

# IX Pentecost

*Hear the Word. Break the Bread. Share the Love.*



## Holy Eucharist

July 21, 2024  
10:30 a.m.

**Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Welcomes You**  
*130 39<sup>th</sup> Ave. Pl. NW, Hickory, NC 28601*  
*(828) 324-1351*

*Welcome to St. Alban's. We are grateful for your presence.*  
*Cloth pew bags are now available for our younger worshippers.*  
*Please return to the basket as you depart.*

## Prelude

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Processional Hymn

*Morning has broken*

Hymnal 8

## Opening Acclamation

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

BCP p. 355

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

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## Collect for Purity *(Celebrant and People)*

BCP p. 355

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 *(Spoken in unison)*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Collect of the Day

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*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## The Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a *The people sit.*

A Reading from the Second Book of Samuel.

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have

cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

**The Gradual: Psalm 89:20-37**    (*Spoken in unison*)

<sup>20</sup>I have found my servant David;  
with my holy oil I have anointed him;  
<sup>21</sup>my hand shall always remain with him;  
my arm also shall strengthen him.  
<sup>22</sup>The enemy shall not outwit him,  
the wicked shall not humble him.  
<sup>23</sup>I will crush his foes before him  
and strike down those who hate him.  
<sup>24</sup>My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him;  
and in my name his horn shall be exalted.  
<sup>25</sup>I will set his hand on the sea  
and his right hand on the rivers.  
<sup>26</sup>He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father,  
my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'  
<sup>27</sup>I will make him the firstborn,  
the highest of the kings of the earth.  
<sup>28</sup>Forever I will keep my steadfast love for him,  
and my covenant with him will stand firm.  
<sup>29</sup>I will establish his line forever,  
and his throne as long as the heavens endure.  
<sup>30</sup>If his children forsake my law  
and do not walk according to my ordinances,  
<sup>31</sup>if they violate my statutes  
and do not keep my commandments,  
<sup>32</sup>then I will punish their transgression with the rod  
and their iniquity with scourges;  
<sup>33</sup>but I will not remove from him my steadfast love,  
or be false to my faithfulness.  
<sup>34</sup>I will not violate my covenant,  
or alter the word that went forth from my lips.  
<sup>35</sup>Once and for all I have sworn by my holiness;  
I will not lie to David.  
<sup>36</sup>His line shall continue forever,  
and his throne endure before me like the sun.  
<sup>37</sup>It shall be established forever like the moon,  
an enduring witness in the skies."

## The Epistle: Ephesians 2:11-22

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

<sup>11</sup>Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—<sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup>He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup>So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup>for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           Thanks be to God.

## Sequence Hymn

*Just as I am, without one plea*

Hymnal 693

## The Holy Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

*Deacon*           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

*People*           Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>30</sup>The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

<sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. <sup>54</sup>When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup>and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

*Deacon*           The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*           Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## The Sermon

The Rev. Anne Bridgers

## The 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 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 Prayers of the People

FORM III

BCP p. 387-388

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**People** *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; That your Name may be glorified by all people, remembering especially Michael, Presiding Bishop, José, our Bishop, and Sean, Presiding Bishop-elect, we pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, Faith Memorial Chapel, Cedar Mountain and Whiteside Summer Chapel, Cashiers.

**People** *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

Remembering especially, Joe, our president, legislatures and the courts of our land, we pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**People** *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**People** *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Remembering especially all those on our Parish Prayer List, have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**People** *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;

**People** *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**People** *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Confession**    *(Celebrant)*    *(Stand or kneel)*

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Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

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**    *(Celebrant)*

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 Peace**

*Celebrant*    The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*    And also with you.

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord, passing the Peace of Christ.*

# The Holy Communion

**The Doxology** (*Hymn 380, verse 3*)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all the creatures here below; praise him above the heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

**The Great Thanksgiving -- Eucharistic Prayer A**

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*The People remain standing. The Celebrant says*

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.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is said.*

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** (*Spoken in unison*)  
*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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The People stand or kneel, as the Celebrant continues*

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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

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.*

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,  
forever and ever. Amen.

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

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;*

Therefore let us keep the feast.

*Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*



*Gluten free waters are available upon request at the altar rail.  
Two chalices are offered at the altar rail. The first one is offered to those who prefer to drink from the cup.  
The second chalice follow for those who prefer to instinct (dip) the wafer in the wine before consuming.  
Please hold the wafer in your open palm to indicate your preference to the server.*

### **The Communion of the People**

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

### **Communion Hymn**

*Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

Hymnal 343

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

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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**

God of power, may the boldness of your Sprit transform us,  
May the gentleness of your Sprit lead us,  
May the gifts of the Spirit be our goal and our strength, now and always,  
and may the blessing of the everlasting Trinity be with us now and always. *Amen.*

### **Recessional Hymn**

*In Christ there is no East or West*

Hymnal 529

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### **Postlude**

***The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God  
and in Thanksgiving for the Life of John Perkins Self.***

***We gather for refreshments in the Commons Room immediately following the service.  
All are welcome to participate and check out the kiosk for more ways to serve the Lord!***