

**NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
A SERVICE OF THE WORD OF GOD  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2020**

**PRELUDE – ROBERT MESSORE**

**OPENING SONG**

AWAKE O ISRAEL

Awake O Israel put off your slumber  
And the truth shall set you free  
For out of Zion comes your Deliverer  
In the year of jubilee

*(Chorus)*

O hallelujah, O hallelujah  
Hallelujah, praise the Lord  
O hallelujah, O hallelujah  
Hallelujah, praise the Lord

For in the furnace of much affliction  
I have chosen you  
Behold and so for iron I'll give you silver  
And for brass I'll give you gold

You are my chosen for I have sought you  
You are graven on my hand  
And I will gather all those that gather  
They shall come back to their land

**OPENING SENTENCES**

*Leader: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

*People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

*Leader: 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.***

## GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Leader: Let us pray.*

*Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## THE LESSONS

### THE FIRST LESSON—GENESIS 32:22-31

*Reader: A Reading from the book of Genesis.*

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face,

and yet my life is preserved.” The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

*Reader: The Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God**

**THE RESPONSE—PSALM 17:1-7, 16**

*Exaudi, Domine*

- <sup>1</sup> Hear my plea of innocence, O LORD;  
give heed to my cry;  
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
- <sup>2</sup> **Let my vindication come forth from your presence;  
let your eyes be fixed on justice.**
- <sup>3</sup> Weigh my heart, summon me by night,  
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- <sup>4</sup> **I give no offense with my mouth as others do;  
I have heeded the words of your lips.**
- <sup>5</sup> My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law;  
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- <sup>6</sup> **I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;  
incline your ear to me and hear my words.**
- <sup>7</sup> Show me your marvelous loving-kindness,  
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand  
from those who rise up against them.
- <sup>16</sup> **But at my vindication I shall see your face;  
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding  
your likeness.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.**

**THE SECOND LESSON—ROMANS 9:1-5**

*Reader: A Reading from the epistle to the Romans.*

I am speaking the truth in Christ-- I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit-- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

*Reader:*        *The Word of the Lord.*  
*People:*        **Thanks be to God.**

#### **THE GOSPEL—MATTHEW 14:13-21**

*Reader:*        *A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew.*

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

*Reader:*        *The Word of the Lord.*  
*People:*        **Thanks be to God.**

#### **THE SERMON – JOHN HARE**

#### **THE NICENE CREED**

**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.*

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE /INTERCESSORY PRAYER (III)

*Leader:*        *Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;*  
***People:*        That we all may be one.**  
*Leader:*        *Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;*  
***People:*        That your Name may be glorified by all people.**  
*Leader:*        *We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;*  
***People:*        That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**  
*Leader:*        *We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;*  
***People:*        That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**  
*Leader:*        *Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;*  
***People:*        That our works may find favor in your sight.**  
*Leader:*        *Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;*  
***People:*        That they may be delivered from their distress.**  
*Leader:*        *For all who suffer from the coronavirus and all who minister to them, let us pray to the Lord.*  
***People:*        Lord have mercy.**  
*Leader:*        *Where there is racial injustice, discrimination, or violence, make us instruments of your love.*  
***People:*        Lord, have mercy.**  
*Leader:*        *Give to the departed eternal rest.*  
***People:*        Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Leader:* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*People:* **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Leader:* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*(Prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings may be added.)*

***In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, Cycle of Prayer, we pray for:***

*Good Shepherd, Shelton; St. Paul's, Shelton; St. Alban's, Simsbury  
Christ Church Cathedral's ministry in Hartford; the Cathedral Chapter;  
honorary canons of our Cathedral*

***In the Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer, we pray for:***

*The new Province of Alexandria (created from the former Diocese of Egypt with  
North Africa and the Horn of Africa in the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and  
the Middle East)*

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*(Said in unison)*

**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 CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Leader:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*(Silence may be 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.***

#### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON**

*Leader: Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.*

#### **PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (SAID IN UNISON)**

**Lord Jesus, I cannot now worship you at the altar of the church in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, yet in spirit I would join myself with all those who in your Holy Church offer you the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Visit me, I pray, with your mercy, pardon, and blessing, and fill me with faith and love and repentance, and so strengthen and sustain me by your grace that I may with pure heart and mind follow you, the only God, now and ever. Amen.**

#### **A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God**

*All: God of all power and love,  
we give thanks for your unfailing presence  
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.  
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.  
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:  
a people who pray, worship, learn,  
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,  
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.  
Wherever and however we gather,  
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,  
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## THE PEACE

*Leader:*        *The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

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

## CLOSING HYMN

## COME O THOU TRAVELER UNKNOWN

Come, O thou Traveler unknown,  
whom still I hold, but cannot see!  
My company before is gone,  
and I am left alone with Thee;  
with Thee all night I mean to stay  
and wrestle till the break of day.

I need not tell Thee who I am,  
my misery and sin declare;  
Thyself hast called me by my name,  
look on Thy hands and read it there;  
But who, I ask Thee, who art Thou?  
Tell me Thy name, and tell me now.

In vain Thou strugglest to get free;  
I never will unloose my hold;  
art Thou the Man that died for me?  
The secret of Thy love unfold;  
wrestling, I will not let Thee go,  
till I Thy name, Thy nature know.

Yield to me now—for I am weak  
but confident in self-despair!  
Speak to my heart, in blessings speak,  
be conquered by my instant prayer:  
speak, or Thou never hence shalt move,  
and tell me if Thy name is Love.

'Tis Love! 'tis Love! Thou diedst for me,  
I hear Thy whisper in my heart.  
The morning breaks, the shadows flee,  
pure Universal Love thou art:  
to me, to all, Thy mercies move—  
Thy nature and thy name is Love.

## CLOSING SENTENCES

*Leader: Let us bless the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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## ***Tithes & Offerings***

*Even though we are currently unable to open our church building for services and events, our ministries and building projects at St. John's are still going strong! We invite you to continue supporting the ministry of St. John's through your tithes and offerings. To donate online or find out about alternative giving options, please visit <http://www.stjohnsnewhaven.org/giving/give-financially/>*

## OUR PREACHER TODAY

**John Hare** is Noah Porter Professor of Philosophical Theology, Yale University. He has also worked for Tyndale Biscoe Memorial High School, Srinagar, Kashmir, India (as high school teacher), Fellowship of Universities and Schools (as teacher and counselor), Lehigh University (as assistant professor), Medical College of Pennsylvania (as teacher), House Foreign Affairs Committee (as staff), Calvin College (as associate professor), and he is a published composer of church music.

## RESOURCES FOR THIS LITURGY:

Book of Common Prayer, Holy Eucharist Rite II, Prayer of Thanksgiving, pg. 836

The Lectionary Page: <http://lectionarypage.net>

Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer

The Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer

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*The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.)*

*Closing Prayer of Spiritual Communion found in the Liturgy of Spiritual Communion, The Rev. Christopher L. Webber*

*“A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God” was composed by a team of Episcopalians and Lutherans. Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, has invited congregations to use*

*this prayer over the next few months. <https://episcopalchurch.org/concerning-covid19/worship-formation>*

*This liturgy is created by the clergy and people of St. John's Episcopal Church, New Haven, CT*

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