

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 17A

Morning Prayer – August 30, 2026

We are delighted to have you here and warmly invite you to fully engage in God's mission and ministry at St. Martin's Church. Everyone is welcome—no exceptions, no reservations. We are an inclusive Christian community committed to making a meaningful difference in people's lives.



Prelude

Hymn 675 *Take up your Cross, the Savior said*

The Hymnal 1982

Opening Acclamation

Officiant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Confession

Officiant Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Absolution

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

Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

Officiant
People

Our God has redeemed the world:
Come, let us worship

**Come, let us sing to the Holy One; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving, *
and raise a loud shout with psalms.
For you, O God, are a great God; *
you are great above all gods.
In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.
The sea is yours, for you made it, *
and your hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, *
and kneel before God, our Maker,
For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand, *
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.**

**Our God has redeemed the world:
Come, let us worship**

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)

St. Helena's Breviary



We give you thanks, O God, and call upon your **Name**; *
we make known your deeds among the **peoples**.

We sing to you; we sing your **praise** *
and speak of all your marvelous **works**.

We glory in your holy **Name**; *
let the hearts of those who seek you **rejoice**.

We search for you and your **strength**; *
we continually seek your **face**.

We remember the marvels you have **done**, *
the wonders and the judgments of your **mouth**.

O offspring of Abraham, your **servant**, *
O children of Jacob, the chosen **ones**.

Israel came into **Egypt**, *
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of **Ham**.

You made your people exceedingly **fruitful**; *
you made them stronger than their **enemies**;

Whose heart you turned, so that they hated your **people**, *
and dealt unjustly with your **servants**.

You sent Moses your **servant**, *
and Aaron whom you had chosen. **Hallelujah!**

Sung to the second half of the chant

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one **God**:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen**.

The First Reading *Exodus 3:1-15*

CEB

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses was taking care of the flock for his father-in-law Jethro, Midian's priest. He led his flock out to the edge of the desert, and he came to God's mountain called Horeb. The Lord's messenger appeared to him in a flame of fire in the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was in flames, but it didn't burn up. Then Moses said to himself, Let me check out this amazing sight and find out why the bush isn't burning up.

When the Lord saw that he was coming to look, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!"

Moses said, "I'm here."

Then the Lord said, "Don't come any closer! Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground." He continued, "I am the God of your father, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God." Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I've clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I've heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain. I've come down to rescue them from the Egyptians in order to take them out of that land and bring them to a good and broad land, a land that's full of milk and honey, a place where the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites all live. Now the Israelites' cries of injustice have reached me. I've seen just how much the Egyptians have oppressed them. So get going. I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I to go to Pharaoh and to bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

God said, "I'll be with you. And this will show you that I'm the one who sent you. After you bring the people out of Egypt, you will come back here and worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I now come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they are going to ask me, 'What's this God's name?' What am I supposed to say to them?"

God said to Moses, "I Am Who I Am. So say to the Israelites, 'I Am has sent me to you.'" God continued, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever; this is how all generations will remember me.

A period of silence follows.

<i>Reader</i>	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

A period of silence follows.

Canticle 19 *The Song of the Redeemed* *Magna et mirabilia* *Revelation 15:3-4*

**O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done, *
surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, *
O King of all the ages.**

**Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name? *
for you only are the Holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, *
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

The Second Reading *Romans 12:9-21*

CEB

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other. Don't hesitate to be enthusiastic—be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord! Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you're in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer. Contribute to the needs of God's people, and welcome strangers into your home. Bless people who harass you—bless and don't curse them. Be happy with those who are happy, and cry with those who are crying. Consider everyone as equal, and don't think that you're better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don't think that you're so smart. Don't pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good.

If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people. Don't try to get revenge for yourselves, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath. It is written, *Revenge belongs to me; I will pay it back, says the Lord.* Instead, *If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. By doing this, you will pile burning coals of fire upon his head.* Don't be defeated by evil, but defeat evil with good.

A period of silence follows.

<i>Reader</i>	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

A period of silence follows.

Canticle 21 *We Praise You, O God*

Te Deum laudamus

**We praise you, O God,
we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you,
the Father everlasting.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
the 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 took our flesh to set us free
you humbly chose 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 to 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.**

Sequence Hymn 707 *Take My Life and Let it Be*

The Hymnal 1982

The Gospel *Matthew 16:21-28*

CEB

A reading from the gospel of Matthew.

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and legal experts, and that he had to be killed and raised on the third day. Then Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him: "God forbid, Lord! This won't happen to you." But he turned to Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are a stone that could make me stumble, for you are not thinking God's thoughts but human thoughts."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will find them. Why would people gain the whole world but lose their lives? What will people give in exchange for their lives? For the Son of Man is about to come with the majesty of his Father with his angels. And then he will repay each one for what that person has done. I assure you that some standing here won't die before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

A period of silence follows.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence follows.

Homily/Reflection

A period of silence follows

The Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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 Prayers *The people stand or kneel*

Officiant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

**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 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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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 the Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn 477 *All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine*

The Hymnal 1982

The offering is collected

The General Thanksgiving

Let us pray together

**Almighty and merciful God,
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.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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

Hymn 484 *Praise the Lord through every Nation*

The Hymnal 1982

Announcements

Postlude

The worship is over ~ ~ ~ Now the service begins!
Please join us for fellowship and coffee in the Gathering Room