

The CHURCH of the HOLY TRINITY
An Episcopal Church

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 27, 2026

8:00 & 10:00 am

The Reverend Kevin M. Cross, Rector



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GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY!

"I was glad when they said to me, let us go to the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

"The prelude begins our service. Once it begins, please take a moment for silent prayer/meditation so that we enter into our worship with quieted, prayerful minds. Thank you."

Holy Eucharist Rite II

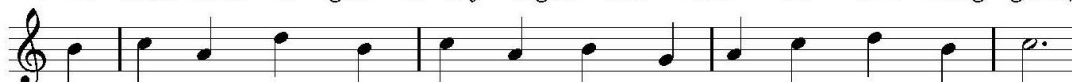
Prelude

Processional Hymn

O God Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come
2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

Words: Isaac Watts. Music: ST ANNE, William Croft, arr. William Monk. Public Domain. Reprinted under RiteSong Subscription.

The Word of God

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

People: *And blessed be his 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



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Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect

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.

Scripture

First Lesson

Exodus 17:1-7

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. 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?" 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?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” 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. 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. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

- 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.*

Second Lesson

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory

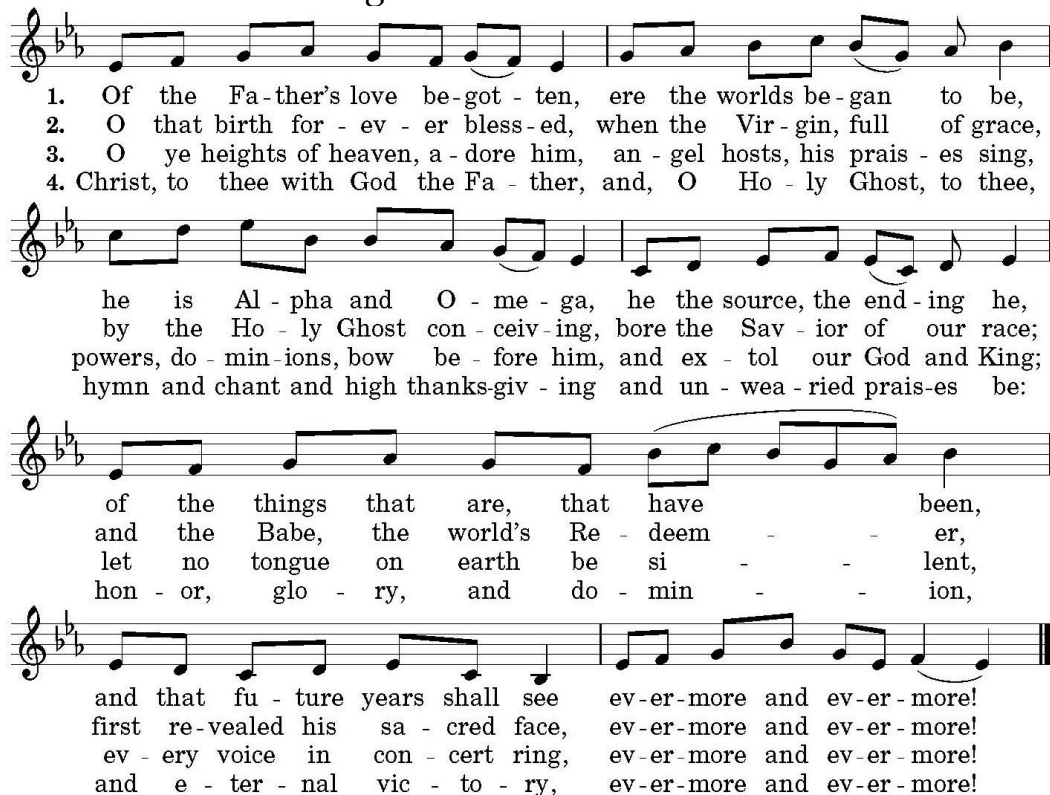
of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Of The Father's Love Begotten



1. Of the Fa-ther's love be-got - ten, ere the worlds be-gan to be,
2. O that birth for - ev - er bless-ed, when the Vir - gin, full of grace,
3. O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him, an - gel hosts, his prais - es sing,
4. Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,

he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the source, the end - ing he,
by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of our race;
powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex - tol our God and King;
hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing and un - wea - ried prais-es be:

of the things that are, that have been,
and the Babe, the world's Re - deem - er,
let no tongue on earth be si - lent,
hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion,

and that fu - ture years shall see ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
first re - vealed his sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
ev - ery voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

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The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

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?" 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. 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?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." 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. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. 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. 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 Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon

The Reverend Kevin Cross

Nicene Creed

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 Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped 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

Diocese of Easton Discernment Prayer

O God our Comforter, who guides us in the ways of justice and truth and holds us close in times of uncertainty: Inspire us with your grace and wisdom, that we might do everything according to your will and ground ourselves in your love. Give us a sense of openness about the future ministries and mission of the Diocese of Easton. Help us remember that we do not hold all of the answers, nor do we need to. Encourage us when we are anxious about change, reminding us that all things are in your hands: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

As faithful members of the body of Christ, let us now pray for the Church, the nation and the world. Saying, *“Lord, hear our prayer.”*

Almighty God, we acknowledge you with grateful hearts and the One in whom we live and move and have our being. Thank you, O Lord, for your love, your goodness and your mercy. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one

another and serve the common good. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

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. In our weekly prayer intentions we pray for: (*read the names on the prayer list*)...

We pray for those in need of healing this day:

<i>Joel</i>	<i>Fr. Ambrose Boyd</i>	<i>Peg Keller</i>
<i>Ritzi Miller</i>	<i>Dan O'Neill</i>	<i>Stephanie Cooney Moorhead</i>
<i>Rich Wagner</i>	<i>Jackson Beaumont</i>	<i>Sara Kadish</i>
<i>Eleanor Dallam</i>	<i>Courtney</i>	<i>George Wadleton</i>
<i>Michael Delean</i>	<i>Polly Obermeier</i>	<i>India</i>
<i>Donna Richards</i>	<i>Everett Kimball</i>	<i>Shirley Bruner</i>
<i>Betty Jo Mackart</i>	<i>John Dillon</i>	<i>Janet Wroten</i>
<i>Betty Mackart</i>	<i>Ron Kaufman</i>	
<i>Elsbeth Ritchie</i>	<i>Diane Lapp</i>	

Are there others? You may name them aloud or silently in your heart.(*pause*)... *Lord, hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. We

remember especially the members of our military who died in service to our country and we pray for comfort and solace for their families.

Are there others? You may name them aloud or silently in your heart...(pause) ... *Lord, hear our prayer.*

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people in the war torn areas of the world today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you will hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus the Prince of Peace. *Dear God, hear our prayer.*

A period for personal meditation is observed

All: God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to all who wait or work in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make them the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring them courage to endure what cannot be avoided for your will is health and wholeness; you're God and we need you. Amen.

The Altar Flowers Are Given By Laura Cassidy In Memory of My Mother and Father John Stovall and Greta Stovall.

Confession

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.

Absolution

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ and strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also, with you.

The Holy Communion

Offertory

Ubi Caritas/For the Bread Which You Have Eaten C. Callahan

Doxology *(please stand)*

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

Presider: All things come from Thee O Lord.

People: And of thy own we have given Thee.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: 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.

Preface

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

Arr. Malcolm Archer

Ho - ly Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord
God of pow'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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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 forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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, the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Prayer for Spiritual Communion *(Prayed with those joining us from home and hospital bed)*

My Jesus, I believe you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I reaffirm your presence in my heart. I

embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Communion

Pie Jesu

G. Faure

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Saviour 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.

Birthdays

Bill Livingood, 10/1	
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Anniversaries

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Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Alleluia, Alleluia Give Thanks

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

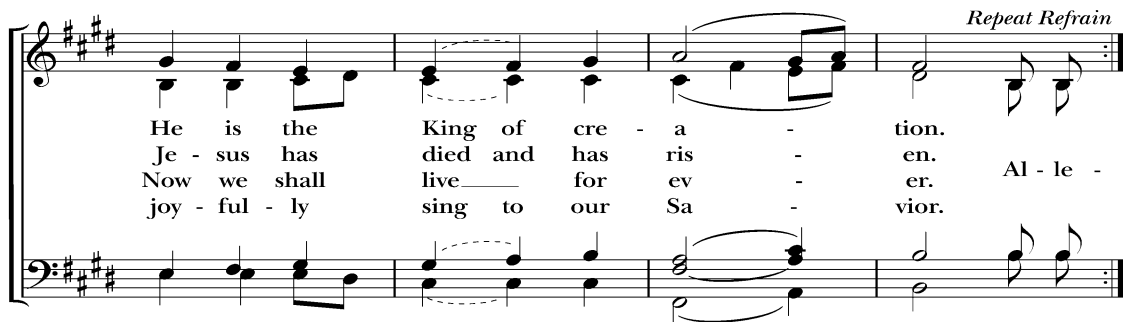
ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,



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Sending Forth

Go in laughter; go in grace. Keep the Lord in your heart and a smile on your face. The world needs our joy, Alleluia, Alleluia
 Let us go to share it. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

Thank you Carol and Rene Van Erven for hosting Fellowship hour.

Don't Miss Mystery Concert at 3 PM!



Jenny Greenteeth
(The Chivalrous Crickets)

October 4, 2026 3 p.m.
The Church of the Holy Trinity
502 S. Morris St. Oxford MD 21654

A wonderful group of folk musicians performing music from Celtic and American traditions, Jenny Greenteeth captivates audiences with ancient Gaelic language repertoire, wonderfully weird British ballads and tunes from "beyond the veil," featuring vocal harmonies, harp and fiddles, Irish whistle, drones and percussion.

A free will offering will be taken up for the performers. Attendees are also requested to bring a non-perishable food item for local food pantries.

Worship Service Schedule

Holy Eucharist with Music Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

First Sunday of the month 9:30 am

<u>Monday - September 28</u> 5:00 pm - Men's Inquiring Believers <u>Tuesday September 29</u> 8:30 am - Intercessory Prayer <u>Wednesday - September 30</u> 9:00 am - Christmas Mart Meeting <u>Thursday - October 1</u>	<u>Friday - October 2</u> OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 am - Choir Practice <u>Saturday - October 3</u> OFFICE CLOSED <u>Sunday - October 4</u> 9:30 am - Kirkin Service 12:00 pm - Animal Blessing 3:00 pm - Jenny Greenteeth Concert
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Vestry Members

Margot McConnel Sr. Warden	Connie Greenhawk, Secretary	Margaret Munsch, Registrar
Dick Deerin, Treasurer	Bill Ritchie & Michelle Mactavish, Co-Junior Wardens	Gordon Fronk - Emeritus
Martha Callahan	Tom DeMarco	Susan Grauel
Dick Deerin	Art Dent	Trish Malin
Laura Cassidy	Walda Roseman	Al Sikes

Dr. Cora Bruner - Organist and Choir Director

Worship Leaders	8:00 am	10:00 am
Reader	Laura Cassidy	Susie Dillon
Acolyte	Beverly Rohman	Kathy Becker
Usher	Chloe Pitard	Rene Van Erven
Vestry Greeter		Walda Roseman
Altar Guild	Midge Menzies, Marty Sikes, Meg van den Berg	
Flower Guild	Ingrid Blanton, Pam Dent, Susan Middleton, Karen Parker, Chloe Pitard	