



Holy Innocents'

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST · SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 · 10:15 AM

WELCOME

Holy Innocents is a place to gather as a faith community, where we sing and pray, think and talk, laugh and cry. We believe we are all beloved children of God. With open minds and full hearts, we grow closer to God and to one another. We know we do not have all the answers. We are comfortable with the mystery of the Holy Spirit, active in every person and in the world. Join us as we worship God and serve our neighbors.

NEWCOMERS

If this is your first time with us, we invite you to fill out a newcomer card in the pew rack or online and come by the welcome table near the front door and introduce yourself. No matter your age, gender, orientation, or political or sports team affiliation, you are welcome at communion. Our clergy are always available to answer any questions. We're so glad you're here.

TODAY

8:00 AM · WORSHIP · Christ Chapel

8:45 AM · BREAKFAST · Bishop Commons
Provided by the Covenant Group

9:00 AM · FORMATION · Inglett Hall

10:15 AM · WORSHIP · Nave

1:00 PM · SPANISH-SPEAKING WORSHIP · Nave

6:00 PM · CELTIC-STYLE WORSHIP · Christ Chapel

GIVING

Jesus understood the power of gratitude and sharing all that God has gifted to us. Your generosity enables us to continue our programs to follow the way of Jesus and to love God by serving our neighbors. Use this QR code to give.



CHILDCARE

We love children of all ages in worship. You may prefer to let our attentive professional Nursery staff care for your young ones under four years old. The nursery is available from 8:00 AM through 10:15 AM worship.

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in bold. This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrics (red)—referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental piece of music, during which the congregation can prepare for worship.

♦ ♦ ♦

VOLUNTARY • *Prelude in Classic Style* • GORDON YOUNG

*The people
stand as able.*

HYMN 411 • *O Bless the Lord, My Soul!* • ST. THOMAS (WILLIAMS)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

GLORIA • S 278 • MATHIAS

See next page.

The COLLECT of the DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.**

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

*The people
are seated.*

The FIRST LESSON • JONAH 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145 • EXALTABO TE, DEUS

Sung by all.

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

I will exalt you, O God my / King, *
and bless your Name for ever and / ever.

Every day will I / bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and / ever.

Great is the LORD and greatly to be / praised; *
there is no end to his / greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to a- / nother *
and shall declare your / power.

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your / majesty *
and all your marvelous / works.

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous / acts, *
and I will tell of your / greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great / goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous / deeds.

The LORD is gracious and full of com- / passion, *
slow to anger and of great / kindness.

The SECOND LESSON • PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*The people
stand as able.*

HYMN 279 • *For Thy Dear Saints, O Lord* • ST. GEORGE

Children are invited to follow the small cross to attend Children's Chapel for a story and prayers during the procession and will return during the Peace. We stand to hear the Gospel, as sign of our call to carry the good news into the world. Some may trace the sign of the cross on their forehead, lips, and heart, praying that the Gospel may shape our thoughts, words, and lives.

The GOSPEL • MATTHEW 20:1-16

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

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The SERMON • *The Reverend Dr. Bill Murray* ♦ RECTOR

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 people
are seated.*

*The people
stand as able.*

*The people kneel or
remain standing.*

The PRAYERS of *the* PEOPLE & CONFESSION of SIN

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church:

That we all may be one.

Strengthen your Church in every place. Give us courage and joy to truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all ministers and pastoral caregivers; for our musicians, volunteers, vestry, and staff; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

Guide the leaders of all nations in wisdom, humility, and compassion. Give them courage to protect the vulnerable and to seek the common good.

Shelter all who live amid war and all who flee their homes. Strengthen peacemakers, heal our divisions, and turn our hearts from violence;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to care for the earth you have entrusted to us. Help us protect its waters, restore its lands, and cherish every living thing. Guide us in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on the sick, the lonely, the anxious, the addicted, and all who lack food, shelter, or work. Sustain caregivers and those who bring aid in times of disaster, and uphold all who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Comfort all who mourn. Give us hope in the promise of resurrection. Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Give us grace to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to follow the good examples of all 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 is kept.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

*The people greet
one another in the
name of the Lord.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The people
are seated.*

The HOLY COMMUNION

The OFFERTORY

At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. An offering is received to support Holy Innocents' ministry of sharing God's love. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed or online with QR code on page one.

ANTHEM • *God Be in My Head* • JOHN RUTTER

God be in my head,
And in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes,
And in my looking;
God be in my mouth,
And in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
And in my thinking;
God be at mine end,
And at my departing.

(Words from Sarum Primer, 1558)

PRESENTATION HYMN • *Doxology* • OLD 100TH

*The people
stand as able.*



The GREAT THANKSGIVING • Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your children, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

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:

SANCTUS • S 128 • MATHIAS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven 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.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In

Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Holy Innocents and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,
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 FRACTION & INVITATION

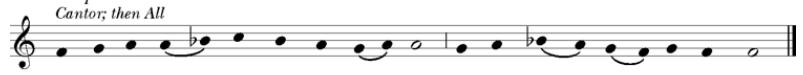
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

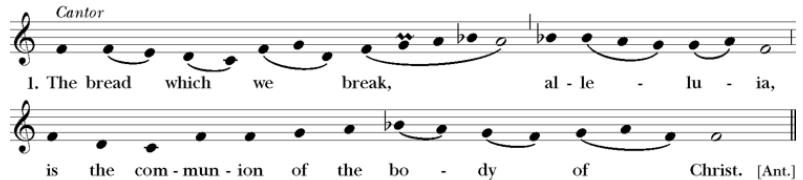
AGNUS DEI • S 167 • MARTENS

Antiphon
Cantor; then All



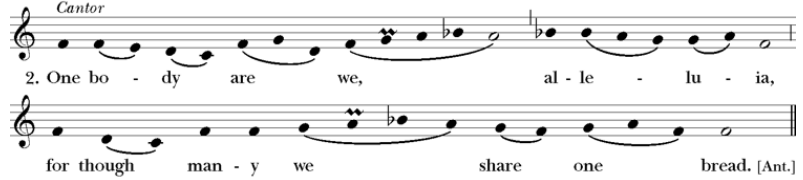
The dis-ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

Cantor



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,
is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

Cantor

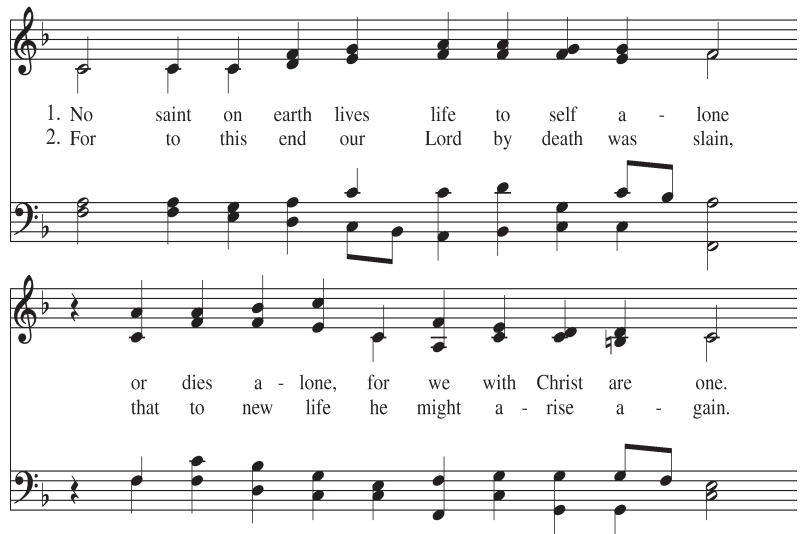


2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,
for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

INVITATION to HOLY COMMUNION

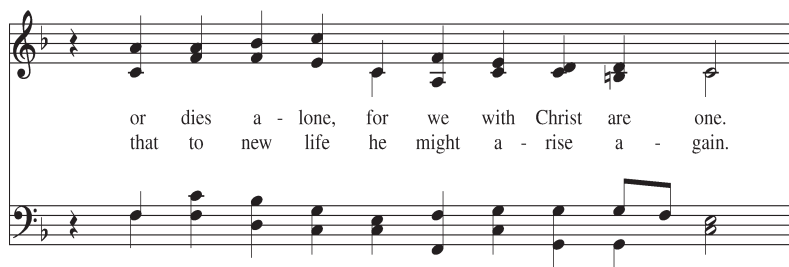
All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Communion. Please move to the altar rail at the direction of the ushers. Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and respond by saying "Amen." Gluten-free wafers are available; please notify a minister. Receiving the bread is full participation in the Eucharist. Wine is also available. If you prefer to receive a blessing, indicate this by crossing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

WLP 776 • No Saint on Earth Lives Life to Self Alone • SONG 1

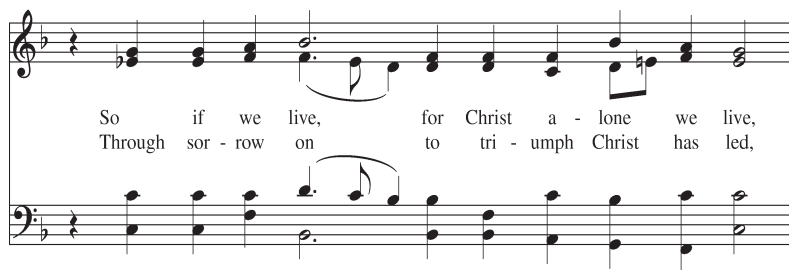


1. No saint on earth lives life to self a - lone
2. For to this end our Lord by death was slain,

or dies a - lone, for we with Christ are one.
that to new life he might a - rise gain.



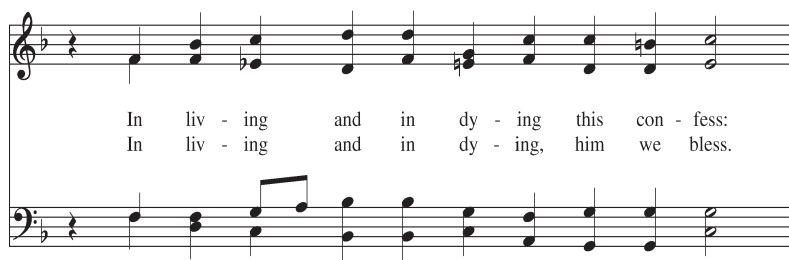
or dies a - lone, for we with Christ are one.
that to new life he might a - rise a - gain.



So if we live, for Christ a - lone we live,
Through sor - row on to tri - umph Christ has led,



and if we die, to Christ our dy - ing give.
and reigns o'er all: the liv - ing and the dead.



In liv - ing and in dy - ing this con - fess:
In liv - ing and in dy - ing, him we bless.



we are the Lord's, safe in God's faith - ful - ness.
We are the Lord's, safe in God's faith - ful - ness.

HYMN 659 • *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* • DE TAR

SENDING FORTH of HOLY COMMUNION

I send you forth bearing these holy gifts to our friends, that they may share with us in the sacrament of our Savior Jesus Christ.

We who are many are One Body, because we all share one Bread, and one Cup.

*The people
stand as able.*

The POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

In gratitude for this moment,

this place, those around us,

Christ among us,

we give ourselves to you our God.

Take us out to live as changed people

because we have met the risen Christ

and cannot be the same.

Ask much of us,

expect much from us,

enable much by us,

encourage many through us.

So may we live to your glory both as inhabitants of earth

and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN • *Rise Up, Ye Saints of God* • FESTAL SONG

See next page.

The DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world,

rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

VOLUNTARY • *Ein Feste Burg ist Unser Gott*

(A Mighty Fortress is Our God) • JOHANN GOTTFRIED WALTHER

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893
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We are here for you.

If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the office and follow the prompts. You will be connected to the clergy person on-call.

404.255.4023 • holynnocents.org

FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM: [@hiecatl](https://www.facebook.com/hiecatl)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9 AM - 5 PM

Friday: 9 AM - 4 PM

Our clergy typically reserve Friday as their Sabbath and may not return email or voicemail messages unless it is a pastoral emergency.

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