

**16th Sunday after Pentecost
St. Paul's Episcopal Church**



**September 12, 2021
The Episcopal Parish of Alton, Illinois
The Rev. Cynthia A. Sever, Rector
11:00 a.m.**

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Fanfare

H. Purcell

Hymn # 254

You are the Christ, O Lord

The Hymnal 1982

Remain seated. The lyrics are found below so you may follow along silently.

- 1 You are the Christ, O Lord,
the Son of God most high!
For ever be adored
that Name in earth and sky,
in which, though mortal strength may fail,
the saints of God at last prevail!
- 2 Oh! Peter was most blest
with blessedness unpriced,
who, taught of God, confessed
the Godhead in the Christ!
For of your Church, Lord, you made known
this saint a true foundation-stone.

The Word of God

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

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

Celebrant

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.**

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

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *Please sit.*

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

50:4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens--wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 116:1-8

BCP p. 759

The Psalm is recited responsively by half-verse

I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: *
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

Gracious is the LORD and righteous; *
our God is full of compassion.

The LORD watches over the innocent; *

I was brought very low, and he helped me.

Turn again to your rest, O my soul, *

for the LORD has treated you well.

For you have rescued my life from death, *

my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the LORD *

in the land of the living.

A Reading from the Letter of James

3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Remain seated. The lyrics are found below so you may follow along silently.

Hymn # 136

I have decided to follow Jesus

LEVAS

- 1 I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
No turning back, no turning back!

- 2 Though no one join me, still I will follow,
 Though no one join me, still I will follow,
 Though no one join me, still I will follow,
 No turning back, no turning back!
- 3 The world behind me, the cross before me,
 The world behind me, the cross before me,
 The world behind me, the cross before me,
 No turning back, no turning back!

Please stand if you are comfortable doing so

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

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The Gospel

Mark:8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon

The Rev. Cynthia A. Sever+

*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.*

Prayers of the People Form IV

The People respond with the lines in bold italics.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Please bring your peace to places around the world where there is strife. Give us ears to hear your voice guiding us in the right way.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially Nancy, Sue, Sandy, Ruth, Jackie, Irene, Anne, Debra, Cheryl, Bill, Grace, Richard, Kay, Kim, Tina, Marie, Myrnelle, Mother Jane, Barb, Frank, Sarah, John, Boyd, and those named before you at this time.....

Silence - The People may add their own petitions.....

We pray also for all those stricken with COVID and those who care for them. We pray for all those affected by violence and, natural disasters. Please bless them and help them to know you hold them in your arms of love.

give them all courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. We give thanks for the life and ministry of Rod Derricott among us. We pray also for eternal rest and peace for those we love but see no longer.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept to allow for individual confessions to God.

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.

Absolution

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

BCP p. 360

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

People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory Sentence

The Offertory:

Duet: Byron Sever
& Kirk Meyer

Bread of the World in Mercy Broken

arr. C. Young

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds. The People respond with the lines in bold italics.

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. 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:

***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.

The people stand or kneel if they are comfortable doing so.

Then the Celebrant continues

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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.*

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

The Lord's Prayer

(said in unison)

S # 119

*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!*

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion *Verset (from 'L'Office Catholique')* L. Lefebure-Wely

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: 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

The blessing of God Almighty; the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn # 144 *Where He Leads Me* LEVAS

Remain seated. The lyrics are found below so you may follow along silently.

1 I can hear my Savior calling, "Take thy cross and follow, follow me."

Refrain:

Where He leads me I will follow, I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

2 I'll go with Him through the garden, I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

Refrain

3 I'll go with Him through the judgement, I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.
Refrain

4 He will give me grace and glory, And go with me, with me all the way.
Refrain

Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Voluntary

Raise the Song on High

S. Scott

Serving Today

Celebrant: The Rev. Cynthia A Sever+, Rector
Organist: Gay Anderson, Organist-Choirmaster
Chalice/Altar Acolyte: Diane Martin
Lector & Intercessor: Dereck Cook
Soloists & Choir: Kirk Meyer and Byron Sever

Serving Next Week

Celebrant: The Rev. Cynthia A Sever+, Rector
Organist: Gay Anderson, Organist-Choirmaster
Chalice/Altar Acolyte: The Rev. Timothy McNutt, Postulant for Holy Orders
Lector & Intercessor: Elizabeth Foley
Soloists & Choir: Roy Anderson and Byron Sever

PAWS Pets are Welcome Service

PAWS services with a reception will be held the first Sunday of every month at 2 PM at Trinity Chapel.

Please invite every animal lover you know to attend with his or her best furry friend. Our goal is to worship God joyfully, promote animal welfare, and to build a new congregation within our parish.

Please come to Modays@7! Currently happening at Trinity Chapel, this is a service that can benefit absolutely anyone. Based on the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, it also consists of music, prayers, and readings from the Bible, and various AA material or writers like Richard Rohr. There is a short time for meditation built into the service, a reflection offered by a leader, and refreshments and a chance for discussion of the impact of the readings once worship has concluded.

The Wednesday Discussion Group has been having discussions of *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices*, by Scott Gunn & Melody Wilson Shobe. Everyone is invited to join us. The link to the Zoom Meeting is emailed on Wednesdays, or can be found online through our website.



4 PAWS Pet Food Pantry

of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alton

from the ramp should you choose to donate pet food. There is also a donation jar for cash contributions. We will be happy to come to your home to pick up donations. We are very excited about this new mission project to help our hungry neighbors! **Thank you for your support!**

There will be a Vestry Meeting on Thursday September 16. It will be held viz Zoom at 7 p.m. Please remember to send your report ahead of time if you are head of a commission.

Calendar & Announcements for the Week of September 12, 2021

Sunday, September 12	9:00 a.m.	Mass at Trinity
	11:00 a.m.	Mass at Trinity
Monday, September 13	7:00 p.m.	Mondays@7 in Trinity Chapel
Tuesday, September 14	6:00 p.m.	Restoration Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 15	7:00 p.m.	Discussion Group on ZOOM
Thursday, September 16	7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
Sunday, September 12	9:00 a.m.	Mass at Trinity
	11:00 a.m.	Mass at Trinity

We are beginning a pet food pantry to supplement food for pets of people who are food insecure or hungry. This allows the hungry to eat more of their own precious food, knowing their pets are already fed. In this way, feeding pets = feeding people.

We are collecting monetary donations, and dog and cat food. There is a bin at the back of Trinity Chapel, near the door

Services will continue to be held at Trinity Chapel until the Summer heat has cooled. An announcement will go out to all parishioners when we intend to make any services changes.

COVID Precautions: Masks must now be worn by all in attendance. Holy Communion will be offered in one kind only. Hymns will now be sung only by the choir members present at each service. The lyrics may be printed so you can follow along silently. Hand sanitizer is available for your use in each pew.



Our Staff

Rector:	Rev. Cynthia A. Sever+	cindysever210@gmail.com
Office Administrator:	Jenn Grassle	office@episcopalalton.org
Organist	Gay Anderson	brierbankfarm@juno.com
Church School Director:	April Drennan	A.Drennan@illinois-central.com
Altar Guild Director:	Nancy Weiss-Hayes	nwh55@hotmail.com
Rector's Warden: Patti Wright	Clerk of the Vestry: Linda Dunnagan	
People's Warden: Marti LoRusso	Treasurer: Judy Jones	

Book Club Happenings

Do you like reading and eating yummy food?



The Kitchen Conservatory in Clayton is offering a culinary book club for food lovers with a cooking demonstration on November 14th. Several of the members in book club are planning on attending. If you are interested in joining us, please go to the Kitchen Conservatory's website and sign up. I am sure that this class will fill up quickly, as most of these demonstrations accommodate around 15 people. Payment is required at time of registration. Please let me know if you are going, so that we can arrange a carpool. Following is the information regarding the book

and demonstration. This sounds like a fun adventure:

KITCHEN CONSERVATORY – COOKING CLASS (DEMONSTRATION)

NOVEL CUISINE: *BLACK DIAMOND* (3rd in series)

Sabotage and deceit in the black truffle industry of the Dordogne is threatening the multi-million dollar truffle trade industry, as cheap sub-par Chinese truffles are being smuggled into France and passed off as real black truffles in Martin Walker's *Black Diamond: A Mystery of the French Countryside*. As the class discusses the challenges for Chief of Police Bruno in this lively read, Mickey Kitterman will prepare black truffle corn beignets, roast poulet cooked with truffle butter, black truffle pilaf with mirepoix, plus chocolate truffle tart with praline anglaise.

Novel Cuisine is a culinary book club for food lovers that read the book in advance and includes novels, memoirs, histories, science and politics – all with food as a central theme. The books for Novel Cuisine are available at Kitchen Conservatory. Come to one or as many of these classes as you like! Novel Cuisine started in our kitchen in 2006 and our readers and food lovers have discussed nearly 200 books! We love to hear from our students what books they want to read!

Details

Mickey Kitterman

Kitchen Conservatory Staff/Demonstration/\$45/PP Sun, Nov 14, 1 to 3:30

[Kitchen Conservatory](https://www.kitchenconservatory.com)

<https://www.kitchenconservatory.com>