



Collect for Purity

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.**

Song of Praise, S278     *See pew card for music.*

BCP p. 356

Glory to God (Canticle 20)

*Mathias*

*The following is sung, all standing.*

**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

BCP p. 357

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## The Lessons

### Old Testament Reading: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

*A reading from the book of Esther.*

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me – that is my petition – and the lives of my people – that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## Psalm 124

*Remain seated. The choir first introduces the Antiphon, then the congregation joins the choir in singing the Antiphon each time.*

### Antiphon

The image shows a musical score for the antiphon. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Our help is in the Name of the LORD." The word "Name" is underlined in the original image. There are rests under "Name" and "of".

From *A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition* © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- 1 If the Lord had not been on our side, \*  
let Israel now say;
- 2 If the Lord had not been on our side, \*  
when enemies rose up against us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive \*  
in their fierce anger toward us; **ANTIPHON**
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \*  
and the torrent gone over us;
- 5 Then would the raging waters \*  
have gone right over us. **ANTIPHON**

6 Blessed be the Lord! \*

who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; \*

the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, \*

the maker of heaven and earth. **ANTIPHON**

*The people remain seated.*

## The Second Reading: James 5:13-20

*A reading from the letter of James.*

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

*All stand.*

## Sequence Hymn

MHSO 86

In the bulb there is a flower

*Promise*

1 In the bulb there is a flower;  
in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise:  
butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

2 There's a song in ev'ry silence,  
seeking word and melody;



there's a dawn in ev'ry darkness,  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning;  
in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing;  
in our life, eternity;  
in our death, a resurrection;  
at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

The Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

*All stand.*

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

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

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who

does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Jim Bernacki

## The Nicene Creed

*All stand.*

**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

*All remain standing.*

*From Praying the Scriptures, by Jeremiah D. Williamson*

Intercessor: Friends, the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Believing in the power of prayer, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “God our help; *receive our prayer.*”

Give to your Church, O God, a vision to see you at work in the world. Forgive us when we try to limit or control you. May we rejoice in all good and celebrate all loving deeds. *Silence.*

God our help;

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: comfort all those around the globe who know the devastation of war and the threat of annihilation. We pray for peace. *Silence.*

God our help;

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: We thank you, O God, that you have provided us with those things that make our lives better – fire for heat, salt for seasoning. We thank you for all of the good gifts we so easily take for granted.  
*The people are invited to add their thanksgiving, followed by silence.*

God our help;

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: We pray, O God, for all those with whom we share this city. Bring people together. Enable healthy relationships. Help us to be at peace with one another. *Silence.*

God our help;

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: Blessed God, as you command us, we pray for those in need of healing and wholeness. Turn their sorrow into gladness and their mourning into holiday. Lord, raise them up in Jesus' name.  
*The people are invited to add their petitions, followed by silence.*

God our help;

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: We pray you so to guide Nancy, our Rector, during her Sabbatical. May she return to All Saints' restored in body, mind, and spirit. We also pray that you bless this parish and all who come here. May we carry out with joy the ministries to which we are called. May this also be a time of intentional rest, prayer, and reflection for us.

God our help;

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: Almighty God, were you not on our side, we would be without hope. But you are our salvation. Grant us entrance into your heavenly kingdom; may we become partakers of your heavenly treasure. *Silence.*

God our help;  
People: **Receive our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## Confession of Sin

BCP p. 359

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

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.**

## The Absolution

*The Priest stands and says*

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.**

Peace

BCP p. 360

*All stand*

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.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*A note about receiving Holy Communion: In the Episcopal Church, we understand that Christ is “really present” in the bread and wine provided from God’s table. All who claim Christ as Lord are always welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion in this church. Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of their parents. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Receive the consecrated wafer in the palm of your outstretched hand from the first person who comes to you. To receive a gluten-free wafer, please cross your hands palms down. Wine may be received by lightly dipping the bread into the small cup in the center of the plate/paten from which you received the bread. Alternatively, you may choose to drink from the larger cup/chalice which the next person will offer you. Receive the consecrated wine by guiding the offered*



*cup to your lips and sipping. Those who distribute the wine will wipe the chalice with a food safe sanitizer and turn it for the next person after each person receives. You may also decide to take the wafer only. If you choose not to receive communion, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing as your presence is a blessing to all of us. Once you have been blessed or received communion, you may offer a short prayer and then return to your seat.*

*If physical limitations make it difficult to come forward, please let an usher know that we may have the honor of bringing communion to you.*

## Offertory Sentence

BCP p. 376

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

## Offertory Anthem

arr. Ronald Turner

Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,  
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you,  
Full of pity, love and power.

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome,  
God's free bounty glorify;

True belief and true repentance,  
Every grace that brings you nigh.

I will arise and go to Jesus,  
He will embrace me in His arms;  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
O there are ten thousand charms.

*St. James Music Press. Licensed permission. User ID #6813*

## Presentation of Gifts

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

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

## The Great Thanksgiving

### Sursum Corda

BCP p. 361

*The People remain standing.*

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 him thanks and praise.**

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

*The Celebrant adds a proper preface.*

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 *See pew card for music.* BCP p. 362

S 128 Holy, holy, holy *Mathias*

*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.**

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. 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:

Memorial Acclamation S 135

*See pew card for music.*

*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.

The Great Amen

*See pew card for music.*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

*See pew card for music.*

BCP p. 364

S 169 My flesh is food indeed

*Urwin*

Choir: My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed,  
says the Lord.

All: **My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink  
indeed, says the Lord.**

Choir: Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me  
and I in them.

All: **My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink  
indeed, says the Lord.**

## Invitation

BCP p. 364

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## Spiritual Communion Prayer

*A prayer for those joining online to be unified in Communion with Christ.*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

## Communion Hymns

If thou but trust in God in guide thee

Hymnal 1982 – 635

*Wer nur den lieben Gott*

Where cross the crowded ways of life

Hymnal 1982 – 609

*Gardiner*

## Lay Eucharistic Minister Prayer *(as needed)*

Celebrant: In order that all may receive Holy Eucharist,  
\_\_\_\_\_ will take the Eucharist to \_\_\_\_\_ today.

**All: In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

## The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and 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.**



Blessing

BCP p. 366

Post-Communion Hymn

Hymnal 1982 – 344

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

*Sicilian*

Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

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**The flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God  
and in celebration of Sharon & Ragan Kearns' 40th  
anniversary, their children and grandchildren.**

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## This Week's Announcements

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### **Christian Formation for all ages at 10 AM on Sundays.**

Nursery for infants-3 year olds is provided every Sunday from 8:45 AM-12:30 PM. EYC for grades 6-12 is Sunday at 4:30 PM in the Community Room. Questions? Contact Tiffany Fulton [tfulton@allsaintsconcord.org](mailto:tfulton@allsaintsconcord.org).

### **Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:**

- St. Francis Day Petting Zoo, October 6, 10 AM
- Blessing of the Pets, October 6, 4:30 PM
- Girl Scout food drive for CCM, through October 8.  
*Place donations in Welcome Center food bin.*
- Red Cross Blood Drive, October 9, 2:30-7 PM. *Sign up online.*
- CROP Hunger Walk, October 13, 2 PM
- All Saints' Goes to the Movies, October 26, 9:30 AM at Gem Theatre in Kannapolis for screening of Disney's "Coco."  
*Sign up in Realm.*

**Weekly Small Group Studies** | Tuesdays at 3 PM via Zoom; contact Charles McKinley or Brenda Trott for link. Wednesdays at 7 PM via Zoom; contact Chuck Collier for link. Fridays at 10 AM in church parlor; contact Lynda Waller. Men's Group on Saturdays at 8 AM in the Welcome Center.

## A Note on Today's Readings

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**Welcome to All Saints' Episcopal Church.** In today's Gospel reading, the disciples complain about someone (who was not part of their group) casting out demons in Jesus' name. Jesus' response is that the man should not be stopped, for "whoever is not against us is for us." The importance of the ministry of every person, rather than just the ministry of disciples or clergy or church members, is so great, that to despise other ministries is to risk personal disaster. If pride in our own ministry is getting in the way, cut off that pride.

The first reading today is from the section of the Hebrews known as "The Writings." In Jewish practice, the little book of Esther is read on the feast of Purim. While there is little of religious value in this book (God is never mentioned), it gives us a story of a heroic Jewish woman who uses her wiles to save the Jews living in Persia from genocide. When read in synagogue, everyone rattles noise makers and makes rude sounds each time wicked Haman is mentioned.

We continue to read from the Letter of James for our second lesson. Here James give some pastoral advice to the elders (the Greek word is "presbyters," the origin of the term "priest" in the Christian church). The leaders are to minister to the sick, anointing them with laying on of hands and prayer. James reminds us that the prayers of faithful people are the source of God's power.

Our ordained leaders are not the sole ministers of Christ; rather, they model the ministry we are all to perform. In our baptism, we are set apart as ministers of Christ who share in his royal priesthood. It is in that ministry, especially to the poor, oppressed, and dying, that we find God present to us in the lives of those for whom we care. Our ministry is expressed in our liturgical actions, and the Eucharist is the model for our daily living and for the nature of God's Kingdom.



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## CLERGY

### RECTOR

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Martin Ericson, *Sr. Warden, Finance*

Rhonda Kovar, *Jr. Warden,  
Christian Formation: Youth*

Guy Antonides, *Lockhart CDC*

Al Bonnyman, *Building & Grounds*

Randy Brantley, *Stewardship*

Chuck Collier, *Christian Formation: Adults*

Jennifer Cook, *Parish Life*

Nate Ernst, *Communications*

Melissa Goodwin, *Newcomers*

Andrea Holdren, *Worship*

Jan Millar, *Pastoral Care*

Beth Simpson, *Outreach*

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## REPORTING TO THE VESTRY

Victor Clark, *Treasurer*

Kim Gordick, *Vestry Clerk*

For announcements and information,  
scan the QR code to view  
*All Saints' Weekly Word.*



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