

MORNING PRAYER

ST. COLUMBA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PENNY WASHBOURN, PRESIDING

September 7, 2025



THE FIRST SUNDAY IN CREATIONTIDE

MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED

OPENING PRAYER FOR PURITY AND COLLECT

PRESIDER: O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your lovingkindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.


ASSISTANT: Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

CONFESSION *Please join Presider on mute.*

PRESIDER: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

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

PRESIDER:  Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

THE LESSONS

ASSISTANT: A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy [30:15–20]

Moses said to all Israel the words which the LORD commanded him, “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.

Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1 *Please join Presider on mute in a responsive reading.*

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
***nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!***
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves
that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand
upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the
righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

THE EPISTLE

ASSISTANT: A reading from the Letter of Paul to Philemon [1–21]

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy
our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to
Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow
soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always
thank my God because I hear of your love for
all the saints and your faith toward the Lord
Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may
become effective when you perceive all the
good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed
received much joy and encouragement from
your love, because the hearts of the saints
have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in
Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I
would rather appeal to you on the basis of love
– and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now
also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am
appealing to you for my child, Onesimus,

whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.

Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ.

Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

PRESIDER: ☩ A reading from the Holy Gospel
According to Luke [14:25–33]

Glory to you Lord Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

“For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’

“Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

May the words of the Gospel be made flesh in us.

Praise to you Lord Christ.

SERMON

KINDLY KEEP ALL MICS MUTED DURING SERMON



Saint Etty Hillesum

Ann Hall, CED

(honoring Saint
Etty Hillesum,
15 January 1914–
30 November
1943)

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

All are invited to sit in silent communion with one another for four minutes. Music will signal the end of our meditation.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

ASSISTANT: Let us together proclaim our profession of faith, which has been handed down to us from ancient of days.

THE APOSTLES' CREED *Please join Assistant on mute*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen

THE OFFERING OF PEACE

PRESIDER: My sisters and brothers, the peace of Christ is with you!

ASSISTANT: And with your spirit.

PRESIDER: Let us embody Christ's peace for one another.

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

Presider will invite us all into small groups for several minutes to exchange a sign of peace and get to know one another. If you are new to St. Columba's we welcome you. If you are a member already, please extend a warm welcome to those in your group.

THE PRAYERS

PRESIDER: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Please pray responsively on mute, led by Presider:

PRESIDER: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Austin our Bishop in the Diocese of California and for all bishops and other ministers, both lay and ordained;
For all who serve God and their neighbors.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

PRESIDER: For whom or for what else shall we pray?

All are invited to voice prayers before the community or offer them in the silence of your heart. [Unmute before speaking, then kindly mute again.]

PRAYER RESPONSE:

PRESIDER: God hear us,

ASSISTANT: ***God graciously hear us...***

PRESIDER: Lord God, hear the prayers of your people: those we have voiced in the presence of your Assembly, those we hold in the silence of our hearts,

and those for which we have yet to find words. In gratitude and love, we entrust ourselves to you who knows better than we the deepest needs of our hearts. In the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PRESIDER: Let us pray as Jesus taught:

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.

PRESIDER: Savior, Redeemer, Beloved of God, clothe us in your love, strengthen us to live gently on this earth, give us humility to see all we encounter as precious to you, and teach us to walk with kindness and patience this hour and always.

Amen.

PRESIDER: ☩ May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us and scatter the darkness from our paths; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Three-In-One and One-In-Three be upon us and remain with us always.

Amen.

PRESIDER: My siblings in Christ, let us go forth into the world to love and serve the Divine and each other.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED

On 7 September 1943, less than three months before her murder, **Etty Hillesum** threw a postcard with her final words out of a train. The postcard read, "Opening the Bible at random I find this: 'The Lord is my high tower'. I am sitting on my rucksack in the middle of a full freight car. Father, Mother, and Mischa are a few cars away. In the end, the departure came without warning ... We left the camp singing ... Thank you for all your kindness and care."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE REACHED OUT
TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY!**

ONLINE DONATIONS MAY BE MADE VIA THE **"GIVE"** BUTTON ON OUR
WEBSITE, OR CHECKS MAILED TO:

ST. COLUMBA'S INVERNESS

PO BOX 430
INVERNESS, CA
94937

VIRTUAL CHAPEL ONLINE OFFERINGS

IF YOU ARE NEWLY JOINING US

**Please go to our website's VIRTUAL CHAPEL to access all of our
online offerings or to register your name and email to be
informed of our future offerings:**

www.stcolumbasinverness.org

ONLINE EVENTS

PORTRAITS OF CHRIST VI:

THE SUFFERING SON OF GOD

Five-week online Bible study and lecture series with Fr. Vincent Pizzuto, Ph.D.

Thursdays, September 4–October 2, 11am–1pm



DIOCESAN STRATEGIC MISSION

Letter from Bishop Austin Rios

... Please join Cn. Sierra and me for this series of videos, Building Trust as a Diocesan Community: Nourishing 5 Values to Follow Jesus Together.

7pm–8pm on Zoom — Register



- Sufficiency | September 10 | Canon Sierra
- Belonging | September 22 | Bishop Austin

CED BOOK STUDY: THE LIGHT EATERS
***by Zoë Schkanger: How the Unseen World
of Plant Intelligence Offers a New
Understanding of Life on Earth***

Facilitated by Sylvia Timbers

Wednesdays, September 24, October 8 & 22

4–5:30pm



EVENSONG

First Thursdays, Monthly

October 2, 7pm

Candlelight circle of sung prayer, spoken prayer,
and silent meditation, led by Ann McChesney-
Young.



NOON PRAYER

Weekly, Wednesdays, 12pm

Prayer, scripture study, and discussion, led by
Mother Teri Waldron



ST. COLUMBA'S SERMON RECORDINGS



ANGLICAN STUDIES WITH FR. ANDREW

Class recordings



IN-PERSON EVENTS

LORRAINE ALMEIDA RETROSPECTIVE

Today, September 7

12pm–5pm

Art by the Bay Gallery

18856 Highway 1

Marshall, CA

lorrainealmeida.com



ANATOMY FOR HUMANS II

Art workshop with Auguste Haboush

Thursday, September 18, 5–8pm



MOTOWN IS BACK IN TOWN ...

(and fire season is upon us)

Free, September 27, 6–10pm

at the Dance Palace, Point Reyes Station.

Come dance and mingle in celebration and support of our Marin firefighters and first responders. Donations in their support will be gratefully accepted! Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages provided.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Chapel, Wednesdays, 7pm

EARTH, OUR COMMON HOME

A RESTorative Retreat

Led by Fr. Vincent, Payton Hoegh, and the CED members

Thursday to Saturday, October 16–18



OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS?

COFFEE WITH JESUS

Take few minutes to get your favorite morning beverage and return to us for coffee hour small group conversation.

