

# Church of the Incarnation

*A Parish of the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Montana  
The Right Rev. Marty Stebbins, Bishop*

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The Rev. Lori Hale Babcock, Interim Rector      The Rev. Donna Gleaves, Deacon  
Trudy Nelson, Acolyte/Crucifer      Shad Bailey, Accompanist  
Gerry Jennings, Lector      Chuck Jennings, Intercessor  
Barb Eliason, Lay Eucharistic Minister  
Dick Dohrman, Usher

**November 19, 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 28**

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

*At Church of the Incarnation, we welcome all to join in the beauty of timeless ritual, seek Christian connection, and share God's abundance.*

Please join us for fellowship time immediately following the service.

Restrooms are located in the adjacent building (Gilliam Hall). Please follow the sidewalk past the columbarium to the courtyard door marked #3. Take the stairs up or down – there are restrooms on both levels.

The accessible restroom (unisex) is located next to the elevator on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. It also has a changing table for infants.

**Welcome** (*Stand*)

**Hymn # 414: “God my King, thy might confessing”** (v. 1-3)

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
*People* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

**Song of Praise #S-280 “Glory to God”**

*Celebrant* God be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

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.**

**The First Lesson: Judges 4:1-7** (*Sit*)

Reader: A reading from the book of Judges.

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."

The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 123** (*Responsively by half-verse*)

1 To you I lift up my eyes, \*

***to you enthroned in the heavens.***

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \*

***and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,***

3 So our eyes look to the LORD our God, \*

***until he show us his mercy.***

4 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, \*

***for we have had more than enough of contempt,***

5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, \*

***and of the derision of the proud.***

**The Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Reader: A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

**Hymn #440 “*Blessed Jesus, at thy word*”**

**The Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30** (*Stand*)

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People ***Glory to you Lord Christ.***

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.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you Lord Christ.***

**Reflections on Abundance** Peter Jennings, Barb Eliason, Pastor Lori

**The Nicene Creed** (*stand*)

***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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he***

*rose again 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.*

### **Prayers of the People**

Leader: Gather us together, O God, that we might share the prayers, intentions, and thanksgivings of our community.

We are generous with our gifts

***Because we are Rooted in Abundance***

Leader: I ask your prayers for the Church, for all who worship God this day. For our clergy, our diocesan leaders, and for our congregation. We pray especially for this season in which we celebrate our stories of leadership and our support for mission...

We are generous with our gifts of leadership,

***Because we are Rooted in Abundance.***

Leader: I ask your prayers for our Nation and all nations; for refugees fleeing climate change and war; for conflicts of resources and land; for lawmakers, peacekeepers, and informed citizens. We pray for a distribution of wealth that helps the poor and the marginalized ...

We are generous with our gifts of peace,

***Because we are Rooted in Abundance.***

Leader: I ask your prayers for the sick, the lonely, the lost, and those who grieve. We remember those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now in silence or aloud ...

We are generous with our gifts of healing,  
***Because we are Rooted in Abundance.***

Leader: I ask your prayers for those who have died, those who are dying, and those who mourn. For those on our parish list, and for those we name now in silence or aloud ...

We are generous with our gifts of support,  
***Because we are Rooted in Abundance.***

Leader: I ask for your remembrances of thanksgivings and blessings, for we are given time, talent, and treasure to share with the world ...

We are generous with our gratitude,  
***Because we are Rooted in Abundance.***

*Celebrant:* Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## **The Confession**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins to God.

***God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.***

## **Absolution**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

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

## **Announcements**

**Offertory Sentence** (*Celebrant*) Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*(Representatives of the people bring forward the bread and wine. While the table is being set, the collection is taken. Please stand as the collected offering is brought forward.)*

# **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 3 (Enriching our Worship)**

*(Remain Standing)*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Celebrant* 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:

*Celebrant and People:*

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***“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.”***

*Celebrant* 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:

*Celebrant and People*

***Dying, you destroyed our death.***

***Rising, you restored our life.***

***Christ Jesus, come in glory!***

*Celebrant* 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.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

People ***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.***

**Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

***We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.***

The Gifts of God for the people of God.

**Hymn WLP #819 “*Guide my feet, Lord, while I run this race*”**

1. Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.  
 2. Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.  
 3. Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.  
 Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.  
 Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I  
 Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I  
 Stand by me Lord, while I run this race. 'cause I

don't want to run this race in vain.  
 don't want to run this race in vain.  
 don't want to run this race in vain.

Music: African-American spiritual, arr. Carl Harris, Jr. (b. 1935).

## Post Communion Prayer (*Stand*)

***God of Abundance and Grace, by the provision of this feast, the Sacrament of our Savior, Jesus Christ you have united us together in purpose and place. May we who have gathered and broken bread now share the living Word, being rooted in abundance; serving you with joy and steadfast faith, through Jesus Christ, our head. Amen.***

### **The Blessing**

May God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

**Hymn # 680: “O God our help in ages past”**

### **Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
*People* ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.***

### *The Week Ahead*

- **Sunday, November 19, 10 am**, Holy Eucharist, Church
  - **F<sup>3</sup> 11:30 Social Concerns, Dcn. Donna**
- **Wednesday, November 22, 10:30 a.m. Bible Study**, Guild Room and Zoom
  - **Noon, Service of Healing with Eucharist**, church
  - **6 p.m. Thanksgiving Service with Eucharist**
- **Friday, November 24, 12 Noon**, Al Anon, Guild Room
- **Sunday, November 26, 10 am**, Holy Eucharist, Church

### *Looking ahead*

- **Wednesday, November 29, 10:30 a.m. Bible Study**, Guild Room and Zoom
  - **Noon, Service of Healing with Eucharist**, church
- **Friday, December 1, 12 noon**, Al Anon, Guild Room
- **Sunday, December 3, 10 am**, Holy Eucharist, First Sunday of Advent
  - **Craft Fair, 11:30 – 4:30**, Parish Hall