

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II — 10:15 A.M.
SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome to St. John's! We are glad you have joined us today. Everything you need is in this leaflet or the blue Hymnal 1982 found in the pew. We invite you to prepare for worship in silent prayer during the prelude, and we encourage you to participate throughout this liturgy in singing the hymns and service music and saying the portions in bold type. Prompts are provided for you to stand, sit, or kneel where appropriate and as you are able.

Prelude Improvisation on *Halton Holgate* Anthony. Pandolfe (b.1989)

Welcome and Announcements, *seated*

All rise at the sound of the bell.

Hymn 401 The God of Abraham praise *Leoni*

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

People **And blessed be God's reign, 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.**

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.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; 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: Genesis 12:1-9

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with

Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 33:1-12 Exultate, justi

Read responsively.

- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; *
it is good for the just to sing praises.
- 2 **Praise the Lord with the harp; ***
play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.
- 3 Sing for him a new song; *
sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.
- 4 **For the word of the Lord is right, ***
and all his works are sure.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice; *
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.
- 6 **By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, ***
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.
- 7 He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin*
and stores up the depths of the sea.
- 8 **Let all the earth fear the Lord; ***
let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.
- 9 For he spoke, and it came to pass; *
he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 **The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught; ***
he thwarts the designs of the peoples.
- 11 But the Lord's will stands fast for ever, *
and the designs of his heart from age to age.
- 12 **Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! ***
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

The Second Lesson: Romans 4:13-25

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he

considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 706, standing as able "In your mercy, Lord, you called me" *Halton Holgate*

The Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

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

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

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me."

And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas

Silence for reflection.

The Nicene Creed, standing as able

**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

In the assurance that God hears our prayers, we boldly ask for God's grace and mercy for the world and for ourselves.

God of love: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people, for those living in areas of conflict and for those who are at peace with their neighbors.

God of love: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Church and all who serve the mission of Christ in this world.

God of love: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our parish and the communities in which we live and work. May we strive to be good neighbors to those whose lives are so closely linked with ours.

God of love: **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all created things, for the earth and every living thing that calls this planet home. May we have the courage to repair and protect our environment and all endangered species.

God of love: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those in need of our prayers, the poor and neglected, the refugee and the immigrant, those on our parish prayer list and those we name...; and we give thanks for healers, therapists, social workers, and all those in helping professions.

God of love: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for comfort for those who mourn, and we pray for all who have died, remembering especially those we name...; and we give thanks for the blessing and the memories of those who have gone before us.

God of love: **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant:

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those we have asked aloud and those we hold in our hearts, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

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

The people stand, kneel, or sit 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.**

Celebrant 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 as able*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always be with you.

People **And also with you.**

*The ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.
You may be seated following the exchange of the Peace.*

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Hymn 281

"He sat to watch o'er customs paid"

Breslau

Presentation

*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

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **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. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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-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 may remain standing or you may kneel or sit as is your preference.

Holy and gracious God: 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 maker and of all.

Jesus 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 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ. 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 Jesus Christ our Savior. 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.

Celebrant 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome at God's table no matter where you are in your walk with Christ. If you need gluten-free bread, simply ask the priest. If you prefer to receive a blessing, indicate that by crossing your hands over your chest when you come to the altar rail. The first chalice following the bread is for you to drink the wine. The second is if you choose to dip (or intinct) the wafer in the wine. If you are unable to come forward for any reason, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.

Hymn

“Will you come and follow me?”

The Summons

1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but

call your name? — Will you go where you don't
call your name? — Will you care for cruel and
call your name? — Will you set the pris - 'ners
call your name? — Will you quell the fear in -
call my name. — Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same? — Will you
kind and nev - er be the same? — Will you
free and nev - er be the same? — Will you
side and nev - er be the same? — Will you
you and nev - er be the same. — In your

let my love be shown, _____ will you let my
 risk the hos - tile stare _____ should your life at -
 kiss the lep - er clean, _____ and do such as
 use the faith you've found _____ to re - shape the
 com - pa - ny I'll go _____ where your love and

name be known, _____ will you let my life be
 tract or scare? _____ Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, _____ and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, _____ through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. _____ Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?
 pray'r in you and you in me?
 mean in you and you in me?
 sound in you and you in me?
 grow in you and you in me.

Prayer after Communion, *standing as able*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn 472 "Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion" *Donne Secours*

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Postlude No. 12 Charles John Vincent (1852–1934)

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The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.

St. John's Prayer List

Holding each other's joys, sorrows, and concerns before God in prayer is a spiritual practice that characterizes our life together at St. John's. In our worship services, we pray each other's prayers together. Outside of our time together many parishioners make it part of their daily lives to pray the prayers of the parish community. You are invited to participate in your own way.

Thanks be to God

for the hosts of the renewed St. John's Socials and all who are participating in those gatherings;
for Tony Custodio and his faithful and dedicated service to St. John's;
for those discerning a call to serve this community more deeply;
for the generosity of this congregation in pledging and giving;
for all the blessings of our lives, and for the faith, fellowship, and ministries of this parish;

Your prayers are requested

for the St. John's vestry as it prepares to go on retreat next weekend;
for the Furgueson family as they say their goodbyes to their beloved Michael;
for a resolution to the spread of Ebola in the Congo;
for an end to the war in Iran;
for a path to sustained peace in Israel, Palestine, Russia, and Ukraine;
for an end to political and hate-fueled violence in our public spaces;
for the elected leaders of the United States that they will govern with wisdom, compassion, and concern for the poor and outcast;
for lasting peace to come to areas of violence in our world, especially Sudan, Nigeria, and Congo;
for an end to gun violence in this country and the courage for each of us to work toward that;
for all LGBTQI+ people who face bias and violence each and every day;
for members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble, including Eileen Aiken, Ed Birch, Reginald Brulotte, Jinny Buracchi, Connie Cliffe, JoAnne Connor, Bea Comstock, Tony Custodio, Evelyn, Sherley Furgueson, Nancy Gould, Ethel, Julia, and Jim Gribbins, Hazel, Erin Kraten, Dorothy Rider, Leona Savoie, Dione Solan, Gary Young, Jean Shaw, Nancy, and Mel Chaney, Ken, and Benjamin;

Please note that any names on the prayer list will remain for a period of one month. At the end of each calendar month, the list will be cleared. If you would like to continue to have a name on the list, please contact the office after the first of the month.

for the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, including St. John's, North Haven; Christ Church, Norwalk; St. Andrew's, Northford;
for the Anglican Communion, including the Scottish Episcopal Church.

We commend to God's never-failing care

those who have died, remembering especially the civilians and military personnel who have died in wars around the world; the dead in the ongoing violence in Sudan, Congo, Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Gaza; in gun violence around this country; those who are dying in climate-related disasters; immigrants who have died seeking a better life; and for U.S. civilians and service personnel who have died in the line of duty;
and all whom we love but see no more.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Conversation Today at 11:45 a.m.

The vestry is gathering for retreat next week, and we need your help! Please join us for a conversation about your hopes and dreams for St. John's - where we are and how you'd like to see us move into the future. The final session will be held immediately following coffee hour today in the Parish Hall.

Tuesday: Bible Studies and Midday Eucharist

Morning Bible study resumes on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. We continue our study of Luke's gospel. Bring your bible and your questions!

Holy Eucharist is also on Tuesday at 11:15 a.m. in the chancel (choir area) of the church.

Newcomer's Gathering Today at 4:00 p.m.

If you're new to St. John's or would simply like to get to know us better, please join us for a casual reception in the Parish Hall.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to offer flowers on the altar for a particular date or occasion, there is a sign-up poster in the Parish Hall that lists the available dates. You may select an open date and confirm with the Parish Office the name or names in whose memory or in thanksgiving that you want to appear in the Sunday leaflets.

Westbrook Food Pantry Needs

Please continue to bring non-perishable food items for our neighbors at the Westbrook Food Pantry. Donations are collected each Sunday after morning services.

For the next two weeks we will collect **canned fruit**.

Bill's Blessings

Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers and the support of our parishioners, we continue to provide basic necessities to our Soup Kitchen guests.

For the next two weeks we will collect **shaving cream**.

Next Sunday, June 14!

You are invited to

**SECOND SUNDAYS
at ST. JOHN'S**

**Beginning March 8 and continuing
monthly on the 2nd Sunday of the month
from 4:30 -6:30 p.m.**

**Intergenerational activities, fellowship,
food, fun, and a family-friendly celebration
of Holy Eucharist.**

**Come to the Undercroft, entering down the ramp
to the right of the main entrance of the church.**



**St. John's Episcopal Church
for information: 860-767-8095
www.stjohnsessex.org**

Coming Soon...

Folk Melodies for a Weary World:

An Evening with Paul Loether



SUNDAY, JUNE 28 ~ 6:30-8:00 P.M.

*Enjoy an evening of live folk music and light refreshments
in a cozy community setting.*

Please use the Parish Hall door via the steps and raised walkway
from Main Street, or use the ramp entrance through the
office lobby on Cross Street.

This event will benefit Bill's Blessings, our free store, that
provides basic personal necessities to our Soup Kitchen guests.
Please call the church office (860-767-8095) to reserve your spot
or scan the code below.



**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AT THE INTERSECTION OF CROSS STREET & MAIN STREET, ESSEX,
CONNECTICUT 06426**

CLERGY & PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas, *Rector*
elaine@stjohnsessex.org / 860.767.8095 x.12

Anthony Pandolfe Jr., *Director of Music & Organist*
anthony@stjohnsessex.org / 860.767.8095 x.17

Meghan Wrinn, *Parish Administrator*
meghan@stjohnsessex.org/860.767.8095

Manuel Matute, *Sexton*

Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY LEADERS

Mary Bowers, *Bill's Blessings & Soup Kitchen Ministry*

Ernie Brainard, *Candle Master*

Marlene Going, *Weekly Food Collection*

Sandy Loether, *Newcomers Committee*

Jennifer Miller, *Meal Ministry*

Stephanie Patterson, *Altar Guild*

Peggy Tuttle, *Pastoral Care Card Ministry*

Kevin Walsh, *Mission and Justice Committee*

VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONALS

Clio Coles, *Assistant Treasurer*

John Rogers, *Treasurer*

treasurer@stjohnsessex.org

Bill Scharfenstein, *Building and Grounds*

Charlie Walden, *Investment Oversight Committee*

VESTRY Wesley Henry, *Warden*; Jan Perruccio, *Warden*; Peter Holland, *Vestry Secretary*;
John Rogers, *Treasurer*; Lois Blood Bennett, Linda Board, Tony Custodio, Leigh
Dorrington, Pam duPont, Chip Goodrich, Donna Moeller, Jane Riggio, Kevin Walsh

WORSHIP

SUNDAYS | Holy Eucharist — 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.

TUESDAYS | Bible Study — 10:00 a.m.

TUESDAYS | Midweek Holy Eucharist — 11:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3 Cross Street, / (P.O. Box 422) Essex, CT 06426

860.767.8095 | www.stjohnsessex.org



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