WE HONOR GOD BY PUTTING THE WELFARE OF OTHERS

AHEAD OF OUR OWN DESIRES.

**We will:**

**Stay home if we feel ill**

Remove all non-essential items from our worship spaces

Wear a mask at all times

**Follow the seating plan**

Physically distance – no hugs or handshakes

Enjoy instrumental music only

Properly dispose of all items used (bulletins, communion cups, etc.)

Use hand sanitizer as appropriate

Minimize bathroom use to the extent possible

Follow the modified communion procedure

Clean and disinfect after each service

Be patient, kind, tolerant and flexible

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**PROPER 23 (A)**

**Sunday 11 October 2020**

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES**

26238 N HWY 59, Wauconda, IL 60084

*www.holyapostleswauconda.net*

**Under our modified communion procedure, the offering plate will not be passed.**

**If you have gifts to share, please place them in the plate at the entrance to the church.**

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**OPENING SENTENCE**

**Presider:** O Lord, open our lips

***People: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.***

**Presider:** Give us the joy of your saving help

***People: and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.***

**Presider:** We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God’s holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins; that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

***People: Amen.***

**HYMN OF PRAISE** *(Please say in unison)* Canticle G, A Song of Ezekiel

***All: I will take you from among all nations; and gather you from all lands to bring you home. I will sprinkle clean water upon you; and purify you from false gods and uncleanness. A new heart I will give you and a new spirit put within you. I will take the stone heart from your chest and give you a heart of flesh. I will help you walk in my laws and cherish my commandments and do them. You shall be my people, and I will be your God.***

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**Presider:** The Lord be with you.

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

**Presider:** Beyond our understanding you alone are God; you speak to a world of brutal rule and shallow indifference, of arms fairs and reality shows: may the one who came to sit at table with the victimized and excluded disturb our barren peace and call us to another feast where only love may rule; through Jesus Christ, the bridegroom.

***People: Amen.***

*We read each month from the various biblical translations authorized by our Church. This month we read from the Revised English Bible (1989)*

**FIRST LESSON**  Exodus 32:1-14

**Reader:** A reading from Exodus. 1 WHEN the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they congregated before Aaron and said, ‘Come, make us gods to go before us. As for this Moses, who brought us up from Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ 2Aaron answered, ‘Take the gold rings from the ears of your wives *[a](http://www.oxfordbiblicalstudies.com/article/book/obso-9780195290004/obso-9780195290004-div1-175" \l "obso-9780195290004-note-218)*and daughters, and bring them to me.’ 3So all the people stripped themselves of their gold earrings and brought them to Aaron. 4He received them from their hands, cast the metal in a mould, and made it into the image of a bull-calf; then they said, ‘Israel, these are your gods that brought you up from Egypt.’ 5Seeing this, Aaron built an altar in front of it and announced, ‘Tomorrow there is to be a feast to the LORD.’ 6Next day the people rose early, offered whole-offerings, and brought shared-offerings. After this they sat down to eat and drink and then gave themselves up to revelry. 7The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go down at once, for your people, the people you brought up from Egypt, have committed a monstrous act. 8They have lost no time in turning aside from the way which I commanded them to follow, and cast for themselves a metal image of a bull-calf; they have prostrated themselves before it, sacrificed to it, and said, “Israel, these are your gods that brought you up from Egypt.”’ 9The LORD said to Moses, ‘I have considered this people, and I see their stubbornness. 10Now, let me alone to pour out my anger on them, so that I may put an end to them and make a great nation spring from you.’

11Moses set himself to placate the LORD his God: ‘LORD,’ he said, ‘why pour out your anger on your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a strong hand? 12Why let the Egyptians say, “He meant evil when he took them out, to kill them in the mountains and wipe them off the face of the earth”? Turn from your anger, and think better of the evil you intend against your people. 13Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self: “I shall make your descendants countless as the stars in the heavens, and all this land, of which I have spoken, I shall give to them, and they will possess it for ever.”’ 14So the LORD thought better of the evil with which he had threatened his people. The Word of the Lord.

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

**THE SERMON**

*(A brief period of silence follows the sermon)*

**RESPONSE** *(Please say in unison)* Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

***1 PRAISE the LORD. It is good to give thanks to the LORD, for his love endures for ever.***

***2Who can tell of the LORD's mighty acts and make all his praises heard?***

***3Happy are they who act justly, who do what is right at all times!***

***4Remember me, LORD, when you show favour to your people; look on me when you save them,***

***5that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in your nation's joy and exult with your own people.***

***6Like our forefathers we have sinned, we have gone astray and done wrong.***

***19At Horeb they made a calf and worshipped this image;***

***20they exchanged their God for the image of a bull that feeds on grass.***

***21They forgot God their deliverer, who had done great things in Egypt, 22such marvels in the land of Ham, awesome deeds at the Red Sea.***

***23So he purposed to destroy them, but Moses, the man he had chosen, stood before him in the breach to prevent his wrath from destroying them.***

**SECOND READING** *(Please remain seated)* Philippians 4:1-9

**Reader**: A reading from the Letter to the Philippians. 1This, my dear friends, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, this is what it means to stand firm in the Lord. 2Euodia and Syntyche, I appeal to you both: agree together in the Lord. 3Yes, and you too, my loyal comrade, I ask you to help these women, who shared my struggles in the cause of the gospel, with Clement and my other fellow-workers, who are enrolled in the book of life. 4I wish you joy in the Lord always. Again I say: all joy be yours. 5Be known to everyone for your consideration of others. The Lord is near; 6do not be anxious, but in everything make your requests known to God in prayer and petition with thanksgiving. 7Then the peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus. 8And now, my friends, all that is true, all that is noble, all that is just and pure, all that is lovable and attractive, whatever is excellent and admirable — fill your thoughts with these things. 9Put into practice the lessons I taught you, the tradition I have passed on, all that you heard me say or saw me do; and the God of peace will be with you. The Word of the Lord.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Presider:**  Alleluia, alleluia! The word of God is living and active;

***People: it probes the thoughts and motives of our hearts. Alleluia!***

**GOSPEL** Matthew 22:1-14

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

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

**Presider:**  Jesus said: 1 JESUS spoke to them again in parables: 2‘The kingdom of Heaven is like this. There was a king who arranged a banquet for his son's wedding; 3but when he sent his servants to summon the guests he had invited, they refused to come. 4Then he sent other servants, telling them to say to the guests, “Look! I have prepared this banquet for you. My bullocks and fatted beasts have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding.” 5But they took no notice; one went off to his farm, another to his business, 6and the others seized the servants, attacked them brutally, and killed them. 7The king was furious; he sent troops to put those murderers to death and set their town on fire. 8Then he said to his servants, “The wedding banquet is ready; but the guests I invited did not deserve the honour. 9Go out therefore to the main thoroughfares, and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” 10The servants went out into the streets, and collected everyone they could find, good and bad alike. So the hall was packed with guests. 11‘When the king came in to watch them feasting, he observed a man who was not dressed for a wedding. 12“My friend,” said the king, “how do you come to be here without wedding clothes?” But he had nothing to say. 13The king then said to his attendants, “Bind him hand and foot; fling him out into the dark, the place of wailing and grinding of teeth.” 14For many are invited, but few are chosen.’ The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE NICENE CREED** *(Please say in unison)*

*Note that what follows is the ELLC text of the Nicene Creed. It is slightly different than the Nicene Creed found in the Book of Common Prayer. More information on this difference is available at http://www.holyapostleswauconda.org/welcome-page/what-we-believe/the-nicene-creed.html*

***All: 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified., who 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***

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Personalized IV

**Leader:**  Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

**Leader:** We pray this morning for those raised up in our Diocesan and Anglican Cycles of Prayer. We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, and all who minister in the name of God. Guide them, guard them, and grant that they may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence.***Leader:** Lord, in your mercy,

***People: Hear our prayer.***

**Leader:** We pray for all those who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world. Give them wise, generous, and compassionate hearts, that they might support the common welfare and serve the common good. Guide the people of this land, and of all the earth, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor, nurture, and care for one another and respect the dignity of all.

*Silence***Leader:**  Lord, in your mercy

***People: Hear our prayer.***

**Leader:** Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly and contest its degradation and destruction.

*Silence***Leader:** Lord, in your mercy

***People: Hear our prayer.***

**Leader:** We thank you for all the blessings in our lives. We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, especially those whose names we raise up now, either silently or aloud. (*We will keep a 10-second silence.*) Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*  
**Leader:** Lord, in your mercy

***People: Hear our prayer.***

**Leader:** Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those whose names we raise up now, either silently or aloud. (*We will keep a 10-second silence.*) Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence***Leader:** Lord, in your mercy

***People: Hear our prayer.***

**Leader:**  We commend to your mercy all who have died, whether gently and in peace or violently and unexpectedly, whether alone or in pursuit of justice or in service to others. We pray especially for those whose names we raise up now, either silently or aloud. (*We will keep a 10-second silence.*) We pray that your will for them may be fulfilled; and that they, and we, may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

**Leader:** Lord, in your mercy

***People: Hear our prayer.***

*(The Presider will add this or another concluding Collect)* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

***People: Amen.***

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Presider: Holy God, we know that you created us in love, to enjoy the life you have given us. We know your desire is that we be in deep relationship with you, tend your creation, and serve your children, our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive us when we choose to forget that.**

***People: Forgive us, O God –***

***For our clenched hands that can neither give nor receive.***

***For our tightly shut eyes than can see neither beauty nor pain.***

***For our feet of clay that can neither dance in joy nor run to help.***

***Forgive us, O God –***

***When we remake you in our image.***

***When we claim our causes as your own.***

***When we box you in and explain you away, and in our attempts at understanding, whittle away all mystery.***

***Forgive us, O God –***

***For being so proud, so arrogant, so confident in our own abilities, that we forget how to be humble, how to learn, and how to seek help.***

***For being so smug, so anxious, so mean-spirited that we forget we are not always right, or in control, or well-intentioned.  
For allowing ourselves to be less than what you created us to be.***

**Presider: Forgive us, and make us whole.**

***People: Awaken us to your blinding glory. Confound us by your love. Shower us with grace so that we will be made new.***

**Presider:** Recreated in your image, grateful for all that we have and for what we do not even know, let us proclaim the Good News: Through Christ **Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!** Let us go out into the world as people made new by God.

***People: Alleluia! Amen.***

**THE PEACE** *(Please greet each other in the name of the Lord.)*

**Presider:** The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*(The Presider gives this or another Offertory Sentence)* Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

***People: Amen.***

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** COE Common Worship Prayer 2

**Presider:** The Lord be with you.

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

**Presider:** Lift up your hearts.

***People: We lift them to the Lord.***

**Presider:**  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

**Presider:**  Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

***People: Let us listen, and we will hear.***

**Presider:**  Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You gave us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish. You gave us sun and moon and star-lit sky, wind and water, fish and birds, insects and animals. You gave us plants and trees, mountains and plains, families and friends.

You give us happy times and things to celebrate. In these we taste your kingdom, a feast for all your children. You give us your love, even when things go wrong. Jesus knew hurt and pain. Through him you wipe away our tears, and fill us with your peace.

You made us all, each wonderfully different, and we join our many voices together with the hosts of heaven to sing your praise:

***All: 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.***

**Presider:** We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. **∞**Send your Holy Spirit to bless these gifts of bread and wine that they might be for us Christ’s body and blood.

**Presider:** Why do we share this bread and wine?

***People: Let us listen, and we will hear.***

**Presider:** **↑**On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it,

and shared it with his disciples, saying: ‘This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.’

**↑**After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: ‘This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.’

So, with this bread and this cup, we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts,

send your Holy Spirit, to change us to be ever more like Jesus our Savior.

**Presider:** How do we follow Jesus Christ?

***People: Let us listen, and we will hear.***

**Presider:**  Help us, Father, to love one another as Christ loved us, as we work for the good of your kingdom and look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with all your saints, we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. ***AMEN.***

**LORD’S PRAYER** *(Please say together.)*

***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.***

**FRACTION (THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD)**

*(The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A brief period of silence is kept.)*

**Presider:** Every time we eat this bread and drink of this cup

***People: we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.***

**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.

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER** *(Please stand as able)*

**Presider:** Let us pray.

***People: Generous God, you have fed us at your heavenly table. Ignite in us the fire of your Spirit that when the Lord comes again we may shine as lights before him, who is alive and reigns in glory for ever. Amen.***

**BLESSING** *(Please stand as able)*

*(The Presider gives this or another Blessing)*The outrageous welcome of the Father accepts us for who we are; the incarnation of the Word touches us and holds us close; the wandering of the Spirit inspires us risk ourselves for the sake of love; and the blessing of God, Holy Immortal One, Incarnate Word, and Breath of Life, is with us now and remains with us always.

***People: Amen***

**DISMISSAL** *(Please remain standing)*

*The Presider gives a dismissal or says:*  Our worship is over, our service now begins. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

**Opening Sentences:**

https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/service-word/service-word-morning-evening-prayer-night-prayer#ch6h

**Collect of the Day:** Prayers for an inclusive church, Stephen Shakespeare

**Gospel Acclamation:** https://www.togetheratonealtar.catholic.edu.au/receive/liturgy-of-the-word/

**Eucharistic Prayer:**

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/holy-communion/additional-eucharist-prayers/prayer-two>

**Post-Communion Prayer:** Book of Common Prayer, The Church in Wales

**Blessing:** Prayers for an inclusive church, Stephen Shakespeare