

But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Sanctus:** S-125 | *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.’ Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; Hagar, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**AMEN.**

#### The Lord’s Prayer

*At this time, Sunday School Children will return to the church.*

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

Celebrant/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 Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**  
**Prayer for those joining on-line**

#### Distribution of Communion

*Approach the altar by the center aisle. Take a paper cup if you do not want to use the common cup and make a semi-circle. Receive a piece of bread to eat, and offer your cup for the wine -OR- drink from the common cup. If you want only a blessing, cross your arms over your chest. If you desire a gluten free wafer hold up 2 fingers. Wait until Celebrant says,*

*“Go in peace.” to return to your seats.*

**Communion Hymn:** WLP-810 | *You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord*

#### Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant/People: **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

#### The Announcements

**Keychains for Firefighters** – After the service, please take a moment to thank our local firefighters by signing a thank-you card to enclose with the blessed keychains to be delivered to our local fire companies.

**St. Francis** – Sunday Oct 5th bring your pets, pictures of your pets, and donations for the Montgomery County Humane Society to church for a shortened service to honor St. Francis. We will have a guest from the Humane Society with us to tell us about their services. A list of items is on the handout near the door. Please pickup postcard(s) by the door in advance to invite your family, friends, and neighbors!.

**A Diocesan Silent Retreats** – Oct. 17-19, 2025 at The Claggett Center. Come join fellow peace and God-seekers with our retreat leader, The Rev. Dominique Peridans, exploring The Gospel of John – Close Encounters of the First Kind – Healing and the Heart of God.

#### The Blessing

May God who commands the angels guard you in all your ways. **Amen.** May you call upon God who is with you in times of trouble. **Amen.**

May you be satisfied with long life and know the salvation and healing of God. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn:** H-625 | *Ye holy angels bright*

#### The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth to become a beloved community of God’s grace where all belong. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Postlude:** *Praise the Lord: Ye Heavens, Adore Him* | Tune: FABEN by John H. Wilcox, 1849 | Arr. Austin North




**ST. NICHOLAS  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

OUR STAFF  
The Rev. Anne Weatherholt | Supply Priest | [anneweatherholt@gmail.com](mailto:anneweatherholt@gmail.com)  
The Rev. Dawn Booth | Deacon | [deacon@saintnicks.com](mailto:deacon@saintnicks.com)  
Carolyn Deibel | Director of Music | [deacon@saintnicks.com](mailto:deacon@saintnicks.com)  
Tanya Vasquez | Office Manager | [office@saintnicks.com](mailto:office@saintnicks.com)

Worship Sundays at 10 AM  
Sunday School at 10:15 AM

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**ST. NICHOLAS  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

10:00AM HOLY EUCHARIST  
Saint Michael and All Angels  
September 28th, 2025

**Prelude:** *There Is a Balm in Gilead* | African-American Spiritual, Arr. by James Pethel

**Opening Hymn:** H-282 | Christ, the fair glory of the holy angels (verses 1, 2, 5, & 6)

#### Welcome & Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever, Amen.**

Gloria: LEVAS-115 | *Spirit of the Living God*

**Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me  
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.**

#### The Collect of the Day

**Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

#### The Firefighter’s Prayer

When I am called to duty, God wherever flames may rage, give me strength to save a life, whatever be its age. Help me to embrace a little child before it’s too late, or save an older person from the horror of that fate. Enable me to be alert to hear the weakest shout, and quickly and efficiently to put the fire out. I want to fill my calling and to give the best in me, to guard my neighbor and protect his property. And if according to your will I have to lose my life, bless with your protecting hand the loved ones in my life. Amen.

*At this time, Sunday School Children will meet our Sunday School Team at the back of the church to walk together to the Roberta Miller Learning Cottage. They will learn about prayer and liturgy until we complete the Eucharistic Prayer. They will then rejoin us in the Lord’s Prayer and remain until the end of the service.*

**Sunday School Song:** *Jesus Loves the Little Children*

#### The First Lesson

Reader: **A Reading from Genesis 28:10-17**

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, “I am the Lord, the God of

Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 103:19-22

Prayed responsively by *whole verse*

19 The Lord has set his throne in heaven, \*and his kingship has dominion over all.

20 **Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*and hearken to the voice of his word.**

21 Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, \*you ministers of his who do his will.

22 **Bless the Lord, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion; \*bless the Lord, O my soul.**

Reader: **A Reading from the Book of Revelation 12:7-12**

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death. Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Hymn:** H-574 | *Before thy throne, O God, we kneel*

#### The Holy Gospel

*The Deacon and People pray responsively*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John 1:47-51.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord!

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon – The Rev. Anne O. Weatherholt**

#### The Nicee Creed

*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 | Form III

*The Deacon and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For our Presiding Bishop; Mariann our Bishop; and Rev. Anne, our Priest; and all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in God's Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

**The People may add their own petitions.**

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

**The People may add their own thanksgivings.**

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

**The People may add their own petitions.**

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### Concluding Collect

*The Deacon and People pray responsively*

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all those who serve the public good. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
(Silence may be kept.)

**Deacon/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 Celebrant: 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.**

#### The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**The Blessing of St. Michael Keychains to Honor Local Firefighters**

#### The Offertory

We remember Christ's offering & offer ourselves in return.



**Offertory Anthem:** *Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go*

*Words: Charles Wesley*

*Music: Richard Shephard*

**Presentation of the Offering:** H-291 | *We plow the fields, and scatter vs. 3*

**We thank thee, then, O Father, for all things bright and good, the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food: the gifts we have to offer are what thy love imparts, but chiefly thou desirest our humble thankful hearts. All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Eucharistic Prayer C

*The Celebrant and People pray responsively*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation.