

# The Nine



## **WELCOME TO ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

We hope that you will glimpse the glory of God both in this sacred space and in those whom you encounter today. We welcome you as God welcomes—without reservation or exception. This is a house of prayer for those who believe and for those who seek. May you find peace and come to know God's abundant love.

# JOURNEY TO GENEROSITY



08 OCTOBER 2017

## *Living within a vision of God's justice*

THE REV. WINNIE VARGHESE

*"The kingdom of God will be taken away from you."*

— MATTHEW 21:43

**W**hen I hear these words about tenant farmers, stewards, scheming to get more than their fair, legal share, I can't help but think of sharecroppers, serfs, peasants, landless laborers, migrants on every continent through the ages, wondering what it might take to create some security and stability in their lives. Surely the first people who heard this story were more likely to be like the tenants than a landowner.

Where is the kingdom of God in that? And what is this kingdom of God that we have already that can be taken from us?

In this reading from Matthew, and in all of the readings, it is clear that there is a law and also a parallel or critique, a law from the tradition, that is the way of the kingdom of God, the world as God intends it.

What does the Bible tell us are the attributes of a society living within a vision of God's justice?

In your context, does the law support you if you wish to live within that vision?

The virtues of the reign of God's justice, the world as God intends it to be, are clear in the Hebrew Scripture: The love and awe of God are illustrated by a just society. A just society has God at the center. A just society is marked by law that enshrine fairness toward one another; compassion and generosity to those who cannot fend for themselves; and right stewardship of the earth.

These are clearly difficult values to apply in

### **For reflection...**

- What might it mean that even in the time of Jesus the ways of the powerful seem arbitrary, and laborers resisted?
- Is there a difference between an owner and a creator/maker?

real living. In 2017, as in the time of the Hebrew prophets, we can feel like wackos at the gates of the palace as we try to proclaim these values.

As Christians, living as though the law of God is the law of our hearts is the work of our lives. We listen and bring the breadth of our experience to these texts, and we are convicted by them.



The Rev. Winnie Varghese is the Director of Community Outreach for Trinity Church, Wall Street. She has been a priest for 17 years in parishes and as a college chaplain. Before joining Trinity, Winnie served as rector of St. Mark's-in-the-Bowery, a vibrant and diverse church in Manhattan that tripled in size under her leadership.

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to God's Holy space. Prepare your heart and mind to encounter the Holy by joining in singing, silently praying, and meditating as the Spirit leads.

## MEDITATION ONE

*Jesus, your spirit in us is a wellspring of life everlasting.*

## MEDITATION TWO

*O Shout to God with joy, all peoples of the Earth! O Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.*

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

**CELEBRANT** Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
**PEOPLE** *Glory to God forever and ever.*

## SONG OF PRAISE

*Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*  
*Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*

## GATHERING PRAYER

**CELEBRANT** God be with you.  
**PEOPLE** *And also with you.*  
**CELEBRANT** Let us pray.

**A**lmighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## INVITATORY

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.*  
*Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia!*

## THE WORD OF GOD

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### FIRST READING

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EXODUS 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

**T**hen God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

**LECTOR**

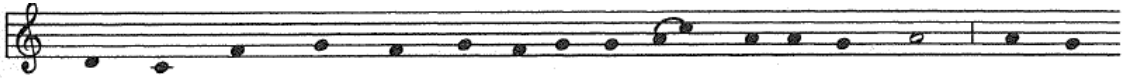
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**PEOPLE**

*Thanks be to God.*

## PSALM RESPONSE

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Our fore - fa - thers have told us of the pow - er of the LORD, and the



won - der - ful works he has done.

## SECOND READING

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### PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

**I**f anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

**LECTOR** Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**PEOPLE** *Thanks be to God.*

## ZIMBABWE ALLELUIA

### GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

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MATTHEW 21:33-46

**CELEBRANT** The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*PEOPLE* *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

**CELEBRANT** The Gospel of the Lord.  
*PEOPLE* *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

### SERMON

### THE NICENE CREED

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**W**e 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.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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*Please join the choir singing the Lord's Prayer.*

*After each intercession, the People respond, singing: **Lord hear our prayer***



### Prayers of the People

- Leader** God, thank you for your creation; for clear blue skies, for beautiful flowers, soaring trees and quiet streams.
- People** **Your creation inspires us on our journey to greater generosity, O God.**
- Leader** God, thank you for the grandeur of creation; for the rugged mountains, expansive oceans and sun-soaked valleys.
- People** **Your creation inspires us on our journey to greater generosity, O God.**
- Leader** God, thank you for your abundance; for the rain that flows to your lakes and oceans, providing homes for the fish and water to the fields and orchards that provide sustenance to your people.
- People** **Your abundance empowers us on our journey to greater generosity, O God.**
- Leader** God, keep us ever mindful of our need to honor you through the wise stewardship of your creation.
- People** **Be with us on our journey to greater generosity, O God.**
- Leader** As you watch over us, help us to help those less fortunate; the homeless, the sick, the children, the aged, the poor.
- People** **Be with us on our journey to greater generosity, O God.**
- Leader** God, inspire the leaders of the nations to stem the tides of war, oppression and greed.
- People** **Be with us on our journey to greater generosity, O God.**
- Leader** Each day, challenge us to live up to your vision of generosity, kindness, challenge, and forgiveness.
- People** **We commit to this journey to greater generosity, inviting all into our communities of faith, forgiving all who have offended us, and sharing our resources with the church, our community and the world. Amen.**

## CONFESSION



Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*All:*

*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** God the Father give you grace, glory and peace for ever;  
The peace of God be always with you.

**PEOPLE** *And also with you.*

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*



# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE OFFERTORY

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**CELEBRANT:** O Gracious God,  
**ALL:** *We offer you these gifts of bread and this wine. And we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. Amen.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**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.*

Presider

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:

*Presider and People*

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus.  
Deus Sabaoth, Deus Sabaoth*

*The Presider continues*

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:

***Presider and People***

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

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

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

*The Presider continues*

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.

Presider and People

Blessed are you now and forever.

**Amen 1**

**Equal Voices**

Cantor All

A - men, A - men.

**Mixed Voices**

All

A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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**CELEBRANT** This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.  
**PEOPLE** *Whoever eats this bread will live forever.*

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.

*(All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome at God's Table. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the Bread or Wine, you are welcome. Come forward and simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate your preference.)*

### COMMUNION SONG

*Praise our God and Savior, O praise our God and Savior, O for God's love endures forever, alleluia, alleluia!*

### POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

**CELEBRANT** Let us pray.  
**PEOPLE** *God of abundance, you have fed us  
With the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
You have united us with Christ and one another;  
And you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
That we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
And continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.*

### BLESSING & DISMISSAL

**CELEBRANT** Now to him who is able to keep you from falling,  
And to bring you to his everlasting glory,  
To our Savior Jesus Christ,  
Be praise and glory, domination and power;  
And the blessing.....

*Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth. Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to ev'ry heart!*

# *We are pilgrims on The Way*



Creator God, who calls us to pilgrimage: Direct our journey so that we may serve you with joyful hearts, steadfast courage, and the grace to know where you lead, in order that all will know you as the Way, the Truth and the Life; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns in glory everlasting. Amen.

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## Worship on the Way



Contemplative Eucharist  
Eucharist with Taizé Music  
Traditional Choral Eucharist  
Taizé Worship  
Spanish Eucharist

7:30am  
9:00am  
11am  
First Sundays of the month @ 3pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays 12:15pm

# Fellowship on the Way

## Pledge Ingathering and Thanksgiving Potluck

Offer your pledge to the Glory of God during our service and join us for a Thanksgiving potluck in the Fireside Room at Noon on Sunday, November, 12th. Chapter members will supply the turkey and ham. You bring your favorite side.



### Choir Practice

Thursdays @ 6:30pm

### Coffee Hour

Sundays @ Noon



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### Thrift Store

NEW HOURS! 12:30-4:30pm

This lovely boutique offers some of the best bargains on beautiful merchandise in the valley. You must see it to believe it!

### Crop Walk

Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup>

Registration 1:30. Walk 2:30 Meet at Memorial United Methodist Church





## Food Distribution

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday- No Food Distribution

2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays: 3:30-4:30pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays: 2:30-4:30

Volunteers please come 2 hours early.

## Book Club

Book club to read *Quiet Defiance: Alaska's Empty Chair Story* by Karleen Grummett.

November 7th at 11:30am in

The Conference Room. Bring a sack lunch.

See Barbara Wade for the book.

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## Education on the Way

### Eucharistic Minister Training

Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 12:10 pm. Training for people intended In becoming an EM and for all those who currently serve.

### Adult Form

10:10am Adult Forum resumes this Sunday in the Conference Room. Read Chapters 4- 5 of *A Wrinkle in Time*

### Baptism Class

If you desire to be baptized, please meet Rev. Michele for baptism class starting today at 10:10am. Baptisms will be offered on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> & January 7<sup>th</sup>.



## Godly Play

10:10am Godly Play continues for pre-school & kindergarten aged children  
in the Administration building across from the Conference Room.

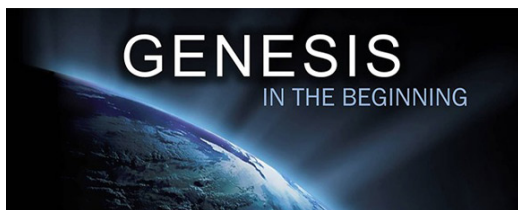
## Youth Sunday School Coming in Advent

Our Sunday School is expanding! During Advent we will offer classes for grade school students. Information to come!

## School for Deacons/Ministry

*Third Saturdays from 8am to 3pm*

A HUGE variety of Continuing Education is offered through the School for Deacons. Course offerings are at the back of the church.



## Genesis

Bible study continues 2nd and 4th  
Wednesdays at 10am in the Fireside  
Room



# Meetings you don't want to miss!

## Trip to Israel Information Meeting - October 17th @ 7pm @ Temple Beth Israel

See information below on our trip to Israel with TBI. Informational meeting will talk not only about the trip, but also Israel's culture & politics. You don't have to plan to go on the trip to enjoy the discussion!

## Diocesan Convention

The 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention will take place October 27-28, 2017, at the Episcopal Conference Center Oakhurst (ECCO).



## Revival with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry!

**November 17-18-19**

<https://diosanjoaquin.org> To Register

# Coming Up Soon!

## *Trip to Israel*

Join Rev. Michele, Rabbi Rick and the congregations of St. James Cathedral, and Temple Beth Israel for our second joint trip to the Holy Land.

Experience the land where Jesus, Mary, and his disciples lived. See the places mentioned in the Bible. Leave forever changed. This unique opportunity fosters a deeper understanding of the land, culture, history, and religions of the region.

The trip will be **April 9th - 22nd**.

The cost is \$4750 double occupancy.

Our first informational meeting is **Tuesday, October 17th @ 7pm @ Temple Beth Israel**.

Contact Rev. Michele with questions.



*Church of the Holy Sepulcher*

## Ballot & Instructions

The Chapter is responsible to manage the material affairs of the Chapter. The Chapter consists of fifteen (15) members, including the Bishop David and Chancellor Glass, who serve as *ex officio* members and the Dean of the Cathedral (currently the Bishop is the acting Dean). The other twelve (12) Chapter members are lay communicants in good standing who are canonically registered and entitled to vote in the Cathedral Congregation.

The Cathedral Constitution requires that Chapter be elected the third Sunday of October each year by the Cathedral congregation. The Nominating Committee has nominated the below lay communicants to serve on the Chapter.

All members of the Cathedral Congregation in good standing, age 16 years and older, are entitled to vote for Chapter. Ballots will be collected on October 15, 2017 following each worship service. Members are required to submit their own ballot in person to the designated tellers on or before 12:30 pm. The results will be announced at each of the services on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be submitted to Diocesan Convention for a confirmation vote on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

While there are 13 nominees, there are only 12 members to be elected. **Vote once for 12 nominees only. Ballots with more than 12 votes will not be counted. Mark the Box next to the nominee's name to indicate your election for that nominee. Cumulative or aggregate voting is not permitted. One vote per nominee only.**

### Nominee

- 1. Toni Alvarez\*
- 3. Peter Cabbiness
- 5. Carol Gavette\*
- 7. Carolyn Johnson\*
- 9. Jim Mendez
- 11. Anne Middleton
- 13. George Wade\*

### Nominee

- 2. Olga Balderama\*
- 4. Janie Fisher
- 6. Alan Gilmore\*
- 8. Pamela Johnston
- 10. Emily Niblick
- 12. Robert Towne\*

\*Current Chapter Member



St James

Episcopal Cathedral

We are pilgrims on The Way

THE RT. REV. DAVID RICE, BISHOP  
THE REV. CN. ANNA CARMICHAEL, CANON TO THE ORDINARY  
THE REV. DCN NANCY KEY, CATHEDRAL DEACON  
THE REV. MICHELE RACUSIN, RECTOR  
SHERAH MOORE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

*[www.stjamesfresno.org](http://www.stjamesfresno.org)*