



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Welcome to Holy Eucharist in the Celtic tradition. At this service, we offer music and liturgy based on principles of Celtic worship. Our services follow themes which change with the liturgical season. During the season of Pentecost we are guided by the theme of fire which is the tongue of flame in which the Holy Spirit arrived on the Day of Pentecost.



The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Celtic Holy Eucharist

August 11, 2019 • 5 pm

THE COLLECT

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

THE RESPONSE

Psalm 33:12-22

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven, *
and beholds all the people in the world.
- 14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
on all who dwell on the earth.
- 15 He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.
- 16 There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; *
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- 17 The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.
- 18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,
- 19 To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.
- 20 Our soul waits for the Lord; *
he is our help and our shield.

- 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- 22 Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old- and Sarah herself was barren- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

RECEIVING COMMUNION

The Church believes that in Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of Christ is given to God's people and received by faith. All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome here and invited either to participate in Communion or to receive a blessing. To receive the bread, please hold your hands out in front of you. To receive the wine, help guide the chalice to your lips. If you prefer, you may dip the bread in the wine and then place it in your mouth. If you do not wish to receive the bread and the wine, you are invited to come forward, cross your hands across your chest, and receive a blessing. **Gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.**

COMMISSIONING OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Celebrant In the name of God and on behalf of this congregation, I 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.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

Please use this poetry for your own contemplation during the service or to take with you for your own prayer life.

POETRY

Light the candles, bring your presents,
let us celebrate good days,
with rejoicing and thanksgiving,
for great actions give God praise. . .

In the shining of the candles
dust shows up as in the sun
thus revealing all our failings,
power misused and work not done. . .

Light the candle in the darkness
flames will penetrate the night;
pass the brightness to your neighbors
Till the world is full of light

-Janet Nightingale

Love divine, all loves excelling

It is a flame of fire from midmost heaven
that came down hither into the world,
fire that will kindle my stubborn nature,
fire that will fill my whole life;
it will not fail while God remains in being.
I shall never be able to declare
if I should try as long as I live
how pleasant, how sweet,
how strong his love is;
it is an endless flame
that came from midmost heaven to earth.
You have kindled fire in me -
the most perfect fire of heaven
which the great seas cannot squash at all.
A passionate, powerful strong flame of fire has been kindled in heaven,
everlasting love it is
that has made a union between God and me

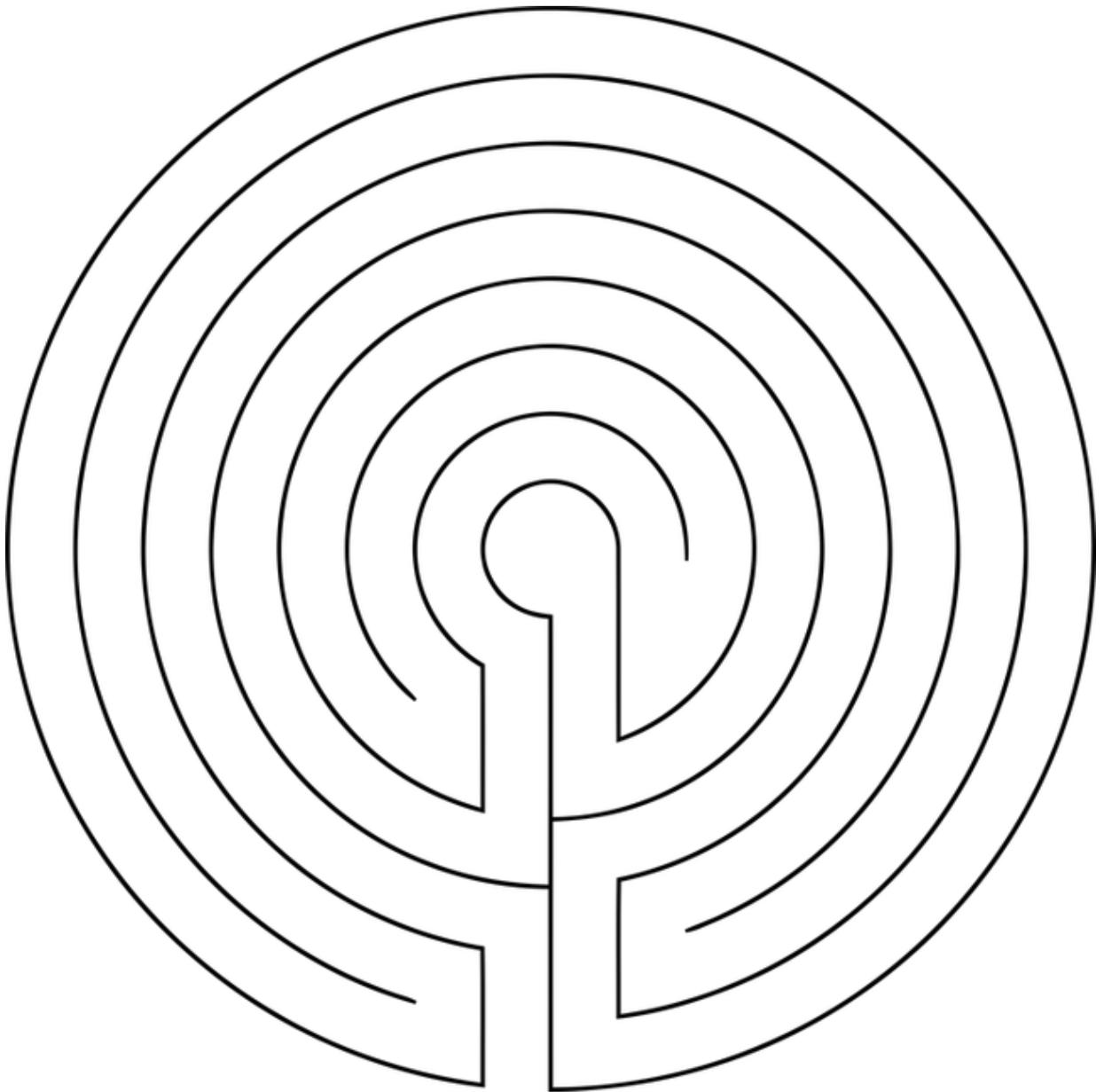
- William Williams Pantycelyn

Blessing of the kindling

I will kindle a fire this morning
In the presence of the holy angels of heaven
In the presence of Ariel of the loveliest form
In the presence of Uriel of myriad charms
Without malice, without jealousy,
without envy, without fear,
without terror of anyone under the sun
But the Holy Son of God to shield me.

God, kindle in my heart within
A flame of love to my neighbor,
To my foe, to my friend, to my kindred all,
To the brave, to the knave, to the thrall,
O Son of the loveliest Mary,
From the lowliest thing that lives,
To the Name that is highest of all.

From the Carmina Gadelica



During periods of silence throughout this service, or in your personal times of prayers and reflection outside of worship, this labyrinth is a gift of peace to all who seek deeper relationship with God in their life's journey.

Using your finger, journey on this labyrinth toward inner-contentedness with the Divine, spend some time with God there, in the center, and then re-trace your journey outward with the knowledge that God is ever with you.

A Labyrinth is not a maze; as a maze has dead ends that are used to confuse and trick the mind. A labyrinth is a spiral course having a single, winding unobstructed path from the outside to the center.

IN THANKSGIVING & MEMORY

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THOSE CELEBRATING:

Birthdays in the next week: Lynn Bergquist, Michelle DeMoss-Phillips, Jack Cosgrove, Mary Pat Hester, Robin MacConnell, Harper Flodder, Dave Hinchman, Lauren Hanisian, Kathee Van Kirk, Zulema Montgomery, Lauren Carey, Jacob Strom, Hayden Gorz, Dick Duval, Nikhil Samuel, Nicholas McCleary, Saharsh Stanley, Audrey Larsen, Ellen Keller, Liz Clemons, Karen Blocher, Grant Raifstanger, Andrew Senter.

Anniversaries in the coming week: Cindy & Steve Carlton-Ford, Anne Sesler & Bryan McCleary, Kelly & Patrick Schleker, Kate & Mitch Haralson, Dawn & Jim Neely, Beth & Brian Weinewuth, Sarah & Rob Hebbeler.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher

The Rev. Philip DeVaul

Lector

Lay Reader

Jeanne Plunkett

Intercessor

Pattie Jamison

Bread Guild

H. Paul Callard, Pattie Kovach, Cherie Wallpe

Flower Guild

Kathe Kissel, Jenny Gale, Marcia Shortt, Susan Wilkening

Altar Guild

Karen Staffiera, Kathy Behne, Jan Hill, Pattie Kovach

Celtic Guild

Dave Howard

