



NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, October 3 | 10:15 a.m.

Welcome to St. John's this morning, either in person or online. There are three services: 8:00 a.m. (in-person), 10:15 a.m. (in-person or YouTube) and 5:00 p.m. ("Come as You Are"). With masks on, we may sing together. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

THE GATHERING

Prelude: *Prière à Notre-Dame* from Suite Gothique

Op. 25 - Léon Boëllmann

All rise at the sound of the bell.

Opening Hymn: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Blue Hymnal 450

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

BCP p. 355

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

You may be seated

The First Lesson: Job 1:1; 2:1-10

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face."

The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life." So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 26

BCP p. 616

1 Give judgment for me, O LORD,
for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

**8 LORD, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.**

**2 Test me, O LORD, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.**

9 Do not sweep me away with sinners, *
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,

3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.

**10 Whose hands are full of evil plots, *
and their right hand full of bribes.**

**4 I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

11 As for me, I will live with integrity; *
redeem me, O LORD, and have pity on me.

5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**12 My foot stands on level ground; *
in the full assembly I will bless the LORD.**

**6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now,
and will be forever. Amen.**

7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

The Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God**

The Holy Gospel, *standing*

Mark 10:2-16

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Deacon The Gospel of our Savior.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Geoffrey T. Smith

A quiet time for reflection follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed, *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.**

Prayers of the People, *standing*

Intercessor Sisters and brothers, in the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For Christ’s Church throughout the world: the Episcopal Church and Presiding Bishop Michael, for our diocese and Bishops Ian and Laura. For our Muslim and Jewish sisters and brothers and our ecumenical partners; for this faith community: our leaders, vestry, staff, and ministry groups. For all who seek God with sincere hearts;

Intercessor Let us pray to the Lord
People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the nations and peoples of the world, that justice and peace may increase among us; for all suffering from conflict, terrorism and war; for victims of human trafficking and for those working to end it; for refugees and migrants seeking safe haven, and for compassionate immigration policies; for peoples and places suffering the effects of climate change, especially extreme heat, wildfires, floods, and for determination to work for the renewal of God’s wounded Creation;

Intercessor Let us pray to the Lord
People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For our nation, our state, this town and our local communities; for all elected officials, that they may exercise wise and compassionate leadership; for all who are hungry, poor, homeless, unemployed; for the will and courage to work for solutions to homelessness, an end to gun violence and to discrimination due to sexuality, religion, race, and ethnicity;

Intercessor Let us pray to the Lord
People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor Let us pray for the safety of those from our parish who serve in the Armed Forces, especially Douglas Hamilton, Carl Heise, Molly and Jon Hilzinger, Andy Morgado, Andrew Roemhild, Spencer Russo, Tullie St. John, and Brian Tewart.

For all who are in need, especially people who are sick, troubled, lonely, grieving, living with depression or despair, struggling with addiction and for those who have asked for our prayers, especially: Kathy Arthur, Peter Bierrie, Ginny Buracchi, Ed Burke, Helen Chatman, Connie Cliffe, Sandra and Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Pam DuPont, Michael Gagliardi, Nancy Gould, Hannah Roemhild, Raymond and Pam Ryan, Joanne Ryan, John Schumacher, Dan Taylor-Stypa, and all on our Home Prayer list, and those we now name either silently or aloud;

Silence may be kept.

Intercessor Let us pray to the Lord
People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor Let us give thanks for all who pray and work for justice and peace: for the work of our global ministry partners in Mozambique and the Diocese of Lebombo, for Bishop Carlos, Father David, Deacon Jose, and the congregation of St. Bernard’s and for the work of Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti. We give thanks for the ongoing work of our local ministry partners: the Shoreline Soup Kitchen, Middlesex Habitat for Humanity, the Old Lyme VFW, Sister Cities Essex Haiti and for the Connecticut ministries that serve the incarcerated, children and seeking adults: A Sacred Place, Camp Washington, and the Incarnation Center;

Intercessor Let us pray to the Lord
People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For all who have died, that they may have eternal rest, and those we now name either silently or aloud _____.

Silence may be kept.

Intercessor Let us pray to the Lord
People **Lord, have mercy.**

Presider O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution, *kneeling*

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 you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace, *all standing*

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you!
People **And also with you!**

Then the ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, while remaining socially distanced and in their pews.

Welcome and Announcements, *you may be seated*

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Presider Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

*The congregation's offering for the mission and ministry of the church is received.
Please be seated.*

Offertory Hymn: If with All Your Hearts

Felix Mendelssohn

Presentation, standing

The congregation's gifts of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Holy Table.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider 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 say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

**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**

The people stand or kneel.

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:

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

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,

**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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!
People **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia!**

The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.
For a blessing, place your hand across your chest. If you are unable to come forward, please ask an usher or someone nearby to request that Communion be brought to you.*

Communion Hymn: If Thou but Trust I God to Guide Thee

Blue Hymnal 635

Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

**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.**

Sending of Eucharistic Visitors, as requested

Presider In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We, who are many, are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Blessing, standing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no-one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God

Blue Hymnal 397

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude: Rigaudon

André Campra

Home Prayer List: Please pray for all who have asked for our prayers: Kathy Arthur, Peter Bierrie, Ginny Buracchi, Ed Burke, Helen Chatman, Connie Cliffe, Clio Coles, Sandra and Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Pam DuPont, Michael Gagliardi, Nancy Gould, David Perruccio, Donald Power, Hannah Roemhild, Raymond and Pam Ryan, Joanne Ryan, John Schumacher, Dan Taylor-Stypa.

Serving Today

<i>Organist</i>	Anthony Pandolfe
<i>Ushers & Greeter</i>	Deb Swaney-Jones
<i>Usher & Greeter</i>	Darrell Jones
<i>Lector</i>	Scott Konrad
<i>Intercessor</i>	Deb Swaney-Jones
<i>Crucifer</i>	Avery Wesch
<i>Gospel Bearer</i>	Myles Wesch and Jonathan Regan
<i>Videographer</i>	Allison Fresher
<i>Counters</i>	Clio Coles and Brian Fresher
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Allison Fresher
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Geoffrey T. Smith
<i>Presider & Preacher</i>	The Rev. Kate E. Wesch

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CLERGY AND STAFF: The Rev. Kate E. Wesch, *The Rector*; The Rev. Geoffrey T. Smith, *Deacon*; Chelsea DiDonato, *Parish Administrator & Communications Director*; Allison Fresher, *Vergers*; Mairi Graham-Shaw, *Family Life Minister*; Deborah Jones, *Sexton*; Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

VESTRY: Brian Fresher, *Warden*; Karen Kaestle, *Warden*; Anne Littlefield, *Vestry Clerk*; Howard Tuttle, *Treasurer*; Andrea Bednarz, Mary Bowers, Lee Gaby, Darrell Jones, Scott Konrad, Stacie Padelli, Patricia Pittsinger, Paulette Rider, Dan Taylor-Stypa