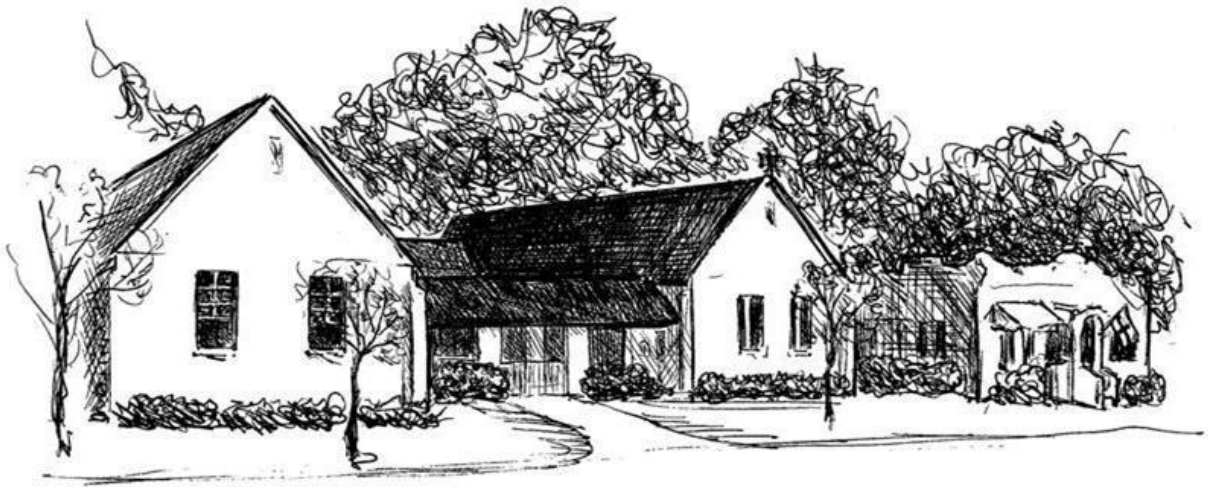


St. Matthias Episcopal Church

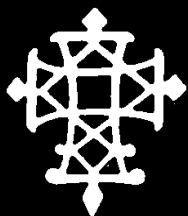


St. Matthias Church strives to love God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength; and strives to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. (Mark 12:29-30)

**Sunday
July 14, 2024**

**The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Canon Pinder Commemoration Day**

**Holy Eucharist Rite II
9:30 AM & 11:15 AM**



The Right Reverend Dr. Justin S. Holcomb, Bishop

The Reverend James M. Dorn III, Rector

352.460.9580 · rector@stmatthiasfl.com

Mr. Hugh D. Dial Jr., M.M., Organist & Choir Master

574 W. Montrose Street · Clermont, FL 34711

Office: 528 W. Montrose Street · Clermont, FL 34711 · 352.394.3855

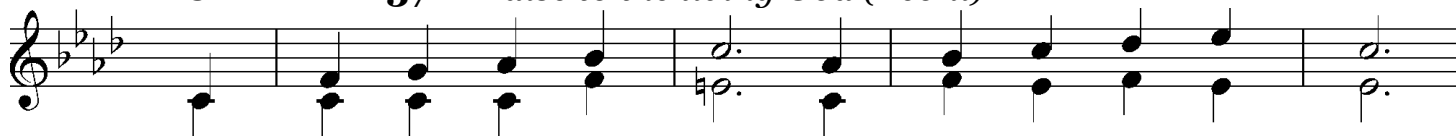
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Talk to God before Church. Listen to God during Church. Talk to each other after Church.

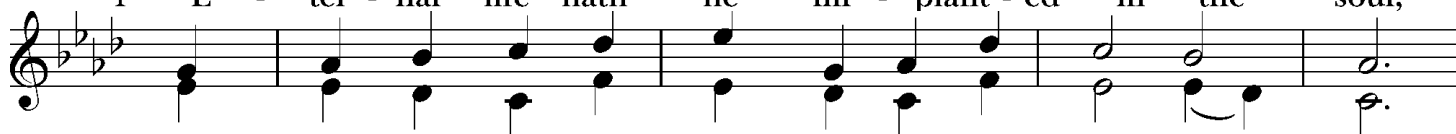
The Word of God

Entrance Rite

ENTRANCE HYMN 372 *Praise to the living God (Leoni)*



1 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name
2 Form - less, all love - ly forms de - clare his love - li - ness;
3 His Spi - rit flow - eth free, high surg - ing where it will:
4 E - ter - nal life hath he im - plant - ed in the soul;



who was, and is, and is to be for ay the same.
ho - ly, no ho - li - ness of earth can his ex - press.
in pro - phet's word he spoke of old; he speak - eth still.
his love shall be our strength and stay while a - ges roll.



The one e - ter - nal God ere aught that now ap - pears:
Lo, he is Lord of all. Cre - a - tion speaks his praise,
Es - tab - lished is his law, and change - less it shall stand,
Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name



the first, the last, be - yond all thought his time - less years!
and ev - ery - where a - bove, be - low, his will o - beys.
deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, on sea, on land.
who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.

OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355)

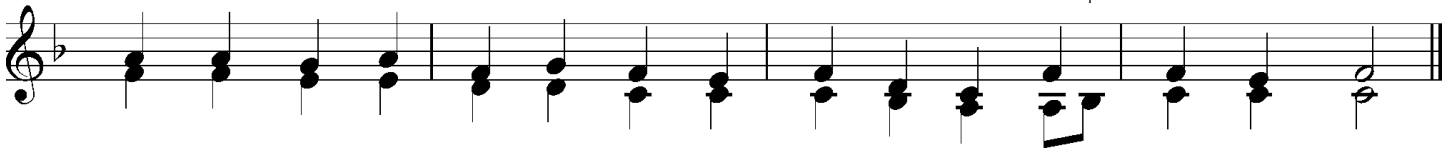
The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE 66 *Come, thou long-expected Jesus (Stuttgart)*



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and compassionate God, you kindled the flame of love in the heart of your servant, Nelson W. Pinder, to provide bold leadership, manifested in non-violent action, with faith to combat the sin of racism. Inspire us to continue the cause of civil rights for all. Give us the grace to respect the dignity of every human being, for your Love's sake, Jesus the Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM (SAID IN UNISON): Psalm 27:1-7

**The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?**

**the LORD is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?**

**When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who
stumbled and fell.**

**Though an army should encamp against me,
yet my heart shall not be afraid;**

**And though war should rise up against me,
yet will I put my trust in him.**

**One thing have I asked of the LORD;
one thing I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days
of my life;**

**To behold the fair beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.**

**For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe
in his shelter;
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.**

Silence may follow.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN 436 *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates (Truro)*

All stand.



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and



1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit



1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:35-40

All stand.

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

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

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PRESENTATION

To request a copy of the presentation, please contact Hannah at hannahblume@stmatthiasfl1.com.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE

THE NICENE CREED (BCP p. 358)

All 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:
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.***

**A LITANY FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF
THE REV. CANON DR. NELSON WARDELL PINDER**

All remain standing.

The Leader and People pray responsively

REMEMBERING THE PROPHET

We remember before you today, O God of Prophecy, your servant Canon Nelson Wardell Pinder, who dedicated his life to being a voice for the oppressed who live among us.

We give thanks to you, O God.

Who was deeply committed to bringing people together in the love of God.

We give thanks to you, O God.

Who was priest and rector of the Episcopal Church of Saint John the Baptist in Orlando, Florida for most of his career.

We give thanks to you, O God.

Who was Orlando, Florida's "Street Priest."

We give thanks to you, O God.

Who didn't quit when his car was bombed.

We give thanks to you, O God.

Who was a tireless warrior for social justice.

We give thanks to you, O God.

Who was dedicated to youth and education, especially to Bethune-Cookman University, St. Augustine's University, and Voorhees University.

We give thanks to you, O God.

Who helped to form the Union of Black Episcopalians.

We give thanks to you, O God.

Whose loving wife Marian and his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and descendants followed and fostered his vision.

We give thanks to you, O God.

REPAIRING THE BREACH

We pray to you, O God who forgives us as we repent, empowers for ministry, and gives us strength to repair the breach and to foster truth and reconciliation in church and society, building Beloved Community by promoting racial reconciliation, equality, immigration reform, and social, economic, educational, criminal and eco justice.

Give us strength and courage, Empowering God.

TELLING THE TRUTH

We appeal to you today, O God of Truth, who has given us the truth to share, that we may raise up among us preachers like Nelson who will preach the Gospel with courage and power, who will tell the stories of faith and speak the truth in love.

Give us the inspiration to tell the story, O God of Truth.

PROCLAIMING THE DREAM

O God of dreams and inspiration, may we become the dream that Nelson and the great prophets of all times have hoped for and proclaimed. Guide us into the streets and neighborhoods, into homes and among the homeless, among the sick and disabled, the poor and the destitute, and those discriminated against to proclaim the good news brought to us by Jesus Christ.

Make of us powerful proclaimers, O God of the Gospel.

PRACTICING THE WAY

Lord God, you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life, help us to practice the Way, by living the truth in love, bringing healing where there is pain and injustice, and practicing dignity and respect for all people, that we may become the Beloved Community that Nelson Pinder envisioned and worked for his entire life.

Energize us for ministry and life, O God of Truth and Life.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE COLLECT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom. Help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 359)

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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

The Priest stands and says

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

THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.



The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
(Ephesians 5:2)

Options for Giving:

1. Checks can be made payable to St. Matthias Church. All offerings can be placed in the offertory plate or wooden boxes at the back of the Church and the East Door.
2. Credit or Debit Card via the giving tab on our website stmatthiasfl.com/online-giving/.
3. Text-to-Give via your smart phone to 73256 with matthias & amount in body of text.
Example: matthias \$25

OFFERTORY HYMN 508 *Breathe on me, Breath of God (Nova Vita)*



- 1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die;



that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do or to en - dure.
till all this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Celebrant and People

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer; and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 367)

The People 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 him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 378)

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Who by water and the Holy Spirit has made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS S-125 *Holy, holy, holy Lord (Proulx)*

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 368)

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

EPICLESIS (BCP p. 369)

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)

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

People and Celebrant

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM (BCP p. 364)

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

The Celebrant says

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.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are welcome to receive the real and living presence of Christ in this Holy Communion. When it is your turn, please extend your hands upward, palms crossed to receive the bread (also called a wafer or host). When the cup of wine comes to you, either dip (also called intinction) the bread into the cup of wine and consume the bread or leave the bread in the palm of your hands, and the Eucharistic Minister will dip the bread into the cup of wine for you and place on your tongue. You may also choose to consume the bread without dipping it into the cup of wine.

Anyone may come forward for a prayer for God's blessings in lieu of receiving Communion. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms across your chest.

The Priest will gladly bring communion or provide a blessing to anyone unable to come forward for Communion, please, let one of the Ushers know if this is desired.

Ushers will direct the congregation to receive Communion.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. *Amen.*

COMMUNION HYMN 383 *Fairest Lord Jesus (St. Elizabeth)*



1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru-ler of all na - ture, O thou of
2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair-er still the wood - lands, robed in the
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair-er still the moon - light, and all the



God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,
bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

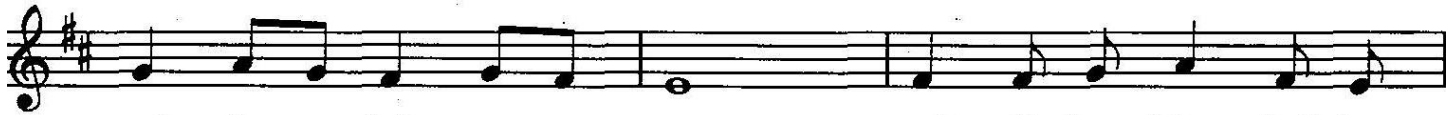


thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe-ful heart to sing.
Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an-gels heaven can boast.

COMMUNION HYMN 711 *Seek ye first the kingdom of God (Seek Ye First)*



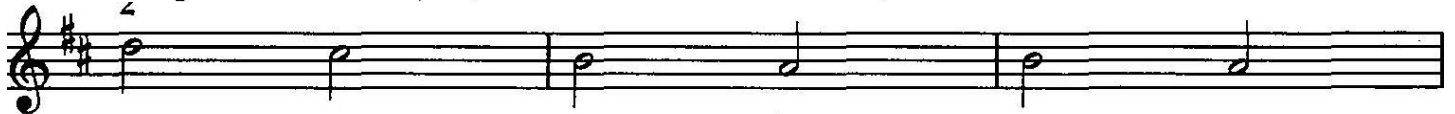
1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,



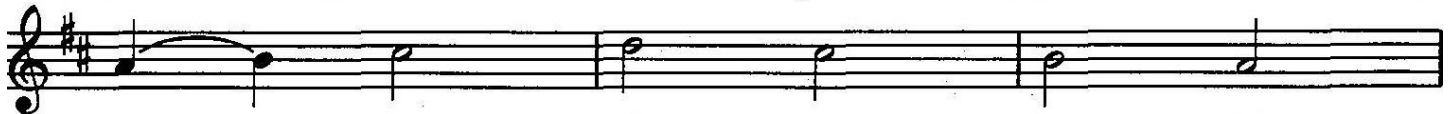
and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be



add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!



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



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



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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 366)

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. **Amen.**

BIRTHDAY BLESSING (BCP p. 830)

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall; and in *his* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANNIVERSARY BLESSING (BCP p. 431)

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE

Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Maya Angelou, *Celebrations: Rituals of Peace and Prayer* (2006)

CLOSING HYMN 495 *Hail, thou once despis'd Jesus (In Babilone)*



1 Hail, thou once de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, thou Gal - i -
2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, all our sins on
3 Je - sus, hail! en - throned in glo - ry, there for ev - er
*4 Wor - ship, hon - or, power, and bless - ing thou art wor - thy



le - an King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us;
thee were laid: by al - might - y love a - noint - ed,
to a - bide; all the heaven - ly hosts a - dore thee,
to re - ceive; high - est prais - es, with - out ceas - ing,



thou didst free sal - va - tion bring. Hail, thou u - ni - ver - sal
thou hast full a - tone - ment made. All thy peo - ple are for -
seat - ed at thy Fa - ther's side. There for sin - ners thou art
right it is for us to give. Help, ye bright an - gel - ic



Sa - vior, bear - er of our sin and shame! By thy mer - it
giv - en through the vir - tue of thy blood: o - pened is the
plead - ing: there thou dost our place pre - pare; ev - er for us
spi - rits, all your no - blest an - thems raise; help to sing our



we find fa - vor: life is giv - en through thy Name
gate of hea - ven, re - con - ciled are we with God.
in - ter - ced - ing, till in glo - ry we ap - pear.
Sa - vior's mer - its, help to chant Em - man - uel's praise!

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

**At the end of the 9:30 am service, all are welcome to join us for
Coffee & Fellowship in the Parish Hall.**

HAGIOGRAPHY

Nelson Wardell Pinder was born in 1932 in Miami, Florida. He grew up in the Liberty City neighborhood of Miami, was baptized and confirmed at Miami's historic St. Agnes Episcopal Church. After serving in the Army during the Korean War, Pinder earned a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from Bethune-Cookman College as well as a Master's Degree in Education from Florida A&M University. Inspired by the example of young Episcopal priests working in urban ministries in Montgomery and Tuskegee, Alabama, he said, "Yes" to God and attended Nashotah House Theological Seminary, Nashotah, Wisconsin.

In 1959, Fr. Pinder was called to Orlando and began his ordained ministry as the first full-time priest of color at The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist where he was designated Rector Emeritus on his retirement. Upon his arrival at the Orlando airport he was denied a cab. While he awaited a segregated cab, for Blacks only, he was denied a cup of coffee. At this point he would later say "I knew this was a great opportunity for me for great missionary work."

During the 1960s, his organizing and participation in sit-ins and protests to advance the civil rights movement in Orlando earned Fr. Pinder the reputation as the "street priest" or "hoodlum priest." He could have also been called the "Traveling Priest" as he would for several years conduct morning mass at St. James Episcopal Church in Daytona Beach, then drive the sixty plus miles to a second service at St. John the Baptist in Orlando. His role in leading and mentoring young people during the 1960's lunch counter sit-ins are chronicled in the 2007 play "Pinder's Kids," written by Orlando local playwright, Barry G. White. Many people in Orlando would later say that his training of these young people in the principles of non-violent protest may have single-handedly prevented devastating riots that racked many other cities throughout the nation.

In 1969, Fr. Pinder was installed at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke, Orlando, as a Canon of the Diocese of Central Florida. He was assigned to The Awareness Center, an experimental ministry dealing with street people, the homeless and civil rights. Fr. Pinder served The Episcopal Church nationally as vice-chairperson of the Joint Commission on the Church in the Small Community, vice-chairperson of the National Commission on Social and Specialized Ministries, as well as the 15th National President of the Union of Black Episcopalians. In addition to having served as the 2010-2014 Chaplain to the Order of the Daughters of the King©, Diocese of Central Florida, Fr. Pinder was most recently the Order's Province IV, Assistant Chaplain. He received nearly two hundred awards and honors including Honorary Doctorate of Divinity, Virginia Theological Seminary; Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Voorhees College; Preachers Hall of Fame, Morehouse College; and is in the First Class of Florida Religious Hall of Fame. On April 9, 2010, the Pinder's Kids monument was dedicated at Parramore Heritage Park, Orlando.

In a 2022 interview with the local press, looking back on his career in what was once one of the most segregated cities in the country, Canon Pinder said, "So I felt that God has prepared me for this mission... a lot of people looked at me and thought I was crazy. White and Black thought I was crazy. Some of them thought I was going to be run out of town. Some of them told me you're going to get killed. I said you know I'm not 33 yet. My boss was 33 when he died. I've got a little time yet left."