

# THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II — 10:15 a.m.  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

### 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. To ensure newcomers feel welcomed, position prompts are provided throughout our bulletins. If standing or kneeling is uncomfortable for you, please know it is fine to remain seated.*

**Prelude**      **Arioso**

**D. Gawthrop**

*All rise at the sound of the church bell.*

**Hymn 436, standing**      **Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates**

**TRURO**

*Presider*      Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People*      **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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 S-280**      *Gloria in excelsis*

**R. Powell**

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 Collect of the Day**

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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 Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

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

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

*The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse beginning with the lector. Bolded text is read by the people.*  
**Psalm 15**     *Domine, quis habitabit?*

1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?

**2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.**

3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

**4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the LORD.**

5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.

**6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**

**7 Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.**

**The Second Lesson: James 1:17-27**

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

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

**Holy Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23, *standing***

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

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

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Carol Gadsden**

*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 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.**

**Pray for the World and the Church, *standing***

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor:* I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Sean, our Presiding Bishop Elect, Jeff and Laura our bishops, Wilk and Carol, our interim co-pastors; for this gathering and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.  
*Silence*

*Intercessor:* I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. We give thanks for those who put their lives at risk for the safety and well-being of others. Pray for justice and peace.  
*Silence*

*Intercessor:* I ask your prayers for those who are poor, sick, hungry, or oppressed, and for those who are in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially, Jen Benevento, Jinny Buracchi, Connie Cliffe, Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Margie Faulkner, Sherley Furgueson, Pedro Frigola, Raymond Guarino, Nancy Gould, Tom Hackett, Mindy Hoffman, Chris Miller, Marguerite Quigley, Dorothy Rider, Jerry Williams and those we now name either silently or aloud.  
*Silence*

*Intercessor:* I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.  
*Silence*

*Intercessor:* I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

*Intercessor:* At this time, you may offer your own intercessions and thanksgivings.  
*Silence*

*Intercessor:* 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 forever. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*Presider* Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

*The people kneel as able. 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 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.

*As is our new tradition at St. John's, the Loose Plate Offering on this first Sunday of the month will be placed into the Church's Discretionary Fund. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.*

*Today's Loose Plate Offering will help fund the many ministries that assist those in need.*

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

Hymn 656, standing **Blest are the pure in heart**

FRANCONIA

**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 1, Enriching Our Worship**

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 truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus S-129

Holy, Holy, Holy

R. Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven 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. —

*The people stand or kneel, as the Presider continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and 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 friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all 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.**

*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 children, 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

Fraction Anthem S-163

*Jesus, Lamb of God*

R. Powell

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## The Invitation to Communion

*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. 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 641 Lord Jesus, think on me

SOUTHWELL

## Post Communion Prayer, *standing*

*Presider* Let us pray.

*People*

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Sending of Eucharistic Visitors, as requested*

*The Blessing, standing*

Hymn 556, *standing* Rejoice, ye pure in heart

MARION

*The Dismissal, standing*

*Presider*      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!  
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude      Toccata in E Minor**

**J. Pachelbel**

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***Altar Flowers***

*Today's altar flowers are given by Chris Woodside in memory of Robert and Gloria Woodside, and the 75 years since their wedding.*

***Coffee Hour***

*Directly following the service, all are invited to attend coffee hour in the Parish Hall, hosted by Patti Pickering*

## UPCOMING CLASSES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

**SUN**  
**SEPT**  
**8**

### **Fall Program Kick-Off Brunch**

**Following the 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. | Amphitheater & Undercroft**

We're back! Celebrate the start of the St. John's Program year with a fun gathering at 11:30 a.m. Join us in the amphitheater for a festive fall potluck brunch and games with prizes. Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be in the Narthex (front of the church).

**SAT**  
**SEPT**  
**21**

### **Visio Divina with *The Saint John's Bible***

**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Parish Hall**

You are invited to spend time with *The Saint John's Bible* to meditate, to create, to learn, to enjoy the art and the beauty of the illuminations and calligraphy. All are welcome and encouraged to drop in at any time throughout this offering.

## SEPTEMBER FORUMS

**Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall**

**SEPT**  
**15**

### **The History of Anglicanism with The Rev. Carol Gadsden**

The origin of its roots in the Protestant Reformation, and its culmination in the Elizabethan Settlement that marked the end of the English Reformation, laying the foundation for the unique identity of Anglicanism.

**SEPT**  
**22**

### **Anglicanism in the colonies; the Development of the Episcopal Church with The Rev. Carol Gadsden**

The Anglican Church finding establishment in the colonies; the response of the colonial churches to the Revolutionary War; the birth of the Episcopal Church.

## **Ways to Donate: Bill's Blessings and Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries**

***Bill's Blessings:*** Shampoo / conditioner, hydrogen peroxide, panty liners, sponges, Kleenex / tissues. Please bring all items downstairs in Bill's Blessings room.

*\*Please note that we cannot accept travel-sized items.*

***Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries*** is always looking for non-perishable food items to stock their stores for those in need. Non-perishable food can be donated in the Narthex (front of the church) or on Cross Street next to the church offices.

### **Wish list for non-perishable food:**

Cereal, juice, soup, peanut butter, tuna, canned fruit, canned corn, pasta, pasta sauce, oatmeal, white rice, dried beans, protein bars, breakfast items.

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**CLERGY & PARISH STAFF**

The Rev. Carol Gadsden, *Interim Co-Pastor*  
[carol@stjohnsessex.org](mailto:carol@stjohnsessex.org) / 860-767-8095 x.12

The Rev. Wilk Miller, *Interim Co-Pastor*  
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Chelsea DiDonato, *Communications Director & Parish Administrator*  
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Anthony Pandolfe Jr., *Director of Music & Organist*  
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Manuel Matute, *Sexton*  
Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

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**VOLUNTEER MINISTRY LEADERS**

Nancy Haslam, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*  
Marlene Going, *Weekly Food Collection*  
Stephanie Patterson, *Altar Guild*  
Peggy Tuttle, *Pastoral Care Card Ministry*  
Jennifer Miller, *Meal Ministry*  
Ernie Brainard, *Candle Master*  
Nat Eddy, *Outreach Committee*

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**VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONALS**

Bill Scharfenstein, *Building and Grounds*  
Greg Perruccio, *Stewardship Chair*  
Dave Rogers, *Treasurer*  
Clio Coles, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Shawn Honan, *Investment Oversight Committee*

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**VESTRY** Scott Konrad, *Warden*; Sandy Loether, *Warden*; Anne Littlefield, *Vestry Clerk*;  
Dave Rogers *Treasurer*; Carol Beisser, Lois Blood Bennett, Tony Custodio, Nat Eddy,  
Wesley Henry, Stephanie Patterson, Patti Pickering, Rob van der Horst, Kevin Walsh

**WORSHIP**

**SUNDAYS** | Holy Eucharist — 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.  
**WEDNESDAYS** | Midweek Holy Eucharist — 12:00 p.m.

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
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