

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

***Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you. **Many: And also with you.**
One: Lift up your hearts. **Many: We lift them up to God.**
One: Let us give thanks to God. **Many: It is good to give God thanks & praise**

***Creation's Praise**

Santo Santo Santo

Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora. Mi corazon te sabe decir, santo eres Dios. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you. My heart is glad to say the words, you are holy God.

(Please be seated)

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**
The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

On Earth as it is in Heaven

***Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer**

*Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

***Hymn of Sending**

All Things Bright and Beautiful
(Black New Century Hymnal No.31)

***Benediction**

Postlude

Top of the World
Peter Black

Prelude

For the Beauty of the Rocky Mountain High
Peter Black

Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

Introit

Love and Justice

*Love and Justice, Peace and Power, show us how to live each hour.
Raise us up, and set us free, show us how to live and be.
Tell your neighbors, tell your friends, here's a place hope never ends.
Love and Justice, Peace and Power, God is with us in this hour.
God is with us in this hour, God is with us in this hour,
God is with us in this hour.*

Call to Worship

Psalm 48

One: God's holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth.
Many: We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.

One: Your name, O God, reaches to the ends of the earth.
Many: Let Mount Zion be glad. Let the towns of Judah rejoice.

One: Walk around Zion. Go all around it. Consider well its ramparts.
Many: Tell the next generation that this is God's holy mountain, forever and ever.

One: As we have heard, so we have seen. This is God's land.
Many: Your holy mountain, O God, is the joy of all the earth. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

Touch the Earth Lightly
(Black New Century Hymnal No.569)

* = Stand if you wish to, and are able
Congregational response in bold

Unison Prayer

God, our Creator, we lift up our eyes to your Holy Mountain, where you are still speaking. Surround us with your Light. Stir us with your voice. Today, we celebrate the wonders of the hills and mountains. Teach us to recognize that the hills are alive with your Spirit. Help us to see in the surrounding landscape the places where we have polluted your Holy Ground. Forgive us for our neglect and guide us into action. This we pray in the name of the Christ who reconciles and renews all things in creation. Amen.

Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

*Passing the Peace

We Pray for Peace

We pray for peace, for peace among the nations. We pray for peace, good will among all people. 'Til love comes down like a summer rain; 'til the rivers of justice flow again, 'til the day of jubilee is come, we pray for peace upon our planet home.

Words of Integration & Guidance

Patricia Izzo

In the English language, we have the expression “mountain-top experience.” This expression has originated from the Bible because of the dealings God had with people on various mountain tops. In the Bible, mountains often had a significant role in God’s dealings with people. So the phrase “mountain-top experience” has come to mean a moment of transcendence or epiphany; and, in particular, an experience of significant revelation given by God. It was on the Mountains of Ararat that Noah’s ark came to rest after the flood, and God made a covenant with Noah there. On Mount Sinai, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. On Mount Horeb, God met Elijah in a “still small voice” and “gentle whisper.” Jesus taught his disciples on the Mount of Olives. Later, he was transfigured on a mountain, where Moses and Elijah (who both had their own mountain-top experiences) were seen talking with Jesus on that mountain. And, we must not forget Mount Zion – the place where King David built his city, later called Jerusalem. So mountains are symbolic of God’s revelation to us. God gives the “mountain-top experience” in order to sustain us as we go down into the valley. This revelation is always intended to help us journey more closely with God on the road ahead. Let us “lift up our eyes unto the mountains” (Psalm 121) where God is still speaking.

Creation Season: Mountain Sunday

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Exodus 3:1-14

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 9:2-10

Many: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily

"A Higher Consciousness"

Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

Offering & Offertory

"Colors of the Wind"

Jeff Spangler and Peter Black

Songwriters: Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz

Joys & Concerns/ Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God! **Many: Alleluia!**

One: O God, **Many: Hear our prayer.**

*Doxology

Give Thanks to the Lord

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good and God’s mercy shall endure.

For God alone has done marv’lous things, give thanks unto the Lord.

God made the earth and heaven with a strong and mighty hand.

God has moved us to sing, proclaim this song! Give thanks unto our God.