

A vertical stained glass window is the central focus, featuring a large dove in flight with its wings spread, set against a background of colorful geometric patterns including diamonds and triangles. The window is flanked by dark, textured stone walls. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey rounded rectangle at the top.

Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church
in Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 2nd 2023

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude.....James Reifinger, Organist
Chorale Prelude On a Melody by Orlando Gibbons Healey Willan

Processional.....#525 The Church's one foundation

Greetings BCP 78

Presider: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." *Psalms 122:1*

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Psalms 19:14*

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. *Psalms 43:3*

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him. *Habakkuk 2:20*

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. *John 4:23*

Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, "I dwell in the high and holy place and also with the one who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite." *Isaiah 57:15*

Confession of Sin BCP 79

The Presider says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Presider 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.

Presider and People

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.**

Invitatory and Psalter

Presider: Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Presider 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.

Gloria.....Hendricks Insert

The Psalm

Psalm 13

Usquequo, Domine?

- 1 How long, O Lord?
will you forget me for ever? *
how long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,
and grief in my heart, day after day? *
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my God; *
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- 4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," *
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
- 5 But I put my trust in your mercy; *
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.
- 6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt with me richly; *
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

First Reading

Genesis 22:1-14

God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a

burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 6:12-23

Since Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The People stand for the hymn.

The Sequence Hymn.....#609 Where cross the crowded ways of life

Third Reading

Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Kent Miller

The Apostles Creed

BCP 96

Presider 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.

Prayers of the People

BCP 97

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider 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.

The Presider then says one or more of the following Collects

Suffrages A

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

Presider: God is with you.

People: **And also with you**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Mission

Choose only one

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

or this

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

The Peace

Presider. The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People. And also with you.

We greet each other in the name of the risen Christ. Stay standing for hymns.

Offertory Hymn.....#521 Put forth, O God, thy Spirit's might

The General Thanksgiving

BCP 101

Presider 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

Presider: 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.**

Then may be said

Presider: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Stand for the hymn and dismissal.

Recessional Hymn.....#518 Christ is made the sure foundation

Dismissal

The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

Postlude.....James Reifinger, Organist
Trumpet Tune in D Major David N. Johnson

During the Postlude, please leave in silence

This Service's Servers

<i>Presider</i>	Tyler Helm
<i>Preacher</i>	Kent Miller
<i>Reader</i>	Sheila Thiele
<i>Greeter</i>	Judi Naeter
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Monica Waldon
<i>St. Isidore's Guild</i>	Bruce Mims
<i>Vestry Counter</i>	TBD
<i>Organist</i>	James Reifinger

Notes on the Service

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Gen 22:1-14 • Ps 13 • Rom 6:12-23 • Mtt 9:35 - 10:40-42

In describing the church as built “upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets” this Sunday’s collect alludes to St. Peter and St. Paul the Apostles, whose feast was June 29.

Last Sunday’s first reading was the terrible tale of the near-death of Abraham’s first son, Ishmael in the wilderness in the sight of his mother. To-day’s is the more terrible tale of the near-death of Abraham’s second son (although God calls him his “only son”) Isaac in the wilderness in the sight, and by the hand, of his father. In each episode, at the last minute, God rescues the lad. The narrator’s spare style heightens the dread.

Isaac’s laughter turns to terror as his father binds him to an altar. Freudian and Jungian interpreters have mined the “myth” of the near-sacrifice of Isaac for subconscious fears and archetypes. Various theological commentators have read it as a test of Isaac’s stoic fortitude (Josephus); as a prefiguring of Christ’s crucifixion (Augustine); as a test of Abraham’s faith (Hebrews, Kierkegaard). Following James Frazier, some anthropologists see it as a drama about the discontinuation of child sacrifice, an abomination practiced in Jerusalem according to II Kings as late as the 7th century, a century after the Elohist school had written down Genesis 22, and two centuries after the Yahwist school had legislated the abolition of child sacrifice in Exodus 13:13 & 34:20.

Important as Abraham is, only one psalm, #105, discusses him. Psalm 13:1-4 is a cry of distress, such as someone in Isaac’s situation, but with more time than Isaac, might think. At the end, the psalmist’s mood turns from desperation to faith. God will intervene, he assures himself.

Paul observes that human beings must be either slaves of sin or slaves of God. The former are on their way to death, the latter on their way to resurrection. Then Paul examines the argument that because we are under grace, not law, we may do whatever we wish. “Antinomianism” is the term for the heresy which claimed that because Christians were free of the law, they were allowed to do even things immoral under conventional ethics. Slaves of righteousness would not behave unrighteously, is Paul’s rebuttal.

After Jesus’ arduous injunctions about the high cost of discipleship and the likelihood of persecution which formed the Gospels of the last two Sundays, we read today the end of Matthew 10, promising that whoever gives a prophet or a righteous man even a drink of water will be rewarded. Such charitable people, as well as Peter and Paul, are parts of the spiritual temple to which today’s collect refers.

Rev. Stephen Weissman
Asheville, North Carolina

Thank you for visiting Christ Episcopal Church!

Who are We?

We are a community, forgiven and loved by God, joyfully called to the work of reconciliation.

Known throughout Cape Girardeau as "the Red Door Church" by those we serve, our mission is to share God's love and grace.

When are our Services?

On Sundays, there are Morning Prayer services every Sunday at 8:00 AM.

Services are held 10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. on Sundays and Evening Prayer is from 5:30 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. on Wednesdays.

We are hosting a Bible study group before service at 9:00 A.M. on Sundays as well.

