

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II — 10:15 A.M.
SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome to St. John's! We invite you to help create the experience of silence before our service. Our hope is to calm our hearts as we prepare to enter into an intensity of shared presence.

Prelude **My Heart Is Longing To Praise My Savior** **G. W. Cassler**

All rise at the sound of the church bell.

Hymn **Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old** **Blue Hymnal 567**

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

Glory to God **Blue Hymnal S-278**

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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: Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia

and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

Psalm 67 *Deus misereatur*

148

George Thalben-Ball



- 1 May God be merciful to¹us and¹bless us, *
 show us the light of his¹counte¹nance and¹come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be¹known¹ upon¹earth, *
 your saving¹health a¹mong all¹nations.
- 3 Let the peoples¹praise you, O¹God; *
 let¹all the¹peoples¹praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and¹sing for¹joy, *
 for you judge the peoples with equity
 and guide all the¹nations¹upon¹earth.
- 5 Let the peoples¹praise you, O¹God; *
 let¹all the¹peoples¹praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought¹forth her¹increase; *
 may God, our¹own God, ¹give us his¹blessing.
- †7 May God¹give us his¹blessing, *
 and may all the ends of the¹eä¹rth¹stand in¹awe of him.

The Second Lesson: Revelation 21:10, 22:1-5

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-- and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn **Christ for the world we sing!**

Blue Hymnal 537

Holy Gospel: John 5:1-9, standing

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

After Jesus healed the son of the official in Capernaum, there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids-- blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Kate E. Wesch

Silence and stillness are kept after 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 worshipped 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 We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity. Jesus, light of the world,
bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations. Jesus, Lord of life,
People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry and nourish us all with your word.
Jesus, Lord of life,
People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way,
especially the Bishop-elect for our Diocese. Deepen our appreciation of your
truth and fill us with your life. Jesus, Lord of life,
People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures. Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor 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, Spencer Russo, Tullie St. John, Brian Tewart, and Joel Wesch.

Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor For those who are aged and infirm, widowed and orphaned, and for those who are sick and suffering, especially: Kathy Arthur, Tip Atkeson, Peter Bierrie, Suzy Burke, Ginny Buracchi, Helen Chatman, Connie Cliffe, Sandra and Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Nancy Gould, Helena Heath, Becky Honan, Glenn Jacobsen, Raymond and Pam Ryan, Courtney Santiago, Jim Scala, John Schumacher, Joan Squelia, Kathy Wesch, and those we now name either silently or aloud ____.

Silence may be kept.

Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

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

We rejoice in these abundant blessings and invite your thanksgivings either silently or aloud ____ .

Silence may be kept.

Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, including those we now name either silently or aloud ____.

Silence may be kept.

Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Presider O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: graciously hear our prayers for peace in the world. We pray especially for the people of Ukraine, asking that you grant them your help as they bear the

brunt of unjust violence, and for the Russian people as they too suffer loss. Guide the nations of the earth as they seek a peaceful resolution while the threat of more war and needless suffering looms; that, in your good time, all people may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin, kneeling

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A moment of reflective silence is kept.

People **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 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, standing

Presider The peace of the risen Christ be always with you!

People **And also with you!**

Then the ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

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

Anthem at the Offertory O For A Closer Walk

C.V. Stanford

Presentation, standing

The congregation's gifts of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Holy Table. Weekly donations to the Shoreline Pantry are placed before the Altar.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A, *standing*

BCP p. 361

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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

Blue Hymnal S-128

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:

Presider and People

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,
the power, and the glory
or ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem

Blue Hymnal S-165

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 hands across your chest. We are not allowing intinction at this time. You have the choice of receiving the wine by drinking from the chalice or as a drop on the wafer. If you are unable to come forward, please ask an usher or someone nearby to request that Communion be brought to you.

Hymn Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord

Blue Hymnal 328

Prayer after Communion, *standing*

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.**

The Blessing, *standing*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn **Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise** **Blue Hymnal 191**

The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia, Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

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

Postlude **Christ ist erstanden** **J. F. Fischer**

TODAY'S FORUM — St. John's Partnership with Mozambique

St. John's, Essex has a long relationship with the Anglican Church in Mozambique and things are changing there! The Anglican church in Mozambique now has eight dioceses. Bishop Carlos Matsinhe who has visited Essex is in the Diocese of Lebombo. Father José Amaral Filipe, whom we have partnered with throughout his theological education, is now in the newly formed Diocese of Inhambane. This diocese elected its first bishop last weekend, the Rev. Emanuel Boaventura Capeta. In this forum, parishioners who have traveled to Mozambique will share their stories and photos. Rev. Kate will give an update on the changes happening in this part of the Anglican Communion and we will begin to dream about what is next for St. John's in relationship to this special corner of our church.

Supporting Ukraine

We are collecting First Aid kits (not travel size, please) and face masks. CVS, Walgreens, and Amazon online offer first aid kits ranging from \$15-21, and face masks remain available in pharmacies and grocery stores. There are collection boxes inside the front entrance and outside the office. Spreading the word to family and friends can spread our appeal beyond our doors. The collection will run from May 15 to June 1.

Youth Group

Join us for the first meeting of the St. John's Youth Group this evening! All youth grades 8-11 are welcome. We'll meet in the **Youth Room at 6 P.M. tonight** for prayer and fellowship. Dinner will be served. RSVP to Mairi Graham-Shaw (mairi@stjohnsessex.org).

Next Sunday's Forum — MVAMP Memorial Memories

MAY 28 & 29 — MVAMP-Memorial Memories

This year the Ministry of Veterans and Active Military Personnel (MVAMP) marks Memorial Day weekend with two special events.

On Saturday, May 28 at 10:00 A.M., at the Cypress Cemetery (100 College Street, Old Saybrook), the Lyme-Old Lyme VFW will lead a special memorial service at the gravesite of former parishioner Jack Sikora with Rev. Kate. Jack was essential in establishing the Military Ministry at St. John's, making our parish quite unique. Unfortunately, COVID-19 delayed the placement of the plaque by the VFW, and we are finally excited to honor his commitment this year. All are invited to join us as we mark this special occasion.

On Sunday, May 29, veterans from the parish and the Lyme-Old Lyme VFW will be recognized and serve as lectors at both services. At the 10:15 service, a color guard will be present. At the forum between services, everyone is invited to join us for a reception that will include comments from MVAMP members and a slide presentation of past MVAMP activities. On this day, we will continue to present a list of parish members related to veterans who are no longer with us and are honored for their service.

Upcoming June Fourms

JUNE 5 — How Volunteers Make an Impact on Food Insecurity on the Connecticut Shoreline

Learn about the extraordinary work of the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries (SSKP) and the volunteers like you that make a difference for those affected by food insecurity. Jeff Ward, Volunteer and Program Director of SSKP, and Mary Bowers, St. John's Soup Kitchen Coordinator, will be with us to share their stories and explain how volunteering for a soup kitchen or making donations affects the broader community as a whole.

JUNE 12 — What Is A Sacred Place?

A Sacred Place (ASP) is a volunteer non-profit organization that provides proven programs to an almost invisible group of women - the incarcerated - the women of York Correctional Institution in Niantic, CT. Many of them are single mothers: poor, afflicted, and addicted, who are in dire need of assistance to help them heal - to stand up and refocus their lives - to give them hope for a better future. The programs of ASP provide emotional literacy, opportunities to take college-based courses, establish connections with their children and families, and foster hope through spiritual direction. Our mission is to help them lead responsible, educated, spiritually enriched lives that are drug-free and crime-free. All programs are offered in an atmosphere that respects our participants' backgrounds and faith traditions. We know our programs work! Graduates from A Sacred Place have one of the lowest recidivism rates in the USA!

NEEDED: VOLUNTEERS FOR SOUP KITCHEN

The St. John's Soup Kitchen groups are still doing meals-to-go and are shorthanded for three dates in the summer. This is a great opportunity for someone looking to volunteer and unsure how to get involved or who wants to try it out! The following dates are available June 28 and August 2. If you would like to fill one or all of those spots, please contact Mary Bowers at 860-575-9619.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: PENTECOST SUNDAY AND PARISH PHOTO — SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 10 A.M.

On **Sunday, June 5**, we encourage everyone to wear red. The color red symbolizes joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit. It could be a shirt, a tie, a blouse, a dress, a skirt, a scarf, or a necklace. Let's fill the sanctuary with the color red, and at 10 A.M., we'll mark this celebration with a parish photo on Main Street!

Serving Today at 10:15 A.M.

Organist & Choir Director	Anthony Pandolfe, Jr.
Ushers & Greeters	David Evangelisti & Dan Taylor-Stypa
Lectors	Sharon Craig & Karen Kaestle
Intercessor	Jim Myslik
Crucifer & Eucharistic Minister	Carey Emig
Verger & Liturgical Coordinator	Allison Fresher
Videographer	Stephanie Patterson
Altar Guild	Peggy Tuttle & Susan Guernsey
Counters	Ken Ewell & Nancy King
Deacon	The Rev. Geoffrey T. Smith
Presider & Preacher	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*; Anthony Pandolfe, Jr., *Music and Choir Director*, Mairi Graham-Shaw, *Family Life Minister*, Deborah Jones, *Sexton*; Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

VESTRY: Karen Kaestle, *Warden*; Dan Taylor-Stypa, *Warden*; Nat Eddy, *Vestry Clerk*; Howard Tuttle, *Treasurer*; Carol Beisser, Lee Gaby, Darrell Jones, Scott Konrad, Sandy Loether, Stacie Padelli, Ellen Pfarr, Patricia Pittsinger, Rob van der Horst

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

WEDNESDAYS

Morning Prayer— 10 A.M.

SUNDAYS

Holy Eucharist — 8 A.M.

Holy Eucharist— 10:15 A.M.

“Come As You Are” Worship Service — 5 P.M.

St. John's Episcopal Church

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