

# 16 after Pentecost, Proper 21

September 28, 2014



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 #641 - Lord Jesus think on me

## 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 #428*

1 O all ye works of God, now come to thank him  
2 O sun and moon and stars of heaven, your end - less  
3 O heat and cold, O night and day, O storms and  
4 O earth and sea, O all that live in wa - ter  
5 O let his peo - ple bless the Lord like right - eous

1 and a - dore; O an - gels, sing and  
2 praise out - pour; O chang - ing sea - sons,  
3 thun - der's roar, O fields and for - ests,  
4 or on shore, O men and wo - men,  
5 souls of yore; let those of ho - ly,

1 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.  
 2 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.  
 3 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.  
 4 bless the Lord and praise him ev - er - more.  
 5 hum - ble heart come praise him ev - er - more.

6 So let us glorify and bless  
 the God we bow before,  
 the Father, Holy Spirit, Son,  
 and praise him evermore.

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev.; para. of *A Song of Creation* Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
 Music: *Irish*, melody from *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, 1749; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

## Collect of the Day

**Celebrant** God be with you.

**People** *And also with you.*

**Celebrant** Let us pray.

*The people sit.*

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## The Word of God

*The people sit.*

### First Reading

A reading from The Book of Exodus (17:1-7).

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People

Thanks be to God

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Psalm 78:1-4,12-16**

*BCP p. 694*

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, \*  
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \*  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*  
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, \*  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, \*  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Second Reading**

A reading from The Letter of Paul to the Philippians (2:1-13).

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name

that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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**

The Hymnal 1982 #574 - Before thy throne, O God, we kneel:

## **Gospel**

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

<sup>23</sup> When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup> Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup> Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say,

'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'

<sup>26</sup> But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup> So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. <sup>28</sup> "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'

<sup>29</sup> He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went.

<sup>30</sup> The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup> Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup> For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*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**

BCP 392

### **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*

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and'. The second staff contains the second line: 'earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'. The third staff contains the third line: 'Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with quarter and eighth notes.

*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 celebrant and people sing*

*Wonder Love and Praise #878*

Who - ev - er comes to me shall not hun - ger and

who - ev - er be - lieves in me shall nev - er thirst.

*A period of silence is kept.*

*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 you 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 #435 - At the Name of Jesus

*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**

#### **Dismissal**

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

## **Prayers**

Joe, Billy, Mary, Dale, Randy, Joyce, Eaton, April Hise, Blake, Londa, Sara and Rey, Anita, Charlotte, Pat, Lori & Reyan, Bryant family, Charles, Carolyn, Caden, “E” Angie, Marcel, Ginny, Tri and Lucca; Michelle, Russell & Drace; the Nelson family, Barbara Dale and Dale, Frances, Randy, The Burnett and Stallings family, Linda, Debbie W, Matthew, Kathy and her family, Robin Moore and family, the Wilder family, the Keller family those suffering from seasonal storms, meals on wheels, making better men of young men, those serving our country, those traveling, and for those we now name...

Those who have died:  
Polly Keller Winter

## **Calendar**

9/28 16th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship

10:00 am fellowship & vestry meeting

10/4 3:00 pm Blessing of the Animals Osceola

4:00 pm Spaghetti Dinner; silent auction @ 6 pm  
at 1st Baptist; proceeds to Humane Society

10/5 17th after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship

10:00 am fellowship & Sunday School

2:00 pm Blessing of the animals 1st Methodist, Blytheville

## **Announcements**

10/4 4:00 Spaghetti Dinner @ 4 pm; silent auction @ 6 pm  
proceeds benefit Humane Society at 1 st Baptist

## **Calvary Episcopal Church - Blessing of the Animals**

Calvary Episcopal Church and First United Methodist Church of Osceola invite all creatures great and small — and of all faiths and feathers — to the 2nd Annual Blessing of the Animals, 3:00 p.m. Saturday, October 4, 2014. This event will be held in conjunction with the UMC Country Fair at their north lawn located at 303 S Pecan St, Osceola, AR. The Rev. Canon Jason Alexander, Episcopal Church, Little Rock; and Rev. Tony Hill, United Methodist Church, Osceola, will officiate.

St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day is October 4, is the inspiration for the blessing of the animals ceremony. St. Francis is believed to have had a great love for animals and it is said that he once preached to his “sisters the birds.” He believed that humans have the great fortune of enjoying the natural world but also the responsibility of being stewards of all God’s creation. During the blessing of the animals ceremony prayers will be said remembering St. Francis’ example for us and blessings will be given for all people and pets in attendance! Please bring all animals properly restrained for the safety of the other animals and their people in attendance.

NOTE: There will also be a drive to benefit the Osceola Animal Shelter as well. Please help support Osceola's forgotten pet population by bringing one of the following items: dry dog or cat food, dog biscuits, kitty litter, collars, old blankets and towels.

## **'The Journey' Weekend Retreat**

Oct. 17–19, at Camp Mitchell

This new retreat is an adaptation of the Cursillo weekend—but it is not a Cursillo. The Journey takes the best of the Cursillo method and adapts the weekend to a shorter, more compact retreat experience. Gone is all the Cursillo lingo. The talks are shorter and more focused. The retreat will start on Friday evening and end Sunday afternoon and is open to members of all denominations. Download the brochure for more information. Space is limited, so download the application and register now.

## **Learn About Dick Johnston Camp**

Saturday, Nov. 1, at Camp Mitchell

Dick Johnston Camp is a summer camp session held at Camp Mitchell annually for children with one or both parents in prison. The planning committee is actively preparing for next year's camp, and wants to involve more parishes and volunteers in the areas of camper recruitment, scholarships, fundraising and camp leadership. There will be an informational session and lunch Nov. 1 at Camp Mitchell, followed by a planning session for those who wish to stay. Download a registration form. For more information, or if you cannot attend but would like to volunteer, please email Kristi Palmer or call 501-940-1591.

## **Benedictine Advent Retreat**

December 4-7, at Camp Mitchell

A time for centering, quiet, reflection, and rest during the mad rush of the holidays. Led by the Revs. Lisa Hlass, Virginia Chase, and Helen Hargreaves, the retreat will begin Thursday evening, with an optional quiet day Thursday. It will follow a Benedictine rhythm with the Daily Office, community sessions for study and reflection, silence, and optional time to devote to creative endeavors, spiritual disciplines, and rest. The retreat will conclude with Holy Eucharist Sunday morning. For more information, email the Rev. Lisa or call 501-224-1442.

## Worship Leaders

<b>Date</b>	<b>Proper</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>EM Worship Ldr</b>	<b>reader</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>
9/28	Pent. 16 Proper 21		Kathryn		Corbet
10/5	Pent 17. Proper 22		Liz		Beth

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