent-Prop 19	Eucharist	Beth	Ed	Beth
9/24 16 Pent-Prop 20	Eucharist	Liz	Bob	Bob

Acolytes

Date	1st Server	2nd Server	People's Gift & Alms
9/17 15 Pent-Prop 19	Emily	Belle	Amy
9/24 16 Pent-Prop 20	Belle	Amy	Mike

Prayer List Request

Please add the following to St Stephen's Prayer list:

Please add _____ to St Stephen's remembrance of the dead (date of death: MM/DD _____)

Dr. Scott's contact

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