

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

September 17, 2023 at 10 am

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Opening Hymn
Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.

The Opening Acclamation

Priest: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen**

The Collect of the Day

Priest: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: 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 First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader: Speak God, your servants are listening

People: Thanks be to God

The Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: Speak God, your servants are listening

People: Thanks be to God

Sequence Hymn (verse 2 before the Gospel, verse 3 after)

Celtic Alleluia

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -

Verses

ia!

2. Christ is the first fruits from death, _
 **3. Give thanks to the Lord who is good. _ The

2. fill - ing the church with his glo - ry! Dark - ness van - ish - es
 3. love of the Lord knows no end - ing. All in Is - ra - el

2. in the light _____ of _____ his pow - er. _____
 3. say: "God's love _____ has _____ no end." _____

to Refrain

The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ

People: **Glory to you Lord Christ**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord

People: **Praise to you Lord Christ**

Sermon

Justin Phillips, Options Recovery Services Executive Director

Affirmation of Faith

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us. You are God.
You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now. You are God.
You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.**

Prayers of the People

Priest: We have set our hope on you, God. We need your fresh insight and renewed call to serve.

Intercessor: We pray for the life of the world

People: that every nation may seek the way that leads to peace

Intercessor: We pray that human rights and freedom be respected

People: that the world's resources may be freely shared

Intercessor: We pray for all families, chosen and given

People: That love may make us stronger

Intercessor: We pray for those broken by life and those in danger

People: that your grace may redeem and remake them

Intercessor: We pray for those who are ill and suffering

People: that those experiences may not break their spirit

You may name those needing our prayers

Intercessor: That your healing and restoration make them whole.

Now we pray for those who have died

People: That they may rejoice in your presence

You may name the departed

Intercessor: May they flourish in your kingdom.

We also pray that the church follows the way of Jesus

People: That in Him, we are a light for all people

Clergy Prayer

The Peace

Priest: The Peace of Christ be always with you

People: And also with you

Greetings, Announcements and Milestones

Offertory

Like a Mighty Stream

by Moses Hogan

Today's flowers are given anonymously to honor the work of Rob Wilson for our parish.

Great Thanksgiving

Priest: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

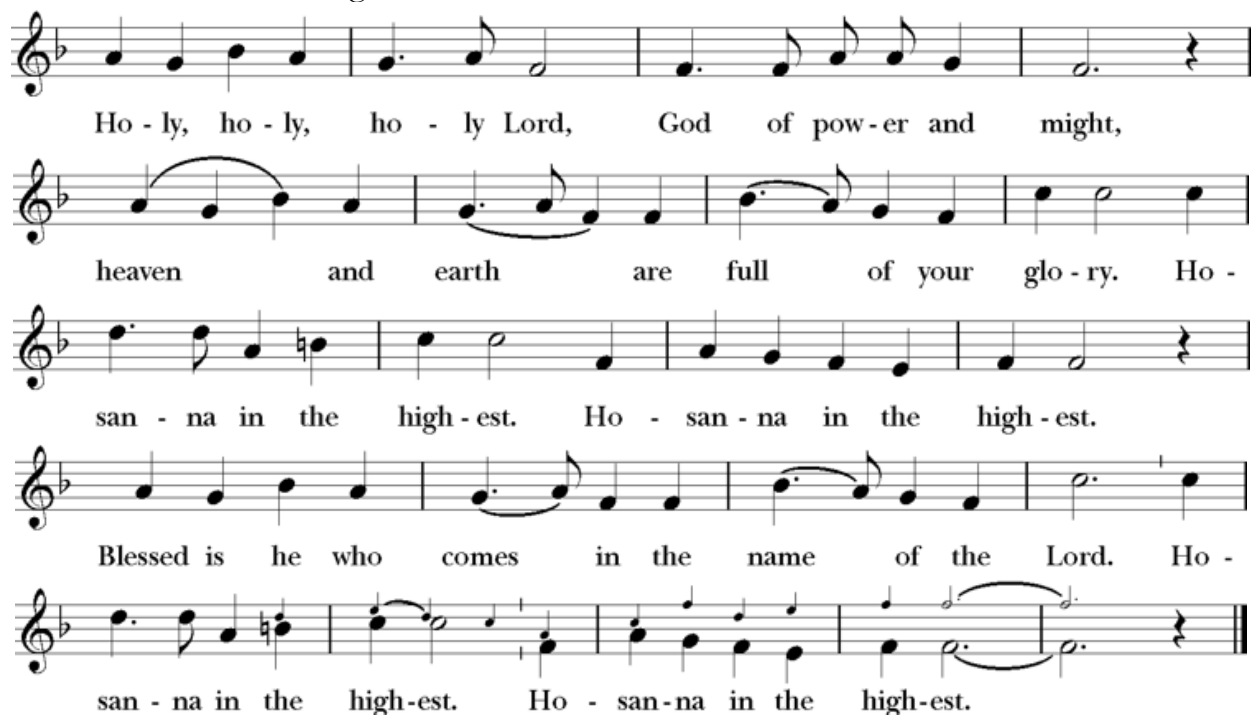
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery,

sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

**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.**

Fraction

Priest: Alleluia Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia Alleluia.

Communion Music

Bread Of Life



1. Bread of life and cup of hope, we come as gift to you.
 2. Lov-ing Lord, Cre - a - tor God, o - pen our eyes to see
 3. Liv-ing Word, O Son of God, your love shows us the way



1. Change our hearts; fill us with peace. Trans-form our lives a - new.
 2. the good that lives in each of us, that called the world to be.
 3. that we may live in har - mo - ny, and from you nev - er stray.



1. O - pen our eyes so that we might see your pres - ence in one an - oth - er.
 2. And when we fail to see the good, when friend-ships fal - ter and crum-ble,
 3. Wipe all op-pres-sion from our midst; give us a love for all peo - ple.



1. Your life, poured out in love to - day, u-nites us all in you.
 2. give us the cour - age to for-give that we may live in peace.
 3. Your song of jus - tice sing in us, to live for peace to - day.

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

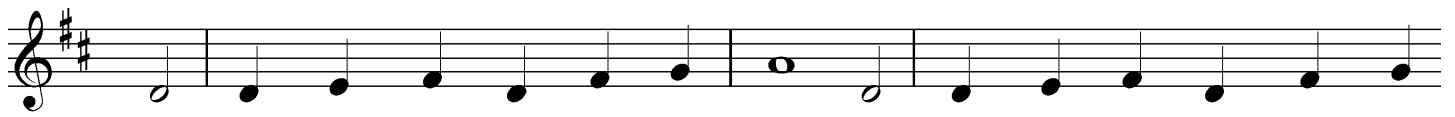
Young People's Time

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Hymn 400

All Creatures Of Our God And King



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
 *2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
 *3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
 2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
 7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

Refrain

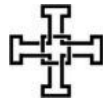


O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal



The Rev. Todd Bryant, Rector
The Rev. Susan Geissler-O'Neil, Associate Rector
The Rev. Maurice Turner, Assisting Priest, Emeritus
Music Director: Myles Ellis

Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church
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St. Timothy's Calendar

September 17, 2023 to October 1, 2023

Days	Event	Time
09/17 Sunday OPTIONS RECOVERY SPEAKER AT BOTH SERVICES	Worship Service [Church]	8:00 am
	Choir Rehearsal [MR]	9:00 am
	Worship Service [Church]	10:00 am
	Online Worship [YouTube]	10:00 am
	Children's Liturgy [PH]	10:00 am
	Book Group [OL]	11:15 am
	Pizza Club [Church of the Resurrection, Pleasant Hill]	1:00 pm
09/18 Monday	Social Justice Group Meeting [OC]	6:45 pm
09/20 Wednesday	Bible Study [zoom]	10:30 am
	Vestry Meeting [OC]	
09/21 Thursday	TIDINGS DEADLINE	
	Life Story [OL]	9:30 am
	Contra Costa Deanery Meeting [zoom]	6:30 pm
	Bell Choir Rehearsal [Church]	6:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal [MR]	7:15 pm
09/24 Sunday	Worship Service [Church]	8:00 am
	Choir Rehearsal [MR]	9:00 am
	Worship Service [Church]	10:00 am
	Online Worship [YouTube]	10:00 am
	Children's Liturgy [PH]	10:00 am
	Social Justice Forum [OL]	11:15 am
09/27 Wednesday	Clergy Conference	
09/28 Thursday	Clergy Conference	
	Life Story [OL]	9:30 am
	Bell Choir Rehearsal [Church]	6:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal [MR]	7:15 pm
10/01 Sunday	Worship Service [Church]	8:00 am
	Choir Rehearsal [MR]	9:00 am
	Worship Service [Church]	10:00 am
	Online Worship [YouTube]	10:00 am
	Children's Liturgy [PH]	10:00 am
	FOTH Dinner [Piatti]	5:30 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, October 8 – Blessing of the Animals, 2pm
 Friday, October 13 - Party on the Patio, 5pm

Announcements

OPTIONS RECOVERY SERVICES

Options proudly celebrates over two decades of service to the community, helping to break the cycle of crime, broken families, and homelessness caused by addiction. We are proud of our history, our donors, volunteers, and staff. Most of all, we are proud of our clients and graduates who have reclaimed their lives from addiction.

Behavioral Health is essential to Health, Prevention Works, Treatment is Effective, and People Recover (the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment Administration).

Options has effectively built a Recovery Community throughout California. Options' graduates bring the message to their peers, with solutions to the problems of addiction and mental illness. Our accomplishments this past year tell the story:

- Options served approximately 1,000 clients through Early Intervention and Treatment Programs.
- Almost 200 homeless clients were placed in emergency shelter, transitional or permanent housing beds.
- All qualifying clients are provided with employment development activities preparing them to find jobs.
- Historically, 90% of our graduates remain clear of both crime and courts.

Serving Today

Bread Minister: Meg L

Preacher: Options Recovery Services Speaker, Justin Phillips (Executive Director)

Counters: Bob C, Ole C

8am

AG: Trudy M, Anne F

Crucifer: Jacque C

Eucharistic Minister: Helen C

Greeter: Margaret B

Intercessor: Helen C

Lector 1: Sylvia H

Lector 2: Kari D

Fellowship Hosts: Jacque & Ole C

10am

AG: Cindy M, Anne G

Crucifer: Liz K

Eucharistic Minister: Lauren & Steve M

Greeter: Linda M, Carolyn C

Intercessor: Kay Lynn H-L

Lector 1: Darrell K

Lector 2: Alex M

Ushers: Sue & Darrell K

Torchbearers: Isabel B, Austin K

Livestream: John H, Michael B

Vestry Lock up: Cecilia O