



St. Vincent's Episcopal Church
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - November 19, 2023

Prelude Song **"Jesus Calls Us"**

*Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea,
Day by day his clear voice soundeth,
Saying, "Christian, follow me;"*

*As, of old, Saint Andrew heard it
By the Galilean lake,
Turned from home and toil and kindred,
Leaving all for his dear sake.*

*Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store;
From each idol that would keep us,
Saying, "Christian, love me more."*

*In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, Love me more than these."*

*Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,
Saviour, make us hear thy call,
Give our hearts to thine obedience,
Serve and love thee best of all.
Amen.*

Processional Song **"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

*What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our Refuge –
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.*

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;
People: *There is one hope in God's call to us;*

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People: *One God and Father of all.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from the Book of Judges (4:1-7)

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from

Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

Reader: The word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

Let us read responsively by whole verse, Psalm 123

1 To you I lift up my eyes, * to you enthroned in the heavens.

**2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,**

3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, * until he show us his mercy.

**4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,**

5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, * and of the derision of the proud.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians (5:1-11)

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader: The word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

Gospel Hymn #205

"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing"

*Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

*The Lord of life is risen today!
Sing songs of praise along his way;
let all the earth rejoice and say:
"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

*Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO Matthew (25:14-30)

All: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Alleluia - #205, refrain (x3)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Sermon

Presentation and Examination of Candidates

Celebrant: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

***Parents and
Godparents:***

We present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

***Parents and
Godparents:***

We will with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents: ***We will with God's help***

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: ***I renounce them.***

Celebrant: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: ***I renounce them.***

Celebrant: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: ***I renounce them.***

Celebrant: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer: ***I do.***

Celebrant: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and Love?

Answer: ***I do.***

Celebrant: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: ***I do.***

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: ***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: ***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.***

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: ***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.***

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All: ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All: ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

All: *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

All: *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

All: *I will, with God's help.*

Prayers for the Candidates

Let us now pray for those who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader: Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Fill her with your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the

Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: *N.*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. Amen.

Celebrant: *N.*, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People: ***We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.***

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you. **People:** And also with you.

Announcements

Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Hymn #433 “We Gather Together”

*We gather together
to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens
his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing*

*now cease from distressing:
sing praises to his name;
he forgets not his own.*

*Beside us to guide us,
our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining
his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning
the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side:
all glory be thine!*

*We all do extol thee,
thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still
our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation
escape tribulation:
thy name be ever praised!
O Lord, make us free!*

Doxology (Hymnal #380 v.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. Amen.***

Celebrant: All things come from thee, O Lord.
All: ***And of thy own have we given thee.***

Presentation of the Gifts

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which the earth has given and human hands have made. For us it becomes the bread of life.
All: ***Blessed be God forever.***

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. For us it becomes the cup of salvation.
All: ***Blessed be God forever.***

The Liturgy of the Eucharist – Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you
People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give Him thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. 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 - #S-129

***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.***

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All together Say: *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 Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Agnus Dei

Celebrant: Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,

People: *Have mercy on us.*

Celebrant: Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,

People: *Have mercy on us.*

Celebrant: Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,

People: *Grant us your peace.*

Celebrant: 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.

Communion Song BB34 “Give Thanks”

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He’s
given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He’s given
Jesus Christ, His Son.*

*And now let the weak say, “I am strong.”
Let the poor say, “I am rich”
because of what the Lord has
done for us;
And now let the weak say “I am strong,”
Let the poor say “I am rich”
because of what the Lord has
done for us.*

*Give thanks.
Give thanks.*

Give thanks.
Give thanks.
Give thanks.

Song BB25

“We Believe”

*In this time of desperation
when all we know is doubt and fear,
there is only one foundation:
we believe, we believe.*

*In this broken generation,
when all is dark,
you help us see.
There is only one salvation;
we believe, we believe.*

*We believe in God the Father.
We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
and He’s given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion.
We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection,
and He’s coming back again
we believe.*

*So, let our faith be more than anthems,
greater than the songs we sing,
And in our weakness and temptations
we believe, we believe!*

*We believe in God the Father.
We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
and He’s given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion.
We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection,
and He's coming back,
He's coming back again!
We believe, We believe!*

An Act of Spiritual Communion

People: I believe, Lord, that you are truly in Heaven and in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and I very much want to receive you into my soul, but not being able to do so sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And as if I had already received you, I embrace you and I fully join You. Lord, do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us Pray.

Celebrant and People: *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.*

The Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn #535 “Ye Servants of God”

*Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol,
his kingdom is glorious; he rules over all.*

*God ruleth on high, almighty to save,
and still he is nigh, his presence we have;
the great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.*

*"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son;
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.*

*Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and power, all wisdom and might;
all honor and blessing with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing and infinite love.*

Priest: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***