

**THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**
September 20, 2020
St. Francis Episcopal Church
Celebrating God's Love with Everyone



Laborers in the Vineyard, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57594> [retrieved September 14, 2020]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/frted/6995563197>.

Welcome to St. Francis Episcopal Church. We are thankful for your presence among us and hope you will return often. You come with our prayers, you leave with our prayers, and all we ask is that you keep us in your prayers.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR RE-GATHERING

Even though worship will be held outside, everyone should wear a face mask. Face masks will be available to those who do not have one. Hand Sanitizer will also be available as you enter and leave the worship area.

Chairs are available, but you are welcome to bring your own or a blanket to relax on. Seating should be placed 6-8 feet apart except for family groups.

The offering plate is located along the walkway. Please use a no-contact passing of the Peace.

Communion will be delivered to you where you are seated. Lay servers will be limitedly scheduled.

Some areas of the building may be closed off. Please be mindful of posted signs.

As much as we'd love to see you, if you are sick or not feeling well, please stay home.

ARE YOU VISITING TODAY?

If you'd like to receive our weekly E-newsletter, "The E-Pistle," contact the Church office and we can put you on our list.

St. Francis Episcopal Church

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Like us on Facebook and Instagram

Office Hours: M-F 9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

The Rev. Carrie Guerra.....Rector, cguerra@sfcsa.org
Joshua Molnar.....Deacon
De'Anna Jenner Parish Administrator, djenner@sfcsa.org
Joe Alexander..... Maintenance
Jerome Cortez..... Custodial
Barbara Alvarado Organist
Pablo Aguilar Organist/Keyboardist

VESTRY

Tom York.....Sr. Warden
Maria Ammerman.....Jr. Warden
Stephen Walter.....Treasurer
Susan Correa.....Clerk
Joe Bayardo.....Member

Creighton Brown.....Member
Martin Fell.....Member
Laura Harris.....Member
Courtney Martin.....Member
Aimee Molnar.....Member

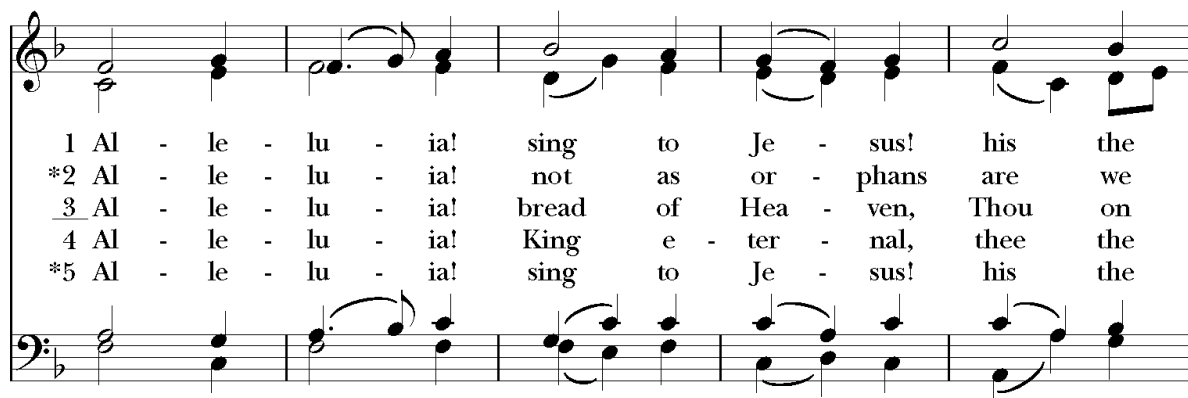
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude

The Processional Hymn

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

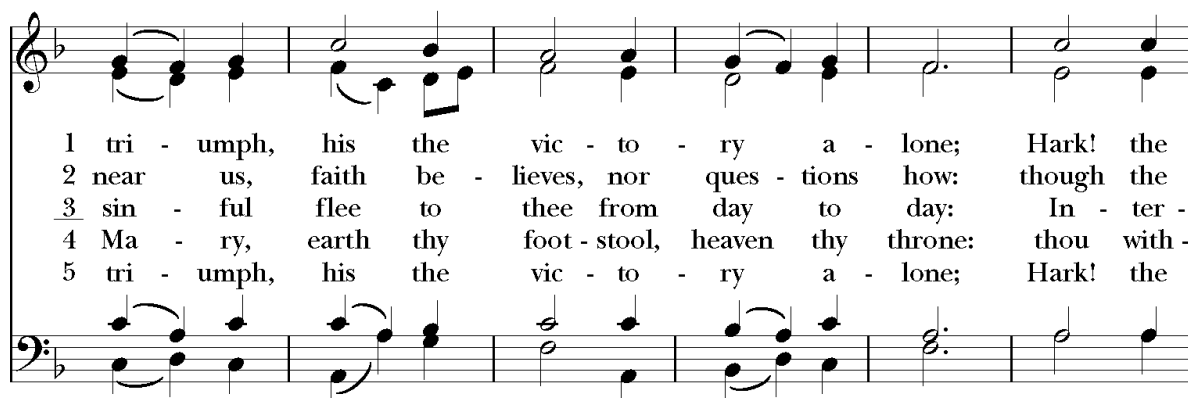
Hymn #460



1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
 *2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
 *5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the



1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
 5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the



1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887)

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

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

Celebrant

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.**

The Gloria

Hymnal #S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly

King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE WORD OF GOD

Collect of the Day

BCP 234

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Old Testament

Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.

3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

4 Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.

5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.

37 He led out his people with silver and gold; *
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

38 Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them.

39 He spread out a cloud for a covering *
and a fire to give light in the night season.

40 They asked, and quails appeared, *
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.

41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, *
so the river ran in the dry places.

42. For God remembered his holy word *
and Abraham his servant.

43 So he led forth his people with gladness, *
his chosen with shouts of joy.

44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, *
and they took the fruit of others' toil,

45 That they might keep his statutes *
and observe his laws.

Hallelujah!

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader: The Word of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn

Celtic Alleluia



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The Word of the Lord is alive. The Word of the Lord is active.

It can judge our thoughts, bring us closer to the Father.

The Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

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

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the

same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Carrie Guerra

Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Officiant and People together, all standing

**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.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray

Prayers of the People—Form III

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; for the Diocese of West Texas, and for St. Matthew's, Edinburg.

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

We pray for all those who need God's healing grace. May we bring your comforting spirit to those who are ill, suffering, depressed, alone, abandoned, afraid, and grieving. We pray for those who are infected by the Coronavirus, all healthcare workers and first-responders. We ask your blessing on all those we name now, either silently or aloud. Alan, Alexander, Bridgit, Cheryl, Deb, Elissa, Faith and Ed, George, Greg, Jack and Sandi, Jacque, Makenna, Manuel, Mary, Margaret, Milo, Miriam, Norma, Patricia J, Ralph, Richard, Scott D. , Zachery, Aiden, Becky and Darryl. (Pause)

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (*Holy Pause*)

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.

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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Please remain in your seating area for distanced peace offering.

Welcome

Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

At the Offertory

Offertory Hymn

What wondrous love is this

Hymnal #439

Unison

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2. When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
 3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing. To
 4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on. And

5
 won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is
 I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing
 God and to the Lamb I will sing. To God and to the
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm

10
 this That caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
 down Be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my
 Lamb Who is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
 free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, And thro' e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing

15
 soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul.
 soul, for my soul. Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing. While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on. And thro' e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on.

Text: American Folk Hymn

Music: William Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Tune Name: Wondrous Love

*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)
Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 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 God 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Hymnal #S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The celebrant continues

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.

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

Officiant and People

BCP 364

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

Communion Song

How Beautiful

Verse 1

How beautiful the hands that served
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth
How beautiful the feet that walked
The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross

Chorus

How beautiful how beautiful
How beautiful is the body of Christ

Verse 2

How beautiful the heart that bled
That took all my sin and bore it instead
How beautiful the tender eyes
That chose to forgive and never despise

Bridge

And as He laid down His life
We offer this sacrifice
That we will live just as He died
Willing to pay the price
Willing to pay the price

Verse 3

How beautiful the radiant Bride
Who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes
How beautiful when humble hearts give
The fruit of pure lives so that others may live

Verse 4

How beautiful the feet that bring
The sound of good news and the love of the King
How beautiful the hands that serve
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth

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Celebrant: Let us pray together: (*Holy Pause*)

BCP 365

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.

The Blessing

The Recessional Hymn

How Can I Keep From Singing



1. There is an end - less song, ech-oes in my soul, I
(2.) lift my eyes in the dark - est night, for I

hear the mu - sic ring. And though the storms may come, I am
know my Sav - ior lives. And I will walk with You know-ing You'll

hold - ing on, to the rock I cling.
see me through, and sing the songs You give.

How can I keep from sing - ing Your praise? How can I
ev - er say e - nough how a - maz - ing is Your love?

How can I keep from shout - ing Your name? I know I am
loved by the King, and it makes my heart want to

sing. 2. I will sing. I can
sing in the trou-bled times, sing when I win. I can
sing when I lose my step and fall down a-gain. I can
sing 'cause You pick me up, sing 'cause You're there. I can
sing 'cause You hear me Lord, when I call to You in prayer. I can
sing with my last breath, sing for I know that I'll
sing with the an-gels, and the saints a-round the throne. D.S. al Coda
makes my heart, I am loved by the King, and it
makes my heart want to sing. Yeah,
I can sing.

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The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

WELCOME TO ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, transgender, and filthy rich or dirt poor. And to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail, or who could afford to lose a few pounds.

We welcome you if you can sing like Barbra Streisand or Taylor Swift, or you can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing", just woke up, or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope, or haven't been to church since little Joey's Baptism.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, and junk-food eaters.

We welcome those in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion," we've been there too.

If you blew your offertory money at the dirt track, you're welcome here.

We offer a special welcome to those who think the world is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because Grandma is in town and she wanted to go to church today.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts and YOU!