

Welcome to Christ *Episcopal* Church  
Downtown Cape Girardeau

# Sunday Worship

with Holy Communion from Reserved Sacrament



**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 5, 2026**



## **Welcome! Beinvenido! Karibu!**

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Scattered in the world we gather together as God's people in worship. We bring the fragments of our lives to be healed and made whole in Christ as we gather in community.

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as God's people. One of the glories of the Episcopal/Anglican Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words and actions through which public worship is conducted.

As we gather, we bring our diverse gifts: gifts of music, dance, prophecy, teaching, preaching, and friendship. We present these gifts in the form of our most precious offering to God, our very selves, that all that we do may be for God's glory in the unity of Christ's church.

## **About Today's Worship**

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We continue our journey through the Season after Pentecost, often called Ordinary Time, the longest season of the Church year. While the great festivals of Christmas and Easter celebrate the central events of our faith, the weeks after Pentecost invite us to grow as disciples and learn what it means to follow Christ in everyday life.

As we gather around Word and Sacrament, we give thanks for God's presence among us and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the week ahead.

Welcome to worship. We are glad you are here.

## Welcome & Announcements

### The Prelude

Organist: Michelle Suhr

### The Gathering Song

*We begin by praising God through song and prayer.*

**#493** *O for a thousand tongues to sing*

### An Exhortation

*Presider:* Friends in Christ, welcome to this holy gathering. Today we share in Communion from the reserved sacrament. While this is not a new celebration of the Eucharist, it is an extension of the Eucharistic table. The bread and wine we receive were consecrated in the offering of the Eucharist at Christ Episcopal Church by the Rev. Jay Kanzler, and they unite us fully with Christ and with the whole Church across time and place.

*People:* **to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. Amen.**

*Presider:* In fellowship with the whole Church of God, with all who have been brought together by the Holy Spirit to worship on this day, and who have celebrated the Eucharist, let us rejoice that we are called to be part of the body of Christ.

*People:* **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one Bread.**

*Silence is kept*

### Greeting

*Presider:* Blessed be the One, Holy and Living God.

*People:* **Glory to God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Collect for Purity

*Presider:* 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.**

## The Song of Praise

**#S-280** *Gloria in excelsis*

*Found in the front section of the hymnal under Service Music.*

## The Collect of the Day

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*Silence is kept for a time.*

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## We Hear the Sacred Stories

*We hear the stories of the experience of God from our spiritual ancestors.*

*The congregation is then seated.*

### **The First Reading:** Zechariah 9:9-12

*A reading from Hebrew Scriptures.*

9Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from

the River to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

*Lector:* Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

## **The Psalm of the Day:** Psalm 145:8-15

*The psalms are a part of the poetry of the Hebrew people.*

<sup>8</sup>The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, \*

**slow to anger and of great kindness.**

<sup>9</sup>The Lord is loving to everyone \*

**and his compassion is over all his works.**

<sup>10</sup>All your works praise you, O Lord, \*

**and your faithful servants bless you.**

<sup>11</sup>They make known the glory of your kingdom \*

**and speak of your power;**

<sup>12</sup>That the peoples may know of your power \*

**and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

<sup>13</sup>Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; \*

**your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord is faithful in all his words \*

**and merciful in all his deeds.**

<sup>15</sup>The Lord upholds all those who fall; \*

**he lifts up those who are bowed down.**

## **The Second Reading:** Romans 7:15-25a

*A reading from the New Testament Writings.*

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good.

17But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. 19For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. 20Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 21So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. 22For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self,<sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.<sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?<sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

*Lector:* Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the church.

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

## Preparing to Hear the Gospel

*We stand, as we are able, for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance we place on Jesus' words and actions.*

### The Sequence Hymn

**#66** *Come, thou long expected Jesus*

### The Reading of the Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

16“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 17‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ 18For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; 19the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

25At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; 26yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27All things have

been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 28“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

*Presider:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The congregation is then seated.*

## **The Sermon**

The Rev. Carol Brazeale

## **The Nicene Creed**

*Presider:* We affirm our faith in the One, Holy and Living God.

*People:* **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

*The concerns of the community and wider world, including those who are sick, in need, or in want, are named.*

*Presider:* Empowered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all those in need, saying, “Lord, guide us by your Spirit.”

*Lector:* For the Church throughout the world; for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Deon our Bishop, Carol our Clergy, and all who minister in Christ’s name, that we may proclaim the Gospel not only with our lips, but in lives marked by mercy, justice, compassion, and reconciliation.

***People:* Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

*Lector:* For this parish family of Christ Episcopal Church, that we may be faithful stewards of the ministry entrusted to us, serving our neighbors with generosity, welcoming all with dignity, and remaining rooted in prayer, worship, and love.

***People:* Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

*Lector:* For those who hunger, for those who lack safe shelter, for those who feel unseen or forgotten, and for all who carry heavy burdens, that they may know compassion and care, and that we may meet Christ in our neighbors with open hearts and willing hands.

*People:* **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

*Lector:* For our ministries of compassion, hospitality, and community life, especially our food pantry, community meals, and all the ways we welcome our neighbors, that the Holy Spirit may continue to strengthen us as a community of belonging, hope, and peace.

*People:* **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

*Lector:* For those entrusted with leadership in communities and nations, that in times of conflict, fear, and uncertainty, they may be guided by wisdom, compassion, and the desire for peace and the flourishing of all people.

*People:* **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

*Lector:* For those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit; for those struggling with grief, addiction, fear, or loneliness; and for all who seek our prayers, especially \_\_\_\_\_, may they know comfort, healing, and renewed strength.

*People:* **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

*Lector:* For those who have entered eternal life, especially \_\_\_\_\_, may light perpetual shine upon them; and for those who mourn, that they may be comforted by the promise of eternal life and the communion of saints.

*People:* **Lord, guide us by your Spirit.**

*Presider:* God of all nations and peoples, you call us beyond ourselves and send us into the world in the power of your Spirit: Receive these prayers and strengthen us for the work you have given us to do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Confession of Sin

*Presider:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.**

*Presider:* 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.**

## Thanksgivings and Celebrations

*The Presider invites those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, or other occasions of thanksgiving to come forward or stand where they are.*

*Presider:* Let us celebrate the blessings God has given among us. Are there any birthdays, anniversaries, or other thanksgivings we would like to share today?

## The Exchange of the Peace

*We are a community of reconciliation and peace; therefore, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.*

*Presider:* The Peace of Christ be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

## The Offertory

*As the Lord's Table is prepared, we offer our gifts and our lives to God in thanksgiving and service.*

*Presider:* We prepare the Table and offer ourselves to God in thanksgiving.

*The congregation is then seated.*

## The Offertory Hymn

**#692** *I hear the voice of Jesus say*

*The ushers will receive the people's offerings.*

## The Doxology

*The congregation stands, in body or spirit.*



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be - low;  
praise God a-bove, ye heaven -ly host; praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## Holy Communion by Extension

*Presider:* Beloveds, this is Christ's table. Not because we have earned it, but because love has made a way. Today, we receive the holy gifts already consecrated, a living reminder that Christ is not confined to a moment but is present with us always. Risen. Alive. Among us.

## The Lord's Prayer

*Presider:* So, with all who labor for your kingdom, with angels and archangels, and with the saints in every age, we pray to you, as our Savior has taught us:

***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.

## Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the  
world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.

## The Invitation to Communion

*Presider:* 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 congregation is then seated*

*All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the presider.*

*If you wish to receive the bread only, know that you receive the Sacrament fully.*

*If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward,  
cross your arms over your chest, and receive a Blessing.*

## The Communion Hymn

#693 *Just as I, am without one plea*

## Post-Communion Prayer

*We stand, as we are able, for the Post-Communion Prayer*

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*Silence is kept*

***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

*Presider:* May Christ make our hearts wide enough to welcome the stranger,  
gentle enough to speak the truth with love, courageous enough to  
disturb false peace, humble enough to keep learning, and joyful enough  
that people glimpse the goodness of God simply by being in our  
presence. Amen.

## Closing Hymn

#657 *Love divine, all loves excelling*

## The Sending

*Presider:* Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins. Let us go forth  
in the name of Christ.

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

## The Postlude

Organist: Michelle Suhr

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

**We hope to see you again soon**  
as we offer Christ's unfenced love to the world.

## Today's Servers:

<b>Presider</b> .....	The Rev. Carol Brazeale
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b> .....	Brooke Clubbs
<b>Lector</b> .....	Whitney Miller
<b>Host</b> .....	Kathy Fullmer, Gloria Miller
<b>Altar Guild</b> .....	Paula Fetherston
<b>St. Isidore's Guild</b> .....	TBD
<b>Vestry Counter</b> .....	TBD
<b>Organist</b> .....	Michelle Suhr

## Next Week's Servers:

*If a spot is marked "Open," it still needs to be filled.*

*If you are available to serve, please reach out.*

<b>Presider</b> .....	The Rev. Carol Brazeale
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b> .....	Chris Masters
<b>Lector</b> .....	Tabs Snowden
<b>Host</b> .....	Cindy Maher, Tonya Davis
<b>Altar Guild</b> .....	Monica Waldon
<b>St. Isidore's Guild</b> .....	<i>Open</i>
<b>Vestry Counter</b> .....	<i>Open</i>
<b>Organist</b> .....	Michelle Suhr



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