LIVE LIKE CHRIST IN OUR COMMUNITIES 2023 ASSEMBLY
THE HOLY EUCHARIST WITH SETTING APART OF SYNOD DEACONS

Saturday in the Fourth Week of Easter
May 6, 2023  4:30 pm
Melville Marriott, Melville, New York
GATHERING

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks:*

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the Earth, through the city, through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood: You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness And we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation.
Now breathe upon this water
And awaken your church once more.
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst, cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End, 
Our Shepherd and Lamb, 
Be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, 
Now and forever.

Amen
1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how true, where all God’s children dare to seek to wheat: a banquet hall on holy ground where stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and dream God’s reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through live the Word they’ve known. Here the outcast and the words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of witnessed and as symbol of God’s grace; here as one we Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in stranger bear the image of God’s face; let us bring an laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro-

Refrain

Christ shall end divisions: claim the faith of Jesus: Christ the feast that frees us: All are welcome, end to fear and danger: claim from floor to rafter: all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.
1 O God of blessings, all praise to you! Your love surrounds us our whole life through. You are the witness with hearts on fire. Your Spirit voice in holy sound; the psalms of witness, in bread and wine; incarnate gentleness, now deep and strong, in every freedom of those oppressed; you are the comfort of all dis-chooses the weak and small to sing the new reign where mighty David, and Mary’s praise, in wordless splendor and lyric love song of boundless grace, priest, teacher, prophet in time and culture and style and key, from hill and valley, with sky and tressed. Come now, O holy and welcome guest: fall; with them may we live your gospel call: phrase, with all creation one song we raise: space, your steadfast kindness with human face: sea, with Christ we praise you eternally: So- li De-o glo- ri-a! So- li De-o glo- ri-a!
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, through the ages you have called the faithful to the diaconate in the church. Let your blessing rest now on all who answer that call. Grant them understanding of the gospel, sincerity of purpose, diligence in ministry, and the beauty of life in Christ, that many people will be served and your name be glorified through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

READING * ISAIAH 54:7-10

For a brief moment I abandoned you,  
but with great compassion I will gather you. 
In overflowing wrath for a moment  
I hid my face from you, 
but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you,  
says the LORD, your Redeemer. 

This is like the days of Noah to me: 
Just as I swore that the waters of Noah 
would never again go over the earth, 
so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you 
and will not rebuke you. 

For the mountains may depart  
and the hills be removed, 
but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,  
and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, 
says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

Word of God, word of life.  
Thanks be to God.
I waited patiently upon the Lord, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.

The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

Happy are they who trust in the Lord!

They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies. **Refrain**

Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

**Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;**

you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required. **Refrain**

And so I said, “Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

‘I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.’”

I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.

I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;

I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.

You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe. **Refrain**
And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “he sat down at the right hand of God,” and since then has been waiting “until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.” For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”—for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ
HYMN OF THE DAY

1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word;
3 Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ, who suffered in our place;

praise the One who frees the pris’ners, turning blindness into sight.
praise the One who drove out de-mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword.
Jesus died and rose for man-y that we may know God by grace.

Praise the One who preached the gos-pel, heal-ing ev’ry dread dis-ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa-ter to the des-ert’s burn-ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.

calm-ing storms and feed-ing thou-sands with the ver-y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv-ing wa-ter quench-ing thirst in ev’ry land.
Praise the one re-deem-ing glo-ry; praise the One who makes us one.
NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.
PRESENTATION & ADDRESS TO CANDIDATES

The candidates for the diaconate are each presented to the bishop and the assembly

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon Doreen Joy Flanagan, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by St. Paul’s, East Northport.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon Daniel Foisset, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Cross of Christ, Babylon.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon Donna Galluccio, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by St. Paul’s, East Northport.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon Carol Lillian Germann, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by St. Luke’s, Farmingdale.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon Carol J. Giangrasso, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Christ, Newburgh.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon Linda YeeLan Law, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Grace, Malverne.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon Wendy Bean Tannenbaum, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by St. Paul’s, East Northport.
The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

The assembly is seated while the Bishop addresses the candidates including speaking words from First Corinthians.

QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

The bishop questions the candidates.

The candidates respond:
I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands.

QUESTION TO THE ASSEMBLY

The bishop questions the assembly.

The assembly responds:
We will, and we ask God to help us.
THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Bishop gives thanks for Jesus and for the ministries of the church. Then, laying both hands on each candidate, prays for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

The prayer concludes:

...through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The office of Synod Deacon is committed to those newly set apart. The assembly responds:

Amen.

VESTING

The new deacons are presented with diaconal crosses and stoles.
BLESSING

*The Bishop speaks the blessing over those newly set apart.*

*The assembly responds:*

*Amen.*

ACCLAMATION

*The deacons face the assembly while a representative of the Synod Diaconal Council leads the acclamation.*

Dear Christian friends: baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we are called by the Holy Spirit to offer ourselves to the Lord of all creation. We praise God as we join together to bear God’s creative and redeeming word to all the world.

*The God of all grace who has called you to glory support you and make you strong.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each portion of the prayers concludes:*

God of mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*
PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

The offering is received for the Bishop’s Discretionary Fund, which supports pastors and other rostered leaders in times of crisis or opportunity. Please write checks payable to “Metro NY Synod.”

SONG AT THE OFFERING

1 I’m so glad
2 Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
3 When I was in trouble,

Jesu’s lifted me.
Satan had me bound,
When I was in trouble,

sing-ing glo-ry, hal-le-lu-jah! Jesus lifted me.
PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy…
…we praise your name and join their unending hymn.
Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord’s passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,
    hallowed be your name,
    your kingdom come,
    your will be done,
        on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
    as we forgive those
        who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
    and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
    and the glory are yours,
    now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION

These are holy things for holy people.
Come and receive, for this is holy ground.
HYMN

1 Build a longer table, not a higher wall,
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.

2 Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;
where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.
For any place where justice is denied,
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.

3 Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.
When we embrace compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.

4 When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.
So must our tables welcome those who roam.
None can be excluded; all must find a home.
1 We come to the hungry feast hungry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hungry feast hungry for a world released
3 We come to the hungry feast hungry that the hunger cease,

To hungry hearts unsatisfied the love of God is
from hungry folk of every kind, the poor in body,
and knowing, though we eat our fill, the hunger will stay
not denied. We come, we come to the hungry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hungry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hungry feast.
HYMN

One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless, and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

1 Gentle or Jew, servant or free,
2 Many the gifts, many the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,

wom-an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath-ered to one for all.
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus’ name.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord,
now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.
SENDING SONG

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer’s praise,
2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
3 The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
4 He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;

the glories of my God and king, the triumphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the honors of your name.
sings music in the sinner’s ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
   O fallen human race!
   Look and be saved through faith alone,
   be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
   be now and ever giv’n
   by saints below and saints above,
   the church in earth and heav’n.

DISMISSAL

The Mass has ended.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!