



Free Church of the Annunciation
New Orleans, Louisiana

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Free CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

an Episcopal Church founded in 1844

AUGUST 22, 2021 ✦ 11:00 A.M.

HOLY EUCHARIST ✦ Rite II ✦ Year B
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY after Pentecost
PROPER 16

Welcome to Annunciation

Celebrant

The Reverend Gigi Conner

Please remember to silence your mobile phones

MUSICAL PRELUDE

Performed by Steve Kennedy

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pam Merideth, Sr. Warden

FOR VISITORS

If you are visiting, we would love to know! Complete a CONNECT card found in the pew rack and drop it in the offertory plate, or hand it to a vestry member. To receive our weekly newsletter or to learn more about us, visit AnnunciationEpiscopal.com or call the church office at (504) 895-8697. You can also find us on [Facebook.com/AnnunciationNOLA](https://www.facebook.com/AnnunciationNOLA).

ABOUT THE SERVICE

All are invited to God's table for Communion. **Words in this bulletin in BOLD, we say or sing together.**

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

Masks are required, regardless of vaccination status. We have disposable masks at the entrance should you need one. Congregational singing is suspended for now. A section of pews is reserved for those who feel safer maintaining physical distance. Non-contact greetings should be offered to those outside your household at the peace or before/after the service. Please continue to practice rigorous hand hygiene. Anyone with symptoms of a potentially contagious illness should stay home. We continue to livestream our 11:00 AM Sunday service.

ALTAR MEMORIAL

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Alice Rannells Meyers by Ned Rannells.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Opening Hymn

Jessica Holl and Steve Kennedy

How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place

(1982 # 517)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.*

SONG OF PRAISE

BCP p. 356

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

People Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Before the reading, the reader says

A Reading from the book of Joshua.

¹Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴“Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

After the reading, the reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

- 15The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, *
and his ears are open to their cry.
- 16The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, *
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them *
and delivers them from all their troubles.
- 18The Lord is near to the brokenhearted *
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.
- 19Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.
- 20He will keep safe all his bones; *
not one of them shall be broken.
- 21Evil shall slay the wicked, *
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
- 22The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

Before the reading, the reader says

A Reading from the letter to the Church in Ephesus.

10Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. 11Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. 15As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. 16With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. 19Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, 20for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

After the reading, the reader says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL Hymn

Jessica Holl and Steve Kennedy

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

(1982 # 324)

THE GOSPEL

John 6:56-69

Before the Gospel,

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

After the Gospel,

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Mother Gigi Conner

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED

**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

Leader

All remain standing.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Lord, hear our prayers, and if today we might be the means by which you answer the prayers of others, then may you find us neither indifferent nor resistant, but eager to fulfil your purpose, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The 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.*

PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND TRAVEL BCP p. 830-1

Anyone celebrating a birthday or anniversary, or preparing to travel is invited to stand or raise your hand for a prayer.

Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people may offer each other a sign of peace while maintaining distance between households, such as bowing, nodding, waving, smiling, or making a peace sign.

OFFERTORY Sentence

Presider Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

At the beginning of the Offertory Hymn, the bread and wine are brought to the altar. Then plates will be passed to collect the weekly offerings that support our church. Today's loose plate offering will be designated for Haiti relief through Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) in response to the devastating earthquake that struck on August 14. Electronic donations may be made by texting GIVE to 504-565-2682 or donating at AnnunciationEpiscopal.com/GIVE.

OFFERTORY Hymn

Jessica Holl and Steve Kennedy

Help Us, O Lord, To Learn

(1982 #628)

Please stand as you are able as the collection is brought forward.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Doxology sung by Jessica Holl

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP p. 361

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in

your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

BCP p. 362

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People Christ has died.
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues with the Prayer of Thanksgiving.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 #363

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

Celebrant and People

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Distribution of Communion: *All are invited to come forward to receive Communion. Please maintain a minimum 6-foot distance between households, waiting to step into the aisle until there is room to do so. To receive the host (Communion wafer) hold your hands out, one palm resting open on the other. The celebrant will place the host in your hand for you to lift to your mouth and consume. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please inform the priest when you come forward.*

*If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the host, cross your arms over your chest as you approach the Celebrant. After receiving the bread or blessing, the response is **AMEN.***

COMMUNION SOLO

Jessica Holl and Steve Kennedy

Jesus the Bread of Life

(LEVAS # 150)

Post-Communion Prayer

Please stand.

Celebrant Let us pray.

**People Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

Beloved, remember that life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love, quicker still to forgive, always show kindness to strangers. And may the Blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

People Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Jessica Holl and Steve Kennedy

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee

(1982 # 376)

DISMISSAL

Celebrant dismisses the people.

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

All respond Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Performed by Steven Kennedy

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S Mass and BACKPACK BLESSINGS next Sunday

There will be a special children's liturgy on August 29 at 11 am, including a blessing of backpacks, unveiling of our liturgical colors project, and more!

COLLECTION FOR HAITI

The loose plate offering at Annunciation on Sunday, August 29 and Sunday, September 5, will be designated for Haiti relief through Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) in response to the devastating earthquake that struck on August 14. Anyone may donate to Haiti relief at any time by marking an offering envelope with "Haiti" or "ERD". You can also donate online at episcopalrelief.org.

ALTAR FLOWERS

We need people to sponsor altar flowers! A donation of \$40 is suggested and the sponsor will get to take a bouquet home after the service, to enjoy or give away to bless someone else. Honor the life of someone departed, or celebrate an occasion! Altar guild members will use remaining flowers to show appreciation for guest clergy or other helpers, to let an absent member know they are remembered, or to brighten the spirits of someone in need. Email Suzanne at suzannefon@yahoo.com to let her know you wish to sponsor an arrangement.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers are requested by Pamela for Mark and Donna, and for Melissa's parents, by Steven for his Uncle Glen, by Keri for her Uncle Sonny, by Marcie for Susan and for April; by Marilee for Fay, Emily, and Katie; by Caroline for Lila. We pray for the health of Roland, Traci's mom, Diane; and for Stephanie and Justin and their newborn twins, as well as Grandmother Robin!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Eric Zitzmann (08/04), Mia Bruno (08/12), Arthur Escalante (08/11), Nicole Reid (08/11), Lisa Richardson (08/19), Manette BreauX (08/28)