



I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams  
and the fat of fed beasts;  
I do not delight in the blood of bulls,  
or of lambs, or of goats.  
When you come to appear before me,  
who asked this from your hand?  
Trample my courts no more;  
bringing offerings is futile;  
incense is an abomination to me.  
New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation--  
I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.  
Your new moons and your appointed festivals  
my soul hates;  
they have become a burden to me,  
I am weary of bearing them.  
When you stretch out your hands,  
I will hide my eyes from you;  
even though you make many prayers,  
I will not listen;  
your hands are full of blood.  
Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;  
remove the evil of your doings  
from before my eyes;  
cease to do evil,  
learn to do good;  
seek justice,  
rescue the oppressed,  
defend the orphan,  
plead for the widow.  
Come now, let us argue it out,  
says the Lord:  
though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be like snow;  
though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool.  
If you are willing and obedient,  
you shall eat the good of the land;  
but if you refuse and rebel,  
you shall be devoured by the sword;  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

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

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; \*  
    he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \***  
    **God reveals himself in glory.**
- 3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*  
    before him there is a consuming flame,  
    and round about him a raging storm.
- 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above \***  
    **to witness the judgment of his people.**
- 5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, \*  
    those who have made a covenant with me  
    and sealed it with sacrifice."
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \***  
    **for God himself is judge.**
- 7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak:  
    "O Israel, I will bear witness against you; \*  
    for I am God, your God.
- 8 I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; \***  
    **your offerings are always before me.**
- 23 Consider this well, you who forget God, \*  
    lest I rend you and there be none to deliver you.
- 24 Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me; \***  
    **but to those who keep in my way will I show the salvation of God."**

**The Second Lesson: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for

people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn Praise our great and gracious Lord**

**Blue Hymnal 393**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 12:32-40, standing**

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Diana Rogers**

*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***

<i>Intercessor</i>	Lord Jesus, we pray that our faith may increase along with the bonds of our church community. By coming together at this time and with unified voices, we ask you to hear our prayers and lift up our hearts as we name aloud our fervent desires: For the church throughout the world, that its work will inspire humility, holiness, and hopefulness. We ask this in your name.
<i>People</i>	<b>Hear us, O Lord.</b>
<i>Intercessor</i>	For our neighbors living in loneliness, distress, and fear, restore them to happiness, health, and contentment. We ask this in your name.
<i>People</i>	<b>Hear us, O Lord.</b>
<i>Intercessor</i>	For the people of Ukraine, and for all those affected by war and violence, give them courage and strength to face their challenges. We ask this in your name.
<i>People</i>	<b>Hear us, O Lord.</b>
<i>Intercessor</i>	For the human family, give us kindness, patience and understanding as we go forward, day by day. We ask this in your name.
<i>People</i>	<b>Hear us, O Lord.</b>
<i>Intercessor</i>	For the Connecticut River, Eight Mile River, Long Island Sound, and for our estuaries, lakes, and tidal pools. We thank God for their beauty and ask that all

who work or play within them are safe and use these waters responsibly. We ask this in your name.

*People*

**Hear us, O Lord.**

*Intercessor*

For the businesses along the shoreline, that summer may bring welcome commerce to our towns and that God's joy in human creation may be reflected in the hospitality shown to all who come to visit. We ask this in your name.

*People*

**Hear us, O Lord.**

*Intercessor*

For the police and firefighters, for the postal workers, delivery services, grocery workers, librarians, town officers, and elected officials of our towns, that they may find special enjoyment in their vital roles during busy summer months. We ask this in your name.

*People*

**Hear us, O Lord.**

*Intercessor*

For the safety of those from our parish who serve in the Armed Forces, especially Douglas Hamillton, Carl Heise, Molly and Jon Hilzinger, Andy Morgado, Spencer Russo, Tullie St. John, Brian Tewart, Kyle Webb, and Joel Wesch. We ask this in your name.

*People*

**Hear us, O Lord.**

*Intercessor*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, especially Patricia Wiley and those we now name either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_.

*Silence may be kept.*

We ask this in your name.

*People*

**Hear us, O Lord.**

*Intercessor*

For those who are aged and infirm, widowed and orphaned, and for those who are sick and suffering, especially: Kathy Arthur, Peter Bierrie, Jinny Buracchi, Helen Chatman, Connie Cliffe, Sandra and Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Robert Fresher, Nancy Gould, Phillip, Jim Scala, John Schumacher, Joan Squelia, Allyson Taylor, Kathy Wesch, and those we now name either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_.

*Silence may be kept.*

We ask this in your name.

*People*

**Hear us, O Lord.**

*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, A Sacred Place, and for the ministries within our diocese hosting camp this summer: the Incarnation Center and Camp Washington.

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

*Silence may be kept.*

We ask this in your name.

*People*           **Hear us, O Lord.**

*Presider*       Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only  
what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our  
blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin, kneeling**

*Deacon*       Let us confess our sins to God.

*A moment of reflective silence is kept.*

*People*       **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,  
and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. 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 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**

*Presider*       Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

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

**Hymn**           **Jesus, all my gladness**

**Blue Hymnal 701**

### **Presentation, standing**



*The Presider continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

*Presider* And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**The Lord's Prayer, said by all**

**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.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

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

**Fraction Anthem**

**Blue Hymnal S-164** (found in the front half of the hymnal)

### **The Invitation to Communion**

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy things for holy people.  
*All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.  
For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. We are not allowing intinction at this time.  
Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it. Please indicate this by holding one arm across your chest. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.*

**Hymn This is the hour of banquet and of song**

**Blue Hymnal 317**

**Prayer after Communion** *standing*

*Presider* Let us pray.  
*People* **God of abundance,  
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;**



The **23rd Annual Backpack Drive** begins at St. John's on August 7th! The Essex Auxiliary of Child and Family is now River Valley Fund for Families, focusing all our efforts on supporting children and their families here in our local communities.

The window for our backpack drive is only two weeks due to an early September 1st school opening. The boards with children's tags will be in the narthex on Sundays and the hall outside the parish office during the week. The blessing of the bags and supplies will be on August 21st.

We thank you again for making the children's first day of school very special. For questions, please get in touch with Pat Thompson ([pmact713@aol.com](mailto:pmact713@aol.com)) or Rhode van Gessel ([rhodevg@me.com](mailto:rhodevg@me.com)).

### **Sunday Altar Flower Offering**

There are many dates available for this year! If you are interested in celebrating an anniversary, birthday, or remembering a loved one with your church family, please contact Chelsea DiDonato at 860-767-8095 ext. 10 or ([chelsea@stjohnsessex.org](mailto:chelsea@stjohnsessex.org)).

Please submit payment to St. John's Episcopal Church by either mailing a \$100 check with a memo "altar flowers" or visiting the St. John's website.

Here are some upcoming dates to choose from: August 14, August 28, September 4,

September 18, October 2, October 9, October 16, October 23, October 30, November 20, November 27, and December 18.

### **Food Shortage During the Summer Months!**

As the summer has progressed, those who deliver food to the Shoreline Pantry regularly have become aware of a substantial decline in the church's nonperishable food contributions for families who really need a helping hand. We also know that many who have not needed to access the pantries are nonetheless coping with considerable increases in the cost of food.

We ask that everyone who can do so would continue to bring nourishing foods for those having a difficult time regularly. By keeping our eyes open for good foods that are on sale any given week or by knocking off one or more items, we can really do without, we express our thanksgiving to the God who calls upon us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Thank you for sharing that love!

**Chapel School**

**10:15 A.M.**

**Parish Hall**

**Serving Today at 10:15 A.M.**

Organist & Choir Director	Anthony Pandolfe, Jr
Lector	Lois Blood Bennett & Dan Taylor-Stypa
Intercessor	Darlene Ferris
Eucharistic Minister & Crucifer	Nat Eddy
Videographer	Darlene Ferris
Liturgical Coordinator & Verger	Allison Fresher
Altar Guild	Carol Beisser & Nancy King
Counters	Bill Chatman & Clio Coles
Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Diana Rogers

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**CLERGY AND STAFF:** The Rev. Kate E. Wesch, *Rector*; 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.

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