



The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.





GOOD MORNING!

*Glorifying God by
Refreshing Souls | Bridging Communities | Engaging in Service*

Good Morning!

We're so glad you chose to be here at Resurrection today. Whether you're here for the first time or are a life-long member, Resurrection is a hopeful, healing, transformation-minded kind of place, a place where everyone is welcome and can grow their relationship with God and with one another.

If you are here for the first time (or if you just haven't gotten around to it yet), please fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate to let us know you were here. To receive our weekly email bulletin, be sure to include your email address. Also, let us know if you would like to connect with our parish life and ministries; we're happy to help you find your spot.

Our services follow the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP), the red book in your pew rack. If you'd prefer to use the book to follow the service, BCP pages are noted. Unless otherwise noted, our hymns are from *The Hymnal 1982*, the blue book in the pew rack. Hymns marked "S-xxx" refer to Service music, found in the very front of the book. Service music precedes the regular congregational hymns. For example, S-280 (The Gloria) is found before Hymn #1.

Select annotations taken from Annotations © 2001 Frank Logue

To learn more about Resurrection, check out www.episcopalloudon.com, email us at office@episcopalloudon.com, or find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Fill out a pew card or email office@episcopalloudon.com to be placed on on the weekly email, *Parish Tidings*, for the latest information from Resurrection.

If you can't make it here in person,
join us at 10:30, live on Facebook (facebook.com/episcopalloudon)
or watch past services on YouTube@ChurchoftheResurrectionLoudon.

Morning Prayer, Rite II

*Our service begins on page 78 of the Book of Common Prayer.
The 8:00 a.m. service is spoken, while the 10:30 a.m. service is choral.*

Please stand as able for the hymn at 10:30.

Hymn *At the name of Jesus (vv. 1-4)* Hymnal 435

The officiant says:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling:

**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.**

The officiant says:

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

We prepare for our time together.

We take our places and allow the peaceful quiet to center and calm us.

The bold portions

are the parts the congregation says together. Remember that *liturgy* means “worshiping together.”

It is important that we make our responses in a good, strong voice.

The Confession of Sin

helps us examine our hearts and hear of God’s forgiveness.

In **Morning Prayer**, the confession has been at the beginning in every published liturgy since 1552.

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand as able.

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim
your praise.**

Officiant and People:

**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. Alleluia.**

The officiant says:

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
Come let us adore Him.

The Venite, which is Psalm 95:1-7—used as a canticle—was used among the opening psalms in the medieval office of lauds at daybreak and festivals. It invites us to come into God's presence with a song, for He has created us, and He has chosen us. The name derives from the Latin for the opening word of the Psalm, "Come."

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

BCP 82

All say together:

**Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our
salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with
thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him
with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

**The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and
the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his
voice!**

The congregation may be seated.

Lector: Let us say the Psalm in unison:

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
make known his deeds among the peoples
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him,
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength;
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done,
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant,
O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 16 Then he called for a famine in the land
and destroyed the supply of bread.
- 17 He sent a man before them,
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.
- 18 They bruised his feet in fetters;
his neck they put in an iron collar.
- 19 Until his prediction came to pass,
the word of the Lord tested him.
- 20 The king sent and released him;
the ruler of the peoples set him free.
- 21 He set him as a master over his household,
as a ruler over all his possessions,
- 22 To instruct his princes according to his will
and to teach his elders wisdom.
- 45 That he might keep his statutes
and observe his laws. Hallelujah!

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. Alleluia.

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Lector: A reading from the Book of Genesis

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his

life.” Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him” —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able.

Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah

BCP 86

Lector: Let us say Canticle 9 together:

Surely, it is God who saves me;

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure
defense, and he will be my Savior.**

**Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.**

And on that day you shall say,

**Give thanks to the Lord,
and call upon his Name;**

**Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great
things, and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you is
the Holy One of Israel.
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. Alleluia.**

The congregation may be seated.

The Second Lesson: Romans 10:5-15

Lector: A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Parish Announcements

This center section of your bulletin is for you to tear out & take home with you.
Keep the announcements, prayer lists, calendars, & Diocesan news on hand all week!

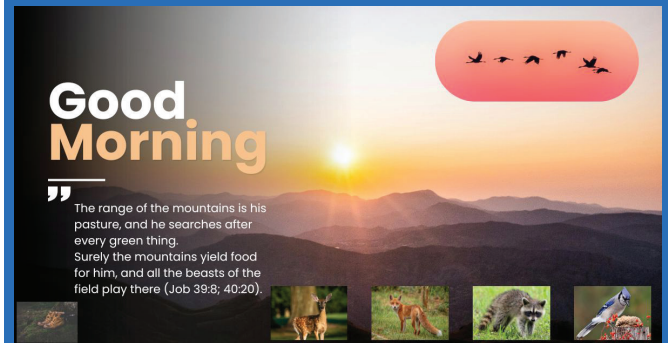


**ALTAR FLOWERS
ARE GIVEN TODAY TO THE GLORY OF
GOD, IN THANKSGIVING FOR ALL THE
LAY LEADERS OF CHURCH OF THE
RESURRECTION.**

Ice Cream social TODAY at 4 p.m!



**Join us for an overnight on Tuesday
in Townsend before a morning
of hiking through Cades Cove on
Wednesday, Aug. 11-12.**



Sunday, August 16

The Rev. Dr. Marc Strong will be preaching and celebrating at the 8 and 10:30 a.m. services.

Wednesday, August 19

The Vestry will meet in the Parish Hall, downstairs conference room, at 1 p.m.

Thursday, August 20

Prayers & Squares will meet in the Parish Hall at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 22

Resurrection Men will meet in the Parish Hall at 9 a.m.

Daughters of the King will meet downstairs at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, August 9, 2026

Prayers & Thanksgivings

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

Pastoral Search Committee members: Alice, Andrew, Ben, Rosemary, & Co-chairs Sally & Steve; as well as Bill S.; the Hennessy family; Bill & Martha F.; Lee R.; Jackie & Russ C.; Lee R., Jeanette; Walter, R.; & Vicky & Dave.

CONTINUED PRAYER LIST

Jim N., Briand E., Jim, Daphne, Rosemary O., the Hentchel family, Pat, Claire, Sandy, Rob, Sherry, Jim, Mel, Wayne, Diana N., Ashley, Kim E., Joe, Beverly, Virginia, Grace, & Johnny.

PRAYERS FOR OUR VESTRY

Alice Anderson, Beverly Baumgardner, Karen Blakley, Mark Hennes, Sally Leonhard, Jenny Lucas, Holly Pate, Tom Russell, Bonnie Smith, and Diana Stimpson.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Judy Keller	August 3
Bryan Ledyard	August 3
Alice Anderson	August 5
Pam McAfee	August 12
Linda Lefler	August 24
Gloria Andrezejewski	August 25
Jen Hennes	August 27

Office Hours

Tuesdays & Fridays	10 am – 2 pm
Wednesdays	12 pm – 4 pm
Mondays & Thursdays	closed

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Betsy & Bill Schwindt	August 1
Diana & Pete Stimpson	August 5
Karen & Mark Blakley	August 13

For pastoral needs **during regular office hours**, please contact the office at 865-986-2390 or office@episcopalloudon.com).

For **urgent after-hours pastoral needs**, please call **865.242.9240**. The chairs of the Pastoral Care Committee can be reached at this number and are able to connect you with pertinent resources.

Senior Warden Bonnie Smith:
SeniorWarden@EpiscopalLoudon.com

Junior Warden Mark Hennes:
JuniorWarden@EpiscopalLoudon.com

Sunday, August 9, 2026

For your Calendars

THIS WEEK

August 9	8:00	10:30 a.m.	Altar Guild	Janey Coombes & Judy Egan
Acolyte	Andrew Wilkinson	Mark Smith	Flower Guild	Dianna Stimpson
Lector	Mark Hennes	Betsy Schwindt	Organist	Jedediah Dahl
Ushers	Jen Hennes	Jan Hanna & David Baumgardner	Preacher	Mark Smith
Coffee Hour	Erlys Ploeger	Elizabeth & Steve Botica	Worship Leader	Andrew Wilkinson
Chancellor	Peggy Rogers	Jenny Lucas	Video	Bob Cantine
			Offering Counters	Ginny Tolbert & Bill Schwindt

NEXT WEEK

August 16	8:00	10:30 a.m.	Altar Guild	Donna Jackson
Acolyte	Holly Pate	Drew Hawley	Flower Guild	Betty Martin
Euch. Minister	Judy Hadjian	Monty Ross	Organist	Jedediah Dahl
Lector	Jack Lefler	Keytha Graves	Preacher &	
Ushers	Jerry Ploeger	Art Stewart & Andy Hadjian	Celebrant	Marc Strong
Coffee Hour	Cal Van Koughnett	Jenny Lucas	Offering Counters	Alice Anderson
Video		Bill Schwindt		& Andy Hadjian
Chancellor	Diane Van Koughnett	Nelda Griffith		

This Week at Resurrection

Sunday, August 9

Ice cream social at 4 p.m!

Tuesday, August 11-12

Annual sunrise hike in Cades Cove, over-nighting in Townsend. See *The Tidings* or contact Andy Hadjian at 865.235.8457 for more details. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.

Thursday, August 13

The Stewardship Committee will meet in the Parish Hall conference room from 3 to 5 p.m.

Coming Soon at Resurrection

Saturday, August 1

The Search Committee will hold a retreat in the Parish Hall with Rev. Canon Joe Woodfin from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, August 16

The Rev. Dr. Marc Strong will be preaching and celebrating at the 8 & 10:30 a.m. services.

Wednesday, August 19

The Vestry will meet in the Parish Hall conference room at 1 p.m.

Thursday, August 20

Prayers & Squares will meet in the Parish Hall at 9:30 a.m.

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Saturday, August 22

Daughters of the King will meet in the Parish Hall conference room at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, August 9, 2026

Check it out!



The Rt. Rev. Brian Lee Cole was ordained and consecrated fifth bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee on Dec. 2, 2017. He was elected bishop on July 28, 2017, during the electing portion of the 33rd Annual Convention of the diocese.

Bishop Cole has under his pastoral and administrative care 47 parishes and worshipping communities in East Tennessee and North Georgia. The bishop visits each of these parishes and worshipping communities, where he preaches, confirms and receives persons into the Episcopal Church, and celebrates the Eucharist. As bishop, he ordains priests and deacons and joins in the ordination of other bishops. In these rites, through the laying on of hands, the continuity with the early church of the apostles is demonstrated. Bishop Cole presides over the annual diocesan

convention and has administrative responsibility over diocesan activities.

A southeast Missouri native, Bishop Cole graduated from Murray State University in Murray, Ky., with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1989. In 1992, he earned a Master of Divinity at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, with additional studies in Anglican Church History at The University of the South School of Theology, Sewanee, in 2001.

Ordained a priest in 2002, Cole served as vicar at Church of the Advocate, a worshipping community of the Diocese of Western North Carolina for homeless persons in downtown Asheville. From 2005 to 2012, Cole was sub-dean at The Cathedral of All Souls in Asheville. He served as rector at The Church of the Good Shepherd in Lexington, Ky., from 2012 until his election as bishop.

Cole has served as an instructor in Appalachian Religion, Faith and Practices, and Appalachian Religion and Culture, at Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, N.C.; Wake Forest University School of Divinity in Winston-Salem, and Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. Prior to his ordination as a priest, he served for seven years on the staff of the Appalachian Ministries Education Resource Center (AMERC) in Berea, Kentucky. Much of his work then involved teaching seminarians, listening to Appalachian leaders, in and out of the Church, and learning how to read and appreciate the culture of the region.

He has chaired, facilitated, led, co-led and participated in numerous committees, training programs, advisory boards, and retreats. Cole served as a General Convention deputy in 2006 and 2009. He is an associate of the Order of the Holy Cross.

Cole is an avid reader, aspires to be an avid hiker, and loves listening to good jazz music. He is always in the process of trying to give away books, while also purchasing books. While mostly a reader of poetry, Bishop Cole has written a few, too.

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able.

Canticle 21, You are God

BCP 95

Lector: Let us say Canticle 21 together:

You are God: we praise you;

You are the Lord; we acclaim you;

You are the eternal Father:

All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,

Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:

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

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

**Throughout the world the holy Church
acclaims you; Father, of majesty unbounded;
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

**You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.**

**When you became man to set us free
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.**

**You overcame the sting of death and opened
the kingdom of heaven to all believers.**

**You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our
judge.**

**Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.**

**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. Alleluia.**

Please stand as able for the hymn (only at 10:30).

Songs of thankfulness and praises (vv. 1-2) Hymnal 135

Remain standing as able.

Officiant

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 14:22-33

Officiant A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached

out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Officiant The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain standing for the hymn (only at 10:30).

Songs of thankfulness and praises (vv. 3-4) Hymnal 135

Sermon

Mark Smith

The Apostles’ Creed

BCP 96

Officiant and People together, all standing:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

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.

**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. Amen.**

The Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed are both ancient statements of faith. In Morning Prayer, we use the Apostles’ Creed as a remembrance of our baptism.

The Prayers

The people stand or kneel.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

This prayer of Jesus was given to His disciples as an example of how they should pray. The phrase “**Lord’s Prayer**” is not used in the New Testament. It is similar to Jewish prayers: It begins with an address to God the Father, continues with petitions asking that God act in a way so as to achieve His purposes, and follows with petitions asking for God’s help.

Officiant and People:

**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.**

Suffrages

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP 232

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live

according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Officiant: We pray for our Search Committee.

People: **Gracious God, give the members of our Search Committee wisdom and understanding as they discern your will. Grant them the gifts of honesty to speak the truth in love, openness to the ideas of others and the Holy Spirit, and the willingness to see your light shining on the path ahead.**

Officiant: Let us pray for the special needs and concerns of our congregation.

O, Lord, we pray especially for Bill S., the Hennessy family, Bill & Martha F., Jackie & Russ C., Walter R., Vicky & Dave, and all who are in pain or distress. Amen.

The Peace BCP 360

All stand as able. The officiant says to the people:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Blessing of Birthdays & Anniversaries BCP 830

Offertory

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

Herr Christ, der einig Gottes Sohn— (only at 10:30)

J.M. Bach, 101 Chorale Preludes N^o. 42 (organ solo)

The ushers bring the people's offerings to the officiant.

Officiant: All things come of thee, O Lord;

People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Peace, is a very ancient way for people to greet one another. When the celebrant says: "The Peace of the Lord be always with you," everyone responds: "And also with you." Then we share God's peace with one another.

All stand or kneel.

Officiant and people:

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble
thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life; but above all for
your immeasurable love in the redemption of the
world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your
mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may
show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with
one accord to make our common supplication to you;
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in his
Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O
Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in
the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The officiant concludes, saying:

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Recessional (*only at 10:30*)

O Love, how deep, how broad, how high Hymnal 448

TODAY'S ART

van Poelenburgh, Cornelius (1594/5-1667). (nee Utrecht; active in Rome and Utrecht) *Joseph Sold into Slavery*. 1770, (oil on copper, 34.7 x 45.3; 13 3/4 x 17 7/8)

The Old Testament story of Joseph being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers.

In this delicate and masterful painting by Dutch Golden Age artist Cornelis van Poelenburgh, the heartbreaking narrative of Genesis 37 is brought to life with profound theological depth. Rendered with remarkable precision on a small copper panel, the scene captures the exact moment Joseph's envious brothers sell him to Midianite merchants. Van Poelenburgh sets this intense family betrayal against a sprawling, luminous landscape filled with classic ruins. This artistic choice serves as a visual reminder of the vast, broken world into which Joseph is being cast, far away from the safety of his father's tent.

The composition masterfully contrasts human frailty with divine oversight. In the foreground, we see the transactional exchange of silver and the distressing parting of the young Joseph from his homeland. Yet, the artist bathes the entire scene in a soft, ethereal light that breaks through the sky. This brilliant illumination acts as a silent testament to God's omnipresent grace. While Joseph's brothers intend this act for evil, the heavenly light reminds the viewer that God is already orchestrating a greater plan for survival, protection, and ultimate reconciliation.

For our congregation, this artwork serves as a powerful visual meditation on faith, resilience, and providence. It invites us to reflect on the moments in our own lives when we feel abandoned, sold out, or lost in a spiritual wilderness. Van Poelenburgh's work reassures us that no matter how deep the pit or how dark the trial, the light of God's sovereignty never fades. Just as God remained with Joseph in Egypt to turn tragedy into triumph, He remains faithfully at work in our lives today, transforming our deepest hardships into vehicles for His divine purpose.

GLORIFYING GOD BY
REFRESHING SOULS | BRIDGING COMMUNITIES | ENGAGING PEOPLE IN SERVICE

Thank you for joining us today! We hope to see you again soon.

We invite you to join us for worship at 8:00 or 10:30 am each Sunday.

If you can't make it in person, join us at 10:30, live on Facebook!

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We welcome you to visit us at our website or call us
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