

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 27, Year A
November 12, 2017 8:00 AM Worship
The Holy Eucharist, Rite 1

Welcome to
St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church
STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA



About This Worship Service

Worship in the Episcopal Church is liturgical in nature; that is, we used a fixed “script” to guide us through a worship experience in which all are participants.

Although you may be new to a liturgical form of worship, much of the liturgy we use is ancient, some parts dating back to the first centuries following the life and ministry of Jesus; other parts, such as the Lord’s Prayer and parts of the Prayer of Consecration are original to Jesus himself.

This worship booklet contains everything you need to participate fully in this worship service, including *suggestions for when it would be appropriate to stand, sit, or kneel*; when it would be appropriate to “cross” oneself, etc. However, these are only suggestions and we don’t want you to do anything you’re uncomfortable doing or incapable of doing. Additionally, the responses which the congregation makes are shown in **bold text**.

Brief introductions to the Bible readings can be found on the last page.

If you have any questions about anything you see going on, please don’t hesitate to ask anyone sitting near you. Or, you can call the church office at (405) 372-3357. You can also call or text Fr. Jim Cook at (405) 780-5316. Or, you can visit our website: www.SaintAndrewsChurch.org

Childcare is provided from 9:15 AM through to the end of the 10:30 AM worship. You may ask an usher or greeter for directions to the nursery.

Bathrooms are available in both the Parish Hall and the Admin/Ed Building. You may ask an usher or greeter for directions.

Make no mistake, we're glad you've joined us for worship! While you're waiting for the service to begin, please take a moment to silence your cell phones and other electronic devices. Thanks!

The Entrance of the Ministers

The Congregation may stand.

The Opening Sentences

BCP 323

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

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

“Glory be to God on High”

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, † art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

The Congregation may kneel.

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, he liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end.
Amen.

The Congregation may be seated.

The Readings from Holy Scripture

AMOS 5: 18-24

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord: Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 70

Let us recite this portion of the psalter
responsively by the whole-verse.

1. Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; *
O Lord, make haste to help me.
2. **Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogether dismayed; ***
**let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.**

3. Let those who say to me “Aha!”
and gloat over me turn back, *
because they are ashamed.
4. **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; *
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
“Great is the Lord!”**
5. But as for me, I am poor and needy; *
come to me speedily, O God.
6. **You are my helper and my deliverer; *
O Lord, do not tarry.**

1 THESSALONIANS 4: 13-18

A reading from Saint Paul’s letter
to the Christians in Thessalonica.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words. *ur own selves*, because you have become very dear to us.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Congregation may stand.

MATTHEW 25: 1-13

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

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

✚ Jesus said, “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Once the Minister has entered the pulpit and invoked the Holy Trinity, the Congregation may be seated.

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

Let us reaffirm our faith.

The Congregation may stand.

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 Congregation may kneel.

The Prayers of the People

BCP 328

Let us pray for the whole state
of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer

unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers — especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Edward our Bishop — that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land — especially the President of the United States, the Members of Congress, and the Justices of the Supreme Court — that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed ✚ this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Blessed Andrew and of all

thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Finally, we pray for our own needs, and those of others:

We pray for those in need of healing, especially [*Names*] and any others we might name in our hearts or aloud.

We pray for those with other cares and concerns, especially [*Names*] and any others we might name in our hearts or aloud.

We pray for those who have ✝ died, especially [*Names*] and any others we might name in our hearts or aloud.

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces, especially [*Names*] and any others we might name in our hearts or aloud.

We pray for those who travel, especially [*Names*] and any others we might name in our hearts or aloud.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: Graced Church, Ponca City.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion), and especially the Diocese of Ughelli, the Rt. Rev'd Cyril Odutemu, Bishop.

And we give thanks for the many blessings of this life:

We join in thanksgiving with [*Names*], and any others we might name in our hearts or aloud.

And in thanksgiving for [*Names*], and any others we might name in our hearts or aloud.

We pray for those celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary this week and invite them to come forward for a special prayer.

The birthday tradition at St. Andrew's is that when you come forward for your prayer, if you wish, you may place in the birthday cross an amount of money in coins equal to your age. The funds contributed are added to the clergy discretionary fund.

The Celebrant concludes with the following collect.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

BCP 331

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with

hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✚ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Comfortable Words

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *I Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *I John 2:1-2*

The Congregation may stand.

The Peace

BCP 332

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

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

Greetings & Announcements

The Offertory

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name;
Bring offerings and come into his courts.

The Congregation may stand for the Presentation.

The Presentation

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

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP 333

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should
at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord,
holy Father, almighty, everlasting God;

Preface of the Lord's Day Creator of the light and source of life, who
hast made us in thine image, and called us to new life in Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the
company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name;
evermore praising thee, and saying,

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and
Hearth are full of thy Glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord

Most High. † Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Congregation may kneel.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and

creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled **+** with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN!**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to 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 Breaking of the Bread

BCP 337

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

The Invitation 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.

The Communion of the People

All persons who seek God are invited to receive Holy Communion.

*To receive the Bread, extend your palms, one crossed over the other, upwards towards the Minister, and a wafer will be placed into your hands. **Gluten-free wafers are available**; make your request known to the Minister administering the Bread.*

To receive the Wine, please assist in guiding the cup to your lips. Alternately, you may dip the wafer in the wine and place it in your mouth.

If you wish to receive only a Blessing, cross your arms over your chest while kneeling or standing at the altar rail.

If mobility-issues prevent you from coming to the Altar, Communion can be brought to you. Please alert the Greeter to your situation.

Finally, it would be helpful if you blotted your lips of any lip balm or lipstick, as it leaves an oily and/or waxy residue on the linens that is difficult to remove.

Sending our the Lay Eucharistic Visitors

In the Name of God, we send you forth bearing these Holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood; for though we are many, we share one Bread and one Cup. Amen.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving BCP 339

Let us pray.

The Congregation may kneel.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

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

The Departure of the Ministers.

Introductions to the Bible Readings

Amos 5: 18-24

In this Hebrew Bible lesson the prophet proclaims that the day of the Lord will be a day of deep gloom. God despises the ceremonies of his people and calls for a continuous stream of justice and righteousness. In this era people looked forward to “the day of the Lord” as an annual time of festival and also a symbol of the great final day when God would make all things well. How wrong they are! It will be a day of darkness, not light. No matter where a man turns, disaster awaits him. The Lord is done with rites without righteousness, and religiosity as a substitute for equity.

Psalm 70

A prayer for help and vindication.

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

In this reading Paul offers a vision of how the dead in Christ will rise and then, together with those who are alive, be caught up to meet the Lord in the sky. Apparently some members of the Thessalonian church had died, and there was this concern: would they miss the Lord’s coming? First, Paul reminds them that the Christian hope is rooted in the God who raised Jesus. He then describes the day of the Lord’s appearing and the raising up of the dead and the living, using highly poetic

imagery conditioned by the worldview of his time. The essential meaning is clear: we shall be with the Lord.

Matthew 25: 1-13

Our gospel is the parable of the wise and foolish maidens — those prepared and unprepared for the bridegroom's coming. In several ways the details of the story may strike us as odd and even a little unfair, but such a concern misses the main point, which has much in common with other of Jesus' parables. One must at all times be ready with repentance and decision for the kingdom's coming. In a later period this story was read with allegorical overtones. Jesus is the bridegroom whose return is delayed. Some in the church are falling asleep while others remain expectant.