



# TRINITY

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL  
A house of prayer for all people

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The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 20, 2026, 8 a.m.

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**Welcome:** *Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member, we are honored to worship with you today. If you are searching for a church home, we would love to tell you more about this congregation and to learn more about you. Fill out a visitor card found in the back of the pew in front of you, drop it in the offering plate, and we'll be in conversation with you this week. Above all, please know that this is your Cathedral, and all are welcome.*

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, unto 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 thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

*Celebrant* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*People* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

*Celebrant* Lord, have mercy upon us.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, not to mind earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to cleave to those that shall abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**THE FIRST READING**

EXODUS 16:2-15

**T**he whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

*Lector*

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

**G**ive thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him, \*  
and speak of all his marvelous works.

Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Search for the LORD and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.

Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.

He led out his people with silver and gold; \*  
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

Egypt was glad of their going, \*  
because they were afraid of them.

He spread out a cloud for a covering \*  
and a fire to give light in the night season.

They asked, and quails appeared, \*  
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.

He opened the rock, and water flowed, \*  
so the river ran in the dry places.

For God remembered his holy word \*  
and Abraham his servant.

So he led forth his people with gladness, \*  
his chosen with shouts of joy.

He gave his people the lands of the nations, \*  
and they took the fruit of others' toil,

**That they might keep his statutes \*  
and observe his laws.  
Hallelujah!**

**THE SECOND READING**

PHILIPPIANS 1:21-3

**T**o me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

**THE GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 20:1-16

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

**J**esus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they

received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

*Deacon*     The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*     **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## THE SERMON

## THE NICENE CREED

*Said by all, standing*

**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 from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Deacon*     Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do

confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Deacon* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Deacon and People*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness

of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*The Celebrant then says one or more of the following sentences, first saying*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

*Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2.*

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Then all may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*All stand.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God...

...Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

## THE SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again...

...By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*To receive the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion, please come forward and kneel or stand at the Altar rail. Gluten-*

*free Bread is available upon request. If you prefer not to drink the Wine, please know that receiving only Bread is a “full Communion.” If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the Bread and Wine, come forward to the rail and cross your arms over your chest. If, for whatever reason, you prefer to receive the Bread and Wine in your pew, let your usher know.*

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

## THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

### ✠ ALTAR GIFTS ✠

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
PAULINE BROWN ALLEN AND JOHN LOUIS BROWN  
BY WILLIAM MITCHELL BROWN

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
DR ROBERT ENTZMINGER AND HENRY ENTZMINGER  
BY HARRIET AND WARREN STEPHENS

## LITURGICAL LEADERS

*Celebrant and Preacher*

The Rev. Thomas Alexander, *Associate Rector*

*Lector and Lay Eucharistic Minister*

Judy Barger

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We'd love to connect with you about how to make this church your home. To do so, please fill out one of the pew cards in front of you and drop it in the offertory plate.

Please join us for coffee and continental breakfast after the service in Morrison Hall.

### **This week at and around the Cathedral**

|           |            |                             |          |           |                                |
|-----------|------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| oday      | 4 p.m.     | Choral Evensong             |          | 5:15 p.m. | Eucharist with Healing Prayers |
|           | 5 p.m.     | EKC/EYC                     |          |           | Community Dinner               |
| Monday    | 8:30 a.m.  | Morning Prayer              |          | 6 p.m.    | Koinonia Eucharist             |
| Tuesday   | 8:30 a.m.  | Morning Prayer              |          | 6:30 p.m. | Book Club                      |
|           | 5:30 p.m.  | Vestry Meeting              | Thursday | 8:30 a.m. | Morning Prayer                 |
| Wednesday | 8:30 a.m.  | Morning Prayer              |          | 5:15 p.m. | Evening Prayer                 |
|           | 12:15 p.m. | Organ Recital               |          | 7 p.m.    | Choir Rehearsal                |
|           | 4 p.m.     | Chorister Rehearsal         |          |           |                                |
|           | 5 p.m.     | St. Cecilia Choir Rehearsal |          |           |                                |
|           |            | Trinity Ringing Society     |          |           |                                |

## UPCOMING EVENTS

QR codes provided for additional information and registrations

### **Join us for a Cottage Gathering near you!**

Beginning September 22 and running through October 15, parishioners are invited to gather in homes throughout our community for an evening of fellowship and conversation about the life we are building together. Our stewardship campaign theme, *How Firm a Foundation*, gives thanks for the strong foundation we have received and strengthened together, while looking with hope toward the work ahead in this new season at Trinity.

At each gathering, we'll enjoy time with fellow parishioners, hear more about the opportunities before us, and reflect on how our generosity helps provide a firm foundation for Trinity's ministry in the years to come. Choose a cottage gathering in your neighborhood—or whichever date and location works best for you—and sign up to join us.



### **The Cathedral Forum: Cathedral Life: Topics in Mission and Ministry**

*Sundays, 9:15 a.m., Morrison Hall*

The Cathedral Forum is Trinity's principal adult education gathering each Sunday morning, bringing together clergy, parishioners, and guest speakers for engaging presentations and discussions about the Christian faith and our common life. Our next series, "Cathedral Life: Topics in Mission and Ministry," led by the Very Rev. Andrea McMillin, will turn our attention to Trinity itself. Each week, we'll explore a different aspect of the Cathedral's ministry and mission, taking a closer look at

some of the people, ministries, opportunities, and commitments that are shaping our life together. Along the way, we'll celebrate what God is already doing in and through our Cathedral and consider how we might strengthen and build upon that work in the years ahead.

### **The Trinity Book Club: *Discipleship* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

*Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Parish House Room 101 (Beginning September 9)*

Join us each Wednesday evening as we read and discuss classic and contemporary books that deepen our understanding of the Christian life. Our conversations are thoughtful, welcoming, and open to anyone who enjoys reading alongside others. The Trinity Book Club next turns to one of the most compelling Christian voices of the twentieth century, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German pastor and theologian who resisted the Nazi regime and was executed in the final weeks of World War II. His most famous work, *Discipleship* (ISBN: 0800683242), asks what happens when we take Jesus' call to "follow me" seriously. The discussion will be led by the Rev. Thomas Alexander. To sign up, contact [thomas@trinitylittlerock.org](mailto:thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).

September 16: Chapters 4–5, Chapter 6 through "The Righteousness of Christ"

September 23: "Kindred" through "The Enemy—The Extraordinary"

September 30: remainder of Chapter 6—Chapter 7

October 7: Chapters 8–11

October 14: Chapters 12–13

### **The Inquirers' Class: *Your Faith, Your Life* by Jennifer Gamber**

*Sundays, 9:15 am (beginning September 13)*  
*Parish House Room 101*

Led by members of the Cathedral clergy, our Inquirers' Class is a welcoming introduction to the Episcopal Church for newcomers and a refresher for longtime Episcopalians. Together,

we'll explore the beliefs, worship, history, and practices of the Episcopal Church, while getting to know one another in a relaxed setting. Our textbook is *Your Faith, Your Life: An Invitation to the Episcopal Church* by Jennifer Gamber. To register or learn more, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander at [thomas@trinitylittlerock.org](mailto:thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).

### **Choral Evensong Resumes**

*Sundays at 4 p.m. beginning tonight*

Fresh off their successful week as choir in residence at Canterbury Cathedral, the Trinity Cathedral Choir is preparing to return to offering weekly Choral Evensongs.

Choral Evensong is a contemplative service of music, readings, and prayers that takes place in the late afternoon or early evening. It allows listeners time to meditate and transition from the busyness of the day to the peace and quiet of the evening. Evensong's distinguishing feature is that it consists primarily of music. Trinity Cathedral is one of only a handful of parishes in the country to offer this moving service every week. A festive reception will follow the service.

### **Weekly Lunchtime Organ Recitals Resume**

*Wednesdays, 12:15 p.m. beginning September 16*

30-minute lunchtime organ recitals will resume every Wednesday at 12:15 pm beginning September 16. Come enjoy some wonderful music during your lunchbreak!

### **Young Adults' Gathering**

*Saturday, September 26 at 6:00 p.m.*

Join fellow parishioners in their 20s and 30s for a time of dinner and fellowship. The next gathering is on Saturday, September 26 at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Thomas Alexander and Lillian Hardaway, and we'll play board games following dinner. To RSVP and receive the address, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander at [thomas@trinitylittlerock.org](mailto:thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).

## Sunday Evening Youth Groups

*EKC (4th-5th) & EYC (6th-12th)*

*Sundays, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.*

*Youth Room, Chancellors Hall*

Every Sunday evening, our youth gather for food and fellowship. Our two communities share dinner together for the first 30 minutes, and then gather separately for 1 hour of programming, including faith formation, games, and service projects. This is a weekly opportunity to grow as disciples in a joyful and welcoming community. We invite parents and other volunteers to help provide weekly dinner for our youth, sign up here: <https://bit.ly/tclrsundaydinner>



To learn more, contact Emma Mitchell at [emma@trinitylittlerock.org](mailto:emma@trinitylittlerock.org).

## September Schedule

13: "Time, Talent, & Treasure"

20: AYE Weekend @ Camp Mitchell (NO EKC/ EYC)

27: Garden Work Day

## Choral Evensong with Blessing of the Animals

*Sunday, October 4 at 4 p.m.*

The annual Blessing of the Animals will take place during the choral evensong service on Sunday October 5 at 4 p.m. Pets are welcome to join the congregation in the Cathedral for this service.

A reception with pet friendly treats will follow.

## Trinitas Ensemble Fall Concert: The American Soundscape

*Saturday, October 17 at 7 pm*

*First Presbyterian Church 800 Scott St, Little Rock, AR 72201*

In honor of the country's 250th birthday, The Trinitas Ensemble, Arkansas's only fully professional choir, will present a program of music by American composers. Tickets cost \$15 and are free for people ages 17 and under. For tickets, visit [bit.ly/trinitas2](http://bit.ly/trinitas2).

## New Program at Camp Mitchell: *Grown-Up & Me: First Timer Mini-Camp*

*October 16–17 at Camp Mitchell!*

Designed especially for first-time campers and their grown-ups, this mini-camp is a wonderful opportunity to experience the magic of Camp Mitchell together—making memories, exploring the mountain, enjoying camp activities, and growing in community.

Wondering what to expect? We've put together a helpful Parent FAQ with information about Camp Mitchell, what your weekend will look like, what to bring, and more!

We can't wait to welcome our newest campers and their grown-ups to the mountai



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