

The 15th Sunday after TRINITY ✧ A. D. 2008 ✧ Aug. 31

## HOLY EUCHARIST

¶ *At the Procession:* Hymn 474

Collect for Purity (BCP p. 67)

Summary of the Law

Kyrie eleison (*sung ninefold*)

Gloria in excelsis (*sung*)

Salutation and Proper Collects (BCP p. 210)

Epistle: Galatians vi. 11.

¶ *Before the Gospel:* The Doxology, with alleluias

Gospel: St. Matthew vi. 24

Nicene Creed (BCP p. 71, *sung*)

Prayers and General Thanksgiving (BCP p. 19)

SERMON

¶ *During the Offertory:* Hymn 336

Prayer for the Whole State of Christ's Church (BCP p. 74)

General Confession and Absolution

Sursum Corda, Preface and Sanctus (*sung*)

Prayer of Consecration

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*) ✧ Breaking of the Bread

Prayer of Humble Access

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

¶ *During the Ablutions:* (*Stanzas 1 & 2*) Hymn 449

Post-communion Thanksgiving, Final Collect and Blessing

¶ *After the Blessing:* (*St.4*) Hymn 141  
Hymn 367

***A warm welcome to visitors! The Service is set out in the blue booklet for your convenience. Please take a Visitor's Information Packet, available in the narthex, and join us in the parish hall for Coffee Hour after the Service.***

### SERVING TODAY:

Altar Guild:	Verna Durbin
Ushers:	Clarence Bellovich & Hugh White
Crucifer:	Kris Williams
Lay-reader:	Jim Durbin
Organist:	Bettye Smith
Choir Director:	Judy Wolfersberger
Sunday School:	Kaye Cain and Suzanne Cain
Nursery:	Victoria McEldrew & Ashley Hohn
Housekeeping:	Dan Hooper
Coffee Hour:	Karin Kuder
Flowers:	

### DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Today we pray for All Parish Altar Guilds of the Anglican Catholic Church, in thanksgiving for the faithful, devout and reverent work of those who make our sanctuaries ready for God's worship.

### VESTRY

Our next bimonthly meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 13, at the usual 10:00 a.m.

### \$2,102.00 STILL NEEDED .

As of last Sunday, we have received \$3,398 toward our drainage project, about 61.8% of the goal of \$5,500. We are well on our way, thanks to many generous people!

### CALLING ALL OUR YOUNG PEOPLE!

Mark your calendars for next Sunday evening. First gathering of Anglican Youth. Time will be 6:00 p.m. Sally Bayhi, Patrick and Jean McEldrew have consented to serve as adult advisers. Be ready to eat pizza.

### PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Our own patronal festival will be celebrated September 28, the Sunday nearest St Michael's Day. Plan to participate in our parish luncheon. Sign up sheets will be up shortly.

## TRINITY XV

Today's Epistle is the concluding paragraph of Paul's Apostolic Letter to the Churches in Galatia. Here he sums up the entire argument of this controversial letter. In Galatians Paul had to confront a faction within the Christian community which believed strongly that it was necessary for all Christians, even non-Jewish Christians to persevere in the observance of the Old Testament ritual law. This came to a head over the necessity of circumcision for male converts.

There were various reasons of tact and diplomacy why such a practice seemed appropriate. But Paul, to his eternal credit, recognized that to compromise on this point and require Christian believers to adopt Jewish ceremonies would throw the Gospel itself into jeopardy.

The Gospel, after all, Paul taught, was not about ceremonies, rituals, or preserving an ethnic culture. The Gospel is about Jesus Christ, the free grace exhibited in Him, and the power of God incarnate in Him. The heart of the Gospel is (of all things!) the Cross—the bloody event in which Jesus died to pour out His life as a sacrifice to pay our sin-debt, satisfy the justice of God, and reconcile us to Himself.

Reading between the lines in this passage we can detect that the Judaizing Christians, Paul's opponents, were anxious to minimize the place of the death of Christ in their version of the Christian message. The crucifixion of Jesus was for them a scandal, an embarrassing episode, something to be ashamed of. This attitude has persisted through the centuries. It is very much with us today.

Thanks to Paul and the message of this Epistle, some of our most glorious hymns echo the words, "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." What the unbelieving world finds disgraceful and disgusting, the Christian holds as precious. What the unregenerate man considers a sign of weakness and humiliation, the Christian sees as the mighty act of God. What the lukewarm Christian takes to be of secondary importance, the devout believer holds to be the source of his eternal life.

Paul concluded this letter, "For I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus." The death of Christ has benefits for the believer, in which the believer is united to Christ, made a part of His body and a partaker of His death. As believers are made one with Christ, so Christ becomes visible in us. That is the "new creature" which we become. LKW