

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II — 10:15 A.M.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 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 Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr Johann Gottfried Walther
(1684–1748)

Welcome and Announcements, *seated*

All rise at the sound of the church bell.

Hymn 544 "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun" *Duke Street*

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, 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-278 *Gloria in excelsis* W. Mathias

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 -



The Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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: Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until

I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 99

Dominus regnavit

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505–1585)

Sung by the choir

- 1 The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we

proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Alleluia

Alleluia from "Calvary Service"

Thomas Pavlechko

Standing as able

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Repeat after verse

*Choral Verse: Shine like lights in the world
as you hold on to the word of life.*

The Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

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

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

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Deacon 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

Jesus said, "For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance."

We now offer our prayers and thanksgivings to God who has lavished upon us such bountiful love.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, that God's will may be done through Christ's body gathered in community.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Seeking the good of all people, we pray for those in positions of authority whose decisions influence community life in our world and in our nation.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the beauty of this world and offering our prayers for those who work to protect the environment, may we be better stewards of creation.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Giving thanks for all the blessings of this life, may we be generous in sharing all that we have been given from the hand of God.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those in any kind of need, including those who are sick, mentally ill, or addicted, we pray for healing and wholeness, praying especially for those on our parish prayer list (*the intercessor reads the names*) and those we now name silently or aloud (*the people add their prayers*).

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us the grace to comfort those in need of comfort and to mourn with those who mourn. We pray for all who have died (*the people add their prayers*).

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with this Collect:

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, granting us those things that we most need and directing our hearts to desire most what you desire for us. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Deacon says

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. **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.

Reflections on Pledging

Sandy Loether

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Anthem

The Ground

Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

*Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Osana in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domina.
Benedictus qui venit. Osana in excelsis. Agnus Dei, qui tolis peccata mundi. Dona nobis pacem*

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 (expansive language)

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
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, Almighty God, 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 sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-128

Holy, Holy, Holy

W. Mathias

Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the



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 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,

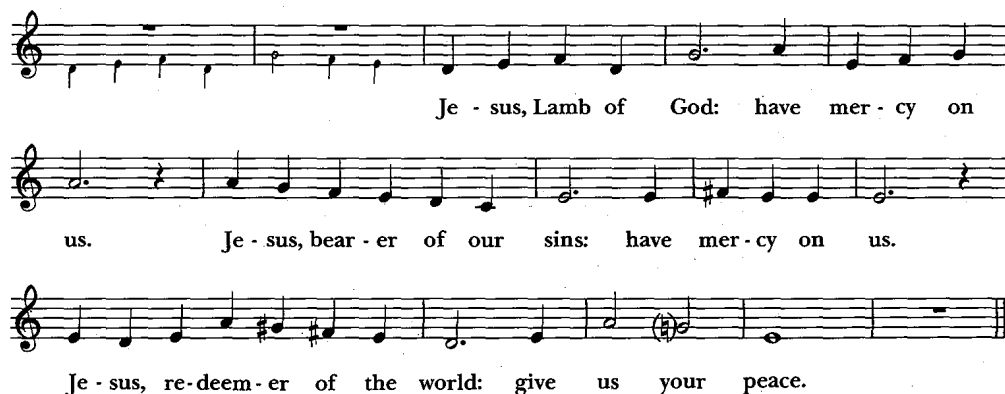
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem S-166

Jesus, Lamb of God

G. Near



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 689

"I sought the Lord, and afterward I knew"

Faith

Hymn 665

"All my hope on God is founded"

Michael

Prayer after Communion, *standing as able*

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **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

Hymn 594

"God of grace and God of glory"

Cwm Rhondda

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Toccata in e Minor

Johann Pachelbel (1653–1706)

The flowers on the altar are given by Tony Custodio to the glory of God and in remembrance of Sandra Custodio on the third anniversary of her death.

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 life of Thomas Sobuck, for Jim Myslik whose efforts brought this story to light, for the Witness Stones Project that helped us memorialize and honor him, and for members of the Nehantic Native Nation who supported our efforts to remember him;

for the generations of people whose generosity in worship and giving have sustained this community;

for all the blessings of our lives, and for the faith, fellowship, and ministries of this parish.

Your prayers are requested

for Brianna Birchall and Nick Barone as they prepare for their marriage at St. John's on October 23;

for the Episcopal Church in CT (ECCT) as it prepares for its annual diocesan convention on October 23/24, and for our delegates, Donna Moeller and Dan Welch;

for Pope Leo;

for the Rt. Rev Jonathan Folts who has announced his plan to retire as bishop of South Dakota at the end of 2027;

for an end to the war in Iran;

for a path to sustained peace in Israel, Palestine, Russia, and Ukraine;

for the elected leaders of the United States that they will govern with wisdom, compassion, and concern for the poor and outcast;

for an end to gun violence in this country and the courage for each of us to work toward that;

for members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble, including Eileen Aiken, Reginald Brulotte, Jinny Buracchi, Connie Cliffe, JoAnne Connor, Bea Comstock, Tony Custodio, Evelyn, Sherley Furgueson, Hazel, Dorothy Rider, Dione Solan, Gary Young, Jean Shaw, Nancy and Mel Chaney, Ken, Benjamin, Carrey Wing, Jess, Jeff and Mimi;

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, Waterbury; Christ Church, Waterbury; All Saints Chapel, West Cornwall;

for the Anglican Communion, including the Anglican Church of Canada.

We commend to God's never-failing care

those who have died, remembering especially Agnes Waterman and Nancy Haslam; 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 the Ebola outbreak in central Africa; 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

Monday Bible Study is taking this week off! Join us next week as we continue our study of the Book of Ruth.

Tuesday Bible Study on John's gospel continues October 20 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Morning Eucharist follows Bible Study on Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. in the chancel (choir area) of the church.

Assistance for Fr. José's family: In the aftermath of José Amaral Filipe's tragic death, we received word that his widow and young daughter need assistance to get on their feet as they deal with this grievous loss. If you would like to contribute, please make checks payable to St. John's with Mozambique in the subject line. Deadline is October 25.

Nancy Gould's Committal Service will take place on Saturday, October 24, at 2:00 p.m. in St. John's Memorial Garden. You are welcome to attend.

TODAY!

Potluck Supper & Sung Compline beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Undercroft. Then we'll make our way to the church where the choir will lead us in Sung Compline, or chanted Night Prayer, at 7:00 p.m.

Halloween is coming, and we will have all kinds of ghosts and goblins passing by in the Essex Halloween Parade. Pick up an extra bag of candy so that we will have plenty to hand out on October 31! If you'd like to help out, contact Meghan in the office.

All Saints' Day is November 1

If you would like to remember a loved one on All Saints' Day, we will set up a remembrance table for photographs the week before so that you may bring yours for display. We will also read the names of all members of the congregation and others known to you who have died since All Saints' Day last year. Contact the Parish Office if you would like to add a name.

Mission & Justice News

Westbrook Food Pantry Needs: This week we are collecting **peanut butter and soup**.

Bill's Blessings: This week, we are collecting **bar soap**.

CLERGY & PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas, *Rector*
 elaine@stjohnsessex.org.

The Rev. Lee Febos, *Missional Curate*
 lee@stjohnsessex.org

Anthony Pandolfe Jr., *Director of Music & Organist*

Meghan Wrinn, *Parish Administrator*
 megan@stjohnsessex.org

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*

Charlie Walden, *Investment Oversight Committee*

VESTRY

Wesley Henry & Jan Perruccio, *Wardens*; Peter Holland, *Clerk*, John Rogers, *Treasurer*
 Lois Blood Bennett, Linda Board, Grace Horner Breault, Pam DuPont, Chip Goodrich,
 Donna Moeller, Jane Riggio, Kevin Walsh

WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY

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

MONDAYS | Bible Study - 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAYS | Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.

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

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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