

# Ante Communion Service: October 24, 2021, Proper 25B

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*Celebrant* Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all creation. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.**

*A moment of silence for self-reflection*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*People* **Gracious God, have mercy on us.**

**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 have not loved all Creation with the love of the Creator.**

**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.**

*Celebrant* Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*People* **And also with you.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the Creator, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our holy house, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and blessing, and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, and honor, and glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

Let us pray together: **Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**First Reading**

**Jeremiah 31:7-9**

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 126**

*In convertendo*

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, \*

**then were we like those who dream.**

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*

**and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations, \*

**"The Lord has done great things for them."**

The Lord has done great things for us, \*

**and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, \*

**like the watercourses of the Negev.**

Those who sowed with tears \*

**will reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*

**will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.**

**Second Reading**

**Hebrews 7:23-28**

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but Jesus holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

## Mark 10:46-52

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Sermon

### Hymn

### He Leadeth Me

*He leadeth me! O blessed tho't! O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!*

*Refrain: He leadeth me, He leadeth me, by His own hand He leadeth me:  
His faithful foll'wer I would be, for by His hand He leadeth me.*

*Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
By waters still, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis His hand that leadeth me! [Refrain]*

*And when my task on earth is done, when, by Thy grace, the vict'ry's won,  
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God thro' Jordan leadeth me! [Refrain]*

### Apostles' Creed

**Said by all.**

**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 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.**

### Prayers of the People

*Celebrant* With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For this community, the nation, and the world;

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

For the peace and unity of the world;

**That a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

For all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For all who love and trust in God, that divisions may cease;

**And that all may be one, as you and the Father are one.**

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 wisdom in this time of pandemic;

**That our actions may protect the health of ourselves and others.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence. 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. *Silence.*

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.

*Silence.* Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them.

**May they rest in your peace eternally.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray together:

**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.**

We pray together for Christ's presence:

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the bread and wine.**

**I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.**

**Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you  
and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* While we long to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body,

*People:* **We become the sacrament of Christ's Body.**

*Celebrant:* Let your lives be manna to feed our hunger for communion.

*People:* **The love we share becomes bread for the world.**

### **Blessing**

God's blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you,  
now and always. **Amen.**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace and hope and joy to love and serve God's creation. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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