

# NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCT. 8, 2023, 11AM



"Vineyards with a View of Auvers" (1890) – Van Gogh

There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another... Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls. – **Matthew 21:33-35,43-44**

## ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Rector: The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks

The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus

**(BCP—Book of Common Prayer, H-Hymnal 1982; S Numbers are the service music found in the front of The Hymnal 1982; WLP-Wonder, Love and Praise)**

**LEVAS-Lift Every Voice and Sing II)**

*In the name of Christ, we welcome you to this Church. May those who sorrow find comfort; the weary, rest; the unhappy, joy; the troubled, peace; the stranger, friends; and to all the sense of God's Presence in this holy place. We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Port Royal, the Nandtaughtacund, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of the Rappahannock Tribe.*

### The Ringing of the Bell

#### Prelude

Opening Hymn

Open your ears, O faithful people

H 536

#### The Word of God

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

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

**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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

Through north and south

WLP 822

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Holy God, you love justice and hate oppression; you call us to righteousness and not to exploitation. Give us generous and loving hearts, and eyes to see the splendor of your reign, that we may live in truth and honor, and praise you for the transformation of our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**A Reading from The Prophet Isaiah, Chapter 5, verses 1-7.**

Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.

He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;

he built a watchtower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;

he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,

judge between me  
and my vineyard.

What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.

I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;

I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,

and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;

he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;

righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 80:7-14 *Qui regis Israel***

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; \*  
you cast out the nations and planted it.**

9 You prepared the ground for it; \*  
it took root and filled the land.

**10 The mountains were covered by its shadow \*  
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea \*  
and its branches to the River.

**12 Why have you broken down its wall, \*  
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, \*  
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

**14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;  
behold and tend this vine; \*  
preserve what your right hand has planted.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in  
the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians, Chapter 3, verses 4b  
through 14.**

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:  
circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel,  
of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law,  
a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to  
righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn**

**Come, thou fount**

**H 686**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord's doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Tom Hughes**

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP 358**

**The Prayers of the People**

Creator God, you call us to love and serve you with body, mind, and spirit through loving your creation and all people. Open our hearts and fill us with compassion.

Creator God, we pray that we may learn from the earth.

Earth, teach us stillness  
**as the grasses are stilled with light.**

Earth, teach us suffering  
**as old stones suffer with memory.**

Earth, teach us humility  
**as blossoms are humble with beginning.**

Earth, teach us caring  
**as the mother who secures her young.**

Earth, teach us courage  
**as the tree which stands all alone.**

Earth, teach us limitation  
**as the ant which crawls on the ground.**

Earth, teach us freedom  
**as the eagle which soars in the sky.**  
Earth, teach us resignation  
**as the leaves which die in the fall.**  
Earth, teach us regeneration  
**as the seed which rises in the spring.**  
Earth, teach us to forget ourselves  
**as melted snow forgets its life.**  
Earth, teach us to remember kindness  
**as dry fields weep with rain.**

Almighty God, we pray that we, as citizens of this nation, may work for the common good. Bless all Native Americans who teach us to stand together like trees with roots intertwined, strengthening each other.

We pray for our elected officials, especially those assembled in Congress, that they may end their strife and division, and enact laws that will please you, to the glory of your name.

**Let us know peace.**  
**For as long as the moon shall rise,**  
**For as long as the rivers shall flow,**  
**For as long as the sun shall shine,**  
**For as long as the grass shall grow,**  
**Let us know peace.**

Compassionate God, we pray for those who are sick or in distress or trouble, for those on our prayer list, and especially for the Murphy and Linne von Berg families, for Linda Upshaw, and for Daryl Potter.

**Our Father, the Sky, hear us and make us strong.**  
**Our Mother, the Earth, hear us and give support.**  
**Spirit of the East, send us your Wisdom.**  
**Spirit of the South, may we tread your path of life.**  
**Spirit of the West, may we always be ready for the long journey.**  
**Spirit of the North, purify us with your cleansing winds.**

We pray for those who have died, and for their families, especially for John Anderson, brother of Jim Anderson.

**Oh, Great Spirit,**  
**Whose voice we hear in the winds**  
**and whose breath gives life to all the world,**  
**Hear us! We need your strength and wisdom.**

Let us walk in beauty, and make our eyes  
ever hold the red and purple sunset.  
Make our hands respect the things you have made  
and our ears sharp to hear your voice.  
Make us wise so that we may understand  
the things you have taught us.  
Let us learn the lessons you have hidden  
in every leaf and rock.

Help us remain calm and strong in the  
face of all that comes towards us.  
Help us find compassion without  
empathy overwhelming us.  
We seek strength, not to be greater than our brothers,  
but to fight our greatest enemy: ourselves.  
Make us always ready to come to you  
with clean hands and straight eyes.  
So when life fades, as the fading sunset,  
we may come to you without shame.

Holy One, hear our prayers and make us faithful stewards of the fragile  
bounty of this earth, so that we may be entrusted with the riches of  
heaven. **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

**BCP 360**

### **The Peace**

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## **Announcements**

### **Birthday and Anniversary Blessings**

**BCP 830 #51/431**

## **Offertory**

## **The Holy Communion**

### **Eucharistic Prayer 3 from Enriching our Worship**

*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.**

All thanks and praise  
are yours at all times and in all places,  
our true and loving God;  
through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,  
the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.  
You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it  
burst out from the womb;  
You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to  
humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,  
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;  
And so as the morning stars sing your praises  
we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with  
joy:

**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, hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,  
your Word has never been silent;  
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,  
you delivered them from bondage  
and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus  
to be human, to share our life,  
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign  
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,  
you have freed us from sin,  
brought us into your life,  
reconciled us to you,  
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us  
Jesus took bread,  
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,

gave it to his friends and said:  
"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,  
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:  
"Drink this, all of you:  
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,  
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us:  
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,  
longing for Christ's coming in glory,  
and presenting to you these gifts  
your earth has formed and human hands have made,  
we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**  
**Rising, you restored our life.**  
**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these gifts of bread and wine  
that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.  
Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of  
hope, justice, and love.  
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,  
and in the fullness of time gather us  
with all your people  
into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
we worship you our God and Creator  
in voices of unending praise.

**Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**BCP 364**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**BCP 364**

**The Communion of the People of God**

**Communion Hymn**

**Many and great**

**H 385**

**The Blessing**

May the sun bring you new energy by day.

May the moon softly restore you by night.

May the rain wash away your worries.

May the breeze blow new strength into your being.

May you walk gently through the world and know its beauty all the days of your life.

And may the blessing of the Great Spirit be with you and remain with you always.

**Closing Hymn**

**I'm pressing on the upward way**

**LEVAS 165**

**Dismissal**

Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and all of creation.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Postlude**

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**Resources**

**Today's collect, and opening and closing prayers for the Prayers of the People: Revised Common Lectionary Prayers**

**In the Prayers of the People, the prayers "Earth, teach us stillness" and "O Great Spirit" were translated into English by John Yellow Lark, Lakota Sioux Chief, in the 1800's.**

**The prayer containing the phrase "Bless all Native Americans" is adapted from a Benedictine website that includes Native American Prayers.**

**"Let us know peace" is a Cheyenne prayer.**

**"Our Father the Sky" is a Lakota healing prayer.**

**Eucharistic Prayer 3 is from Enriching our Worship.**

**Today's blessing is from the Apache people.**

## Announcements

**Welcome to St Peter's.** May you find God's love present with you in this place and return here often to worship. The communion bread is gluten free. All are welcome at the Lord's table.

**The offering plates are in the back next to the doors. Your gifts help support God's work through this church.** Mail - PO Box 399, Port Royal, VA 22535. online - <https://news.churchsp.org/onlinegiving>

**Happy Birthday!** – Mary Peterman (10/08), Autumn Hicks (10/10), Woody Everett (10/11), Evan Davis (10/12)

**Every Sunday, 10:30AM, God's Garden in the Parish House**—A gathering of children ages 5-9 for Sunday School activities and fun, led by Elizabeth Heimbach and Jan Saylor.

**Oct. 8, Worship, On YouTube at 11am or afterward.**

<https://www.youtube.com/@st.petersepiscopalchurchpo677/streams>

**Today is the beginning of this year's stewardship campaign, Rooted in Love.** Give in gratitude for the ways that God has blessed you as part of this community, and in support for the ministries of this church. Fill out the estimate of giving card and return it, so that the Vestry can plan next year's budget. You also have the option of pledging online.

<https://news.churchsp.org/eog2024>

**Tuesday, Oct 10, 10AM, Sacred Ground group, Meyer Fine Art Gallery, 1015 Caroline St, Fredericksburg to see the 40+ paintings of 19<sup>th</sup> century Black artist Robert Duncanson.** All are welcome! Lunch follows. See this article about Meyer and Duncanson's paintings.

<https://news.churchsp.org/meyer-gallery-trip-for-sacred-ground/>

**Bible Study, Weds, Oct. 11. 27, 10am-12pm. Parish House, reading the lectionary for 20<sup>th</sup> Pentecost**

[https://lectionarypage.net/YearA\\_RCL/Pentecost/AProp23\\_RCL.html](https://lectionarypage.net/YearA_RCL/Pentecost/AProp23_RCL.html)

**In recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day (Oct 9), today's liturgy contains Native American resources.** *Many and Great*, a Dakota hymn, is the only Native American hymn in the Hymnal 1982. Although the Song of Praise is not Native American, it refers to the four directions, North, South, East and West. When the Lakota people pray or do anything sacred, they see the world as having four directions, each with a specific meaning. The Prayers of the People contain Native American prayers from the Cheyenne, Lakota, and Ute people. The blessing is from the Apache people. See the resource page for more details.

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

**823 Water Street PO Box 399, Port Royal, VA 22535**

**Website: [www.news.churchsp.org](http://www.news.churchsp.org) Parish Office: (804) 742-5908**

**The Vestry**

**Cookie Davis, Larry Saylor (2024)**

**Elizabeth Heimbach, Helmut Linne von Berg (2025)**

**Linda Upshaw (2026)**

**Jim Heimbach, Treasurer, Elizabeth Heimbach Registrar**

**Senior Warden, Elizabeth Heimbach**

**Junior Warden, Cookie Davis**

**Brad Volland – Music Director & Organist**

**The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks, Rector**

**The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus**

**(540) 809-7489, (540) 898-1586, [stpetersrev@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersrev@gmail.com)**

**Christ Centered, Biblically Based, Spirit Filled, Caring**

**Prayer List**

**Linda Upshaw, The Wisdoms, The Pogues, Cookie Davis, Laura Carey, The Pannells, The Linne von Bergs, Brad Volland, Rob Dobson, Lydia O'Neil, John Hess, Charles McGuire, The Segars, The Faibisys, The Felicianos, Thom Guthrie, Vivian McDonald, Bill Wick, Jim Heimbach Si and Linda Murphy (Saylor friends), Karen Stoddard, Daryl Potter (Hughes friend), Joanne and Herbert Wilkerson, Jimmy and Nancy Davis, Julie Davis, Otis Felts (family and friends of Johnny Davis), Dale Brittle, Ruth and Joyce Smith (Laura Carey's sisters-in-law), Lisa Herbert, John Ryan Kirwin (Jean Devitt's son), Max and Rita Jensen (Duke friends), Barbara Deal, Roberta Rutledge, (Pogue friend), Patterson family, Valerie Leitch, Liz Ruthven, Charlene Schnakenberg, Nathaniel Schnakenberg, (Fisher family), Albert Barnett, Wayne Cohen (Pogue family), Herb Collins, Mrs. Watson, Hyacinth Wallace, Bethune Andrews, Orville Watson, The Glasgows (Feliciano family and friends), Sylvia and Jonathan Coleman (Cleo's daughter and son), Ann Pyle (Carolyn Duke's mother), Harvey Yarus (friend of Tom Kramer), Lois Christie, Rosie Dowdy, Bill Lauck, Anthony Bowman, Dylan Puryear (BJ's grandson), Gloria Jewell, The Hill family (Lydia O'Neil's family), G. Lee Baldwin, Linda Oliver, Pat, Joan Pemberton (Brad's family), Louise Chapman (Barbara Segar's cousin)**

**Passed into eternal life: John Anderson (brother of Jim Anderson)**

**Serving in the Armed Forces**

PJ Koons

Scott Estes

Cliff Lance

Steven Lee

Greg Merkl

Grace Grimaldi

Alexis Rye

Michael Hobbs

Alex Long V