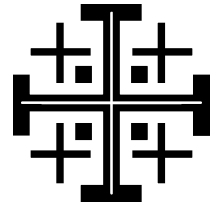




# Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

## Episcopal/Anglican Alexandria, Virginia



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CREATION CARE FAMILY SERVICE

Sept 18, 2021

### Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 5:30 p.m.

Eucharist, Communion, or Mass is the normal Sunday worship for The Episcopal Church. We hold this service for many other special occasions like tonight. It is one of the sacraments, a sign and symbol of the Living God. It is instructed and instituted by Jesus, ‘Do this in remembrance of me.’ It is the center of our worship, our lives, and the universe itself—God revealed in Christ, whose body and blood is given for the healing, salvation, and redemption of the world.

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#### THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Spiritual, Wade in the Water

Shrinemonters

Wade in the water  
Wade in the water  
Wade in the water, children  
God's gonna trouble the water (Chorus)

2.) Who's that yonder dressed in white?  
God's gonna trouble the water  
Looks like the children of the Israelites  
God's gonna trouble the water

1.) Who's that yonder dressed in red?  
God's gonna trouble the water  
Looks like the children that Moses led,  
God's gonna trouble the water

3.) Who's that yonder dressed in green?  
God's gonna trouble the water  
Must be the hypocrites turning mean  
God's gonna trouble the water. You Got To!

Opening Acclamation

EOW 50

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
*Glory to God for ever and ever.*

Trisagion

BCP 355

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,  
*Have mercy upon us*

The Collect of the Day

EOW 52

God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to use all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Collect for Creation

Gracious God whenever Your people gather in Your name it is our bounden duty to pray for the life of the world—a world you have made not just of persons but of countless other creatures, plants, insects, funguses, giant trees, tiny little organisms we will never even see, pure water and precious soil, and all the things that make a living earth—and we rejoice and give thanks to You for the gift of Your Creation, for this bountiful and beautiful nature; and we commit ourselves anew to protecting, preserving, and safeguarding the world You have given us. *Amen.*

## The First Lesson: Genesis 1:24-31

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people,

And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image,

in the image of God he created them;

male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.

And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm 8 *Domine, Dominus noster*

- 1 O LORD our Governor, \*  
how exalted is your Name in all the world!
- 2 Out of the mouths of infants and children \*  
your majesty is praised above the heavens.
- 3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, \*  
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, \*  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

- 5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? \*  
the son of man that you should seek him out?
- 6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; \*  
you adorn him with glory and honor;
- 7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; \*  
you put all things under his feet:
- 8 All sheep and oxen, \*  
even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, \*  
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
- 10 O LORD our Governor, \*  
how exalted is your Name in all the world!

### **The Holy Gospel: Luke 8:4-15**

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Luke  
Response: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable: 'A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold.' As he said this, he called out, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!'

Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, 'To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that "looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand."

'Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance.

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**A Gift of Trees:** The Creation Care Team

**The Homily:** The Rev. Sam Sheridan

Sisters and Brothers, rejoice. We are sustained and  
nourished by God's presence and love;  
*Thanks be to God.*

As we mourn the distress and wounds of God's creation;  
*God weeps with us.*

As we face the rising waters, hunger, and displacement;  
*God suffers with us.*

As we struggle for justice in our common life;  
*God struggles with us.*

As we fight climate justice across the world's governments;  
*God empowers us.*

As we strive to build alternative ways of being;  
*God works with us.*

As we offer our gifts to all;  
*God blesses us.*

Sisters and brothers, rejoice;  
*Sustained by God's presence and love, we worship God.*

Living God, you call us to be good stewards of this earthly home, strengthen us  
to care for your creation; forgive us when, through our greed and indifference  
we abuse its beauty and damage its potential. Empower us, through your Spirit  
to so nurture and love the world, that all creation sings to your glory. **Amen**

## The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

## Welcome and Announcements

*If you have never been to an Episcopal Eucharist before, this is an extra-prayer-book authorized prayer called  
Enriching Our Worship. The words may be slightly new for some people, but also it is the same as every one  
that we hear at every Eucharist. There is one banquet we glimpse almost every time we meet.*

*If you'd like to receive, we'll form a line after the prayer. Holding out your hands with the palms up indicates  
you would like the common bread. Hold your hands out with your palms down will indicate you require Gluten  
Free communion. Crossing your arms over your chest will be the way to request a blessing. If you get up there  
and forget which thing you want... you're also welcome to just say. We'd rather you say than feel given the  
wrong thing.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn

Shrinemonters

All Good Gifts from Godspell by Stephen Schwartz & John Michael Tebelak

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land  
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand  
He sends us snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain  
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain

All good gifts around us  
Are sent from Heaven above  
So thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord for all his love

We thank thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good,  
The seedtime and the harvest, our life our health our food,  
No gifts have we to offer for all thy love imparts  
But that which thou desirest, our humble thankful hearts!

All good gifts around us  
Are sent from Heaven above  
So thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord for all his love  
I really wanna thank you Lord!

**The Great Thanksgiving:** Eucharistic Prayer 1

EOW 57

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 our thanks and praise.*

Celebrant: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

*The Celebrant proceeds:*

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The Celebrant continues:*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues:*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as

Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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.**

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

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ  
*We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God, for the People of God.

### **Communion Song**

Shrinemonters

#### **Light the Fire by Bill Maxwell**

I stand to praise You,  
But I fall to my knees.  
My spirit is willing,  
But my flesh is so weak.

Light the fire (echo)  
In my soul, (In my weary soul)  
Fan the flame, (echo)  
Make me whole. (Make my spirit whole)  
Lord, You know (Oh Lord You know)

Just where I've been, (Where I've been)  
So light the fire in my heart again.

I feel Your arms around me,  
As the power of Your healing begins.  
You breathe new life right through me,  
Like a mighty rushing wind.

So light the fire in my heart again,  
Light the fire in my heart again,  
Light the fire in my heart again.

**Family Activity, Build A Tree by Joseph Cornell**

Creation Care Team

*We'll go outside and see some of this creation we've all been talking about with a final activity before the service ends and we all get dinner! Bring your stuff or leave it, this is a safe building and we're not going far!*

**Post Communion Prayer**

EOW 69

Celebrant: Let us pray:

*People and Celebrant*

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.

**The Blessing**

God's blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. *Amen.*

**The Dismissal**

Clergy: Let us bless the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

*This service is possible only with the exceptional devotion and loving care of Amanda Eisenhour, Brooke Roberts, Denise Freeland, Doug John, Harrison Clark, Jeannie Cummins Eisenhour, Julie Bruns, Kathryn Haskin, Kristi Kubista-Hovis, Matt Haskin, Paul Smyth, Rachel Wilson, and Sudie McGahuey*