THE MISSIONAL COMMUNITY OF ST. MONICA

(AN AFRICAN ANGLICAN-EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY)

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Celebrant & Preacher
The Rev. Mercy Maina

Officiant
Carolyne Muhia



Sunday, November 15, 2026 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church, 318 South Duchesne Drive, St. Charles, MO 63301

Third Service at Trinity Episcopal Church

www.trinity-stcharles.org

Sunday School classes run concurrently with the main service.

Contact Rev. Dr. Martin P. Muhia: 636-949-0160

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
ORDER OF SERVICE

At the entry of the procession the people stand.
A prayer is said and a hymn is announced.

Opening Hymn: To God be the Glory # 38 Pg 19

At the altar the minister reads a scripture sentence.

Why spend money and get what is not bread, why give the price of your labor and go unsatisfied? Listen to me and you will have good food to eat. *(Isaiah 55:2)*

Our ancestors all ate the same supernatural food and all drank the same supernatural drink, for they drank from the same supernatural Rock which followed them, and the Rock was Christ. *(1 Corinthians 10: 3-4)*

The Minister welcomes the people with the following words:

Minister	The Lord be with you
People	**And also with you**
Minister	The earth is the Lord's & all that is in it:
People	**Let heavens rejoice & the earth be glad**
Minister	Our help is in the name of the Lord:
People	**Who made heaven & earth**
Minister	I was glad when they said unto me:
People	**"Let us go into the House of the Lord."**
Minister	Praise the Lord:
People	**The name of the Lord be praised.**

The people kneel.

PRAYER FOR PURITY

All **Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from no secrets are hidden: 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**

THE COMMANDMENTS

People remain kneeling. Then follows the reading of either the Ten Commandments, or the New Testament interpretation of the Law, or the Summary of the Law.

Minister Hear the commandments of God and take them to heart. I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or nay likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; You shall not bow down to them or serve them.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a Sabbath of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, or your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister You shall not kill.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister You shall not commit adultery.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister You shall not steal.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and give us grace to keep this law.**

Minister You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy and write these laws in our hearts, we pray.**

THE GLORIA AND 'KYRIE ELEISON' (LORD HAVE MERCY)

The GLORIA may be sung or said:

Minister Glory to the Father

People **Glory to the Son**

Minister Glory to the Spirit

People **Forever Three in one**

Minister Be glorified at home

People **Be glorified in Church**

Minister Be glorified in Africa

People **Be glorified in America**

Minister Be glorified on earth

People **Be glorified in Heaven**

Minister Glory to the Father

People **Glory to the Son**

Minister Glory to the Spirit

People **Forever Three in one**

Minister Alleluia

People **Amen**

Leader: We will have a moment for praise and worship & then pray for Sunday School Children.

The people remain standing

Prayer for the Day, introduced with these or other appropriate words:

Minister As we stand, let us pray the prayer appointed for today.

Minister Today is the twenty fifth Sunday after Pentecost.

The Collect of the Day

Minister The Lord be with you

People **And also with you**

Minister Let us pray.

All **Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.** ***Amen.***

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The People sit.

The First Lesson – Judges 4:1-7 **Kelvin Kuria**

Reader The First reading is taken from the book of Judges chapter 4 beginning to read at verse 1

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

After the reading, ***a Pause of 3 Seconds is observed.***

Reader Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

Psalm 123 **Pelaiah Njeri**

Reader The Psalm appointed for the day is Psalm 123 beginning to read at Verse 1.
We will praise God responsively by whole verse ending with the Gloria Patri.

To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.
As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
So our eyes look to the LORD our God, *
until he show us his mercy.
Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

After the reading, ***a Pause of 3 Seconds is observed***

Glory to the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

The People sit.

Silence may be kept. Choir may sing.

The Epistle Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Carolyn Stuhistaz

Reader The Epistle reading is taken from 1 Thessalonians chapter 5 beginning to read at verse 1

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

After the reading, ***a Pause of 3 Seconds is observed***

Reader Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church
People **Thanks be to God**

Silence may be kept.

Hymn Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty # 53 pg 24

The Gospel – Matthew 25:14-30

All stand for the reading, which is introduced with these or appropriate words:

Minister We stand to hear the good news of our salvation, as it is written in the Gospel according to Saint Matthew chapter 25 beginning to read at verse 14

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

After the Gospel ***a Pause of 3 Seconds is observed***

Minister This is the Gospel of Christ
People **Praise be to Christ our Saviour.**

Sermon **The Rev. Mercy Maina**

Silence may be kept.

THE NICENE CREED

Minister We stand together with Christians throughout the centuries, and throughout the world today, to affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

ALL **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 of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day he rose again in 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 worshipped 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.

INTERCESSIONS

Prayerful songs may be sung between the intercessions. People may be encouraged join in open prayer. The leading of the intercession may be shared among the people.

Hymn My faith has found a resting place # 317 pg 114

Minister Let us pray

The people sit or kneel

THIS LITANY

Leader May the bishops and leaders of our church have wisdom and speak with one voice.

People Amen. Lord have mercy

Leader May the leaders of our country rule with righteousness

People Amen. Lord have mercy

Leader May justice be our shield and defender

People Amen. Lord have mercy

Leader May the country have peace and the people be blessed

People Amen. Lord have mercy

Leader May the flocks and the herds prosper and the fish abound in our lakes

People Amen. Lord have mercy

Leader May the fields be fertile and the harvest plentiful

People Amen. Lord have mercy

Leader May we and our enemies turn towards peace

People Amen. Lord have mercy

Leader May the love of the Father touch the lonely, the bereaved and the suffering

People Amen. Lord have mercy

Leader May the path of the world be swept of all dangers

People Alleluia. The Lord of Mercy is with us

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The people remain kneeling

Minister Hear the words of challenge and comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who follow him. If anyone would come after me, take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. (*Luke 9:23-24*)

Come to me all of you who are tired of carrying your heavy loads, and I will give you rest. (*Matthew 11:18*)

So, all of you who repent of your sins, who love your neighbours and intend to lead a new life, following the way of Jesus, come with faith and take this holy sacrament to strengthen you.

Minister So let us reverently confess our sins to Almighty God.

All **Almighty God, Creator of all, you marvellously made us in your image; but we have corrupted ourselves and damaged your likeness by rejecting your love and hurting our neighbours.**
We have done wrong and neglected to do right.
We are sincerely sorry and heartily repent of our sins. Cleanse us and forgive us by the sacrifice of your Son; Remake us and lead us by your Spirit, the Comforter. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Minister Almighty God, whose steadfast love is as great as the heavens are high above the earth, remove your sins from you, as far as the east is from the west, strengthen your life in his kingdom and keep you upright to the last day; through Jesus Christ our merciful High Priest. Amen.

All **Thank you, Father, for forgiveness. We come to your table as your children, not presuming but assured, not trusting ourselves but your Word; we hunger and thirst for righteousness, and ask for our hearts to be satisfied with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ the Righteous. Amen.**

MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The people stand

Sharing of Peace

Minister The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**
Minister Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The people greet each other with a handshake or other appropriate gesture.

The Holy Table is prepared for communion. A hymn is sung, during which the offering is collected. The presiding minister and assistants may wash hands. If there is no offering the minister moves directly to the Eucharistic Prayer. When there is an offering, the minister and people may respond in the following or other appropriate manner.

Notices

Offertory Hymn Sowing in the Morning # 471 pg 167

Minister All things come from you, O Lord.
People **And of your own we have given.**

The people remain standing

Minister We remain standing for thanksgiving and remembrance.

Is the Father with us?

People **He is**

Minister Is Christ among us?

People **He is**

Minister Is the Spirit here?

People **He is**

Minister This is our God

People **Father, Son and Holy Spirit**

Minister We are His people

People **We are redeemed**

Minister Lift up your hearts

People **We lift them to the Lord**

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise**

Minister It is right and our delight to give you thanks and praise, great Father, living God, supreme over the world, Creator, Provider, Saviour and Giver. From a wandering nomad you created your family; for a burdened people you raised up a leader; for a confused nation you chose a king; for a rebellious crowd you sent your prophets. In these last days you have sent us your Son, your perfect image, bringing your kingdom, revealing your will, dying, rising, reigning, remaking your people for yourself. Through him you have poured out your Holy Spirit, filling us with light and life.

Special thanksgiving shall be said at this point when appropriate

Therefore, with angels, archangels, faithful ancestors and all in heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

All **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 BREAKING OF BREAD

The people remain standing.

Minister Almighty God, Owner of all things, we thank you for giving up your only Son to die on the cross for us who owe you everything. Pour your refreshing Spirit on us as we remember him in the way He commanded, through these gifts of your creation. On the same night that he was betrayed, he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me'.

People **Amen. His body was broken for us.**

Minister In the same way, after supper He took the cup and gave you thanks; He gave it to them, saying, 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. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

People **Christ has died,**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Minister We are brothers and sisters through His blood.

People **We have died together**
We will rise together
We will live together

Minister Therefore, heavenly Father, hear us as we celebrate this covenant with joy, and await the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. He died in our place, making a full atonement for the sins of the whole world, the perfect sacrifice, once and for all. You accepted his offering by raising him from death, and granting him great honour at your right hand on high.

People **Amen. Jesus is Lord**

Minister This is the feast of victory

People **The Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

THE COMMUNION

The people kneel

Minister As our Saviour taught us, we are bold to pray;

ALL **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your 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

Minister We break this bread to share in the body of Christ
People **Though we are many, we are one body, for we all share one bread**.

Minister The cup of blessing which we bless.
People **Is a sharing in the blood of Christ**

Minister Draw near with Faith and receive
People **Christ is the host and we are his Guests.**

Minister Christ is alive for ever.
People **We are because He is**

The celebrant and assistants receive the bread and wine. The congregation is led by the choir in a musical recitation of the AGNUS DEI.

Minister Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
People **Have mercy on us.**

Minister Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
People **Have mercy on us.**

Minister Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
People **Give us your peace.**

THE INVITATION

The celebrant then holds the bread, and one of his assistants holds the wine and they declare to the people:

Minister The Gifts of God for the People of God.
and may add
Take them in repentance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Eucharist Hymn: Great is Thy faithfulness # 144 pg 56

As the bread and wine are distributed, the minister or his assistant may say to each communicant:

Minister The body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.
Assistant The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.

AFTER COMMUNION

The congregation may observe a brief moment of silence. The people then stand, and the following prayer is said:

All **God Most High, we thank you for welcoming us, teaching us and feeding us. We deserve nothing from you but in your great mercy, you have given us everything in your Son Jesus Christ. We love you and give ourselves to you to be sent out for your work; Grant us your blessing, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

People accompany their first three responses with a sweep of the arm towards the Cross behind the Holy Table, and their final response with a sweeping motion towards heaven.

Minister All our problems
People **We send them to the cross of Christ**

Minister All our difficulties
People **We send them to the cross of Christ**

Minister All the devil's works
People **We send them to the cross of Christ**

Minister All our hopes
People **We set them on the Risen Christ**

Minister My friends. Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. Open your hearts to those in need. The peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of God's Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you, always. **Amen**

Recessional Hymn He leadeth me! Oh, blessed thought # 329 pg 117

DISMISSAL

Minister Go out into the world, rejoicing in the Power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God!**

Notices:

- We are pleased to have you worship with us today whether in person or online.

- We thank God for the just concluded 187th DIOMO Convention. Yesterday St Monica was represented by 8 members. Some of us were assigned to participate in the Eucharist service which was very humbling. We give God all the glory.

- Our Youth Monthly Fellowship will be held this coming Wednesday November 18, 2026 at St Hilda. Dinner will be served.

- Our weekly zoom bible study and zoom prayers are held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays respectively. It is usually from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. We will be using a constant zoom link
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81233329228?pwd=jToIjNm3xB4JAQkyhtcb49RlS3b5l3.1
  Meeting ID: 812 3332 9228 Passcode: 162666

- Kindly note we will be having Eucharist Services every 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays. Morning services (without holy communion) will be held every 2nd and 5th Sunday's.

- You are warmly invited to join us for a cup of tea at the Parish hall, after the service.

- A barcode for giving is located on the back of the bulletin. Feel free to scan it and follow the simple instructions provided.

Service Participants

Readers – Carolyn Stuhistaz, Kevin Kuria, Pelaiah Njeri
Acolyte – Benisha Brudy
Intercessor - Avril Arthurton
Keyboard – Kevin Kuria
Organist – John R Hawn
Usher - Precious Chege