



St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

WELCOME TO ST JOHN'S!

We are a church whose worship, communal life, and outreach to the New Haven and university communities are inspired by the Biblical message of God's redeeming love for humanity in Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our vision is to grow and be formed in the image of Christ, to be a welcoming, loving, obedient and flourishing church that loves God and serves one another. We exist to be the presence of Christ in our neighborhood, and a blessing to the nations. We are committed to the work of racial healing, reconciliation, and justice.

STAY IN TOUCH

We send out a weekly email with service information, announcements about upcoming events, and important information about parish life. Receiving the weekly email is a great way to get connected to the St. John's community. If you'd like to be added to this email list, you can fill out a contact form in the back of the church, speak with a member of the clergy or pastoral staff, or email the church office at stjnewhaven@gmail.com.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

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 through PayPal, please visit <https://paypal.me/stjohnsnewhaven>.

This QR code links to our donation page.



To donate through Venmo, our username is Venmo@stjnewhaven.

You may also send offerings to the church at the address below. Thank you for your generosity!

The Rev. Charles Hoffman, D.Min., Priest in Charge
The Rev. Canon Ellendale Hoffman, D. Min., LMFT, Priest in Charge
Paul Smith, Pastoral Associate
Ann Tramontana-Veno, Office Administrator
Kenneth Ollison, Sexton

stjohnsnewhaven.org
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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY EUCHARIST, RIGHT II
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

PRELUDE

MUSICIANS: JANE MEDITZ AND RENÉ BARBRE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Come Down, O Love Divine

1. Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
2. O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
3. And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: 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.*

TRISAGION

Celebrant: Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE GUIDANCE AND CARE OF CHILDREN

Celebrant: Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON— GENESIS 50:15-21

Reader: A Reading from the book of Genesis.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against

us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

THE RESPONSE— PSALM 103: (1-7), 8-13

Benedic, anima mea

(Led by Celebrant; Congregation reads text in bold.)

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.**
- 3 He forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 **He redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**
- 5 He satisfies you with good things,
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 **The LORD executes righteousness
and judgment for all who are oppressed.**
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 **The LORD is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.**
- 9 He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 **He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**

- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 **As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us.**
- 13 As a father cares for his children,
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

THE SECOND LESSON—ROMANS 14:1-12

Reader: A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

THE SEQUENCE

(Please stand. Sing verses 1-2 before the Gospel and verses 3-4 after.)

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



1. "For - give our sins as we for - give" you taught us, Lord, to pray;
2. How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
3. In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew,
4. Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how small the debts men owe to us, how great our debt to you.
then, rec - on - ciled to God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

THE GOSPEL— MATTHEW 18:21-35

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

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON – DAVID MAHAN

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)

(Please stand or kneel. The Leader and People pray responsively.)

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: 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 St. John's, Stamford, Calvary,
Stonington; St. Mark's, Storrs.

Children and Children's ministries; and ministries for children with special needs.

In the Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

Celebrant: 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.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: 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.**

THE ABSOLUTION

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

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

People: **And also with you.**

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, 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 voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power 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.

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father of all.

He 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 Lord 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 he 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:

**All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.

Communion at St. John's is open to all baptized Christians who receive the Eucharist in their own church. If you are not baptized or for any other reason do not wish to receive Communion today, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Come to the altar rail and place your arms across your chest.

You may kneel or remain standing when you come to the altar rail to receive Communion or a blessing. If you have difficulty coming up the steps, a priest can bring the elements to you in your pew.

Communion is offered in two stations. For bread only, go to the right side of the high altar. For bread dipped in wine, please go to the left side of the altar, receiving the wafer either in your open hand or on your tongue.

COMMUNION SONGS

Mercy

Verse 1

My past embraced
My sin forgiven
I'm blameless in Your sight
My history rewritten

Chorus

'Cause You delight in showing mercy
And mercy triumphs over judgment
I know that You delight in showing mercy
And mercy triumphs over judgment

Verse 2

Oh love great love
Fear cannot be found in You
And there will never be a day
You're uncertain of the ones You choose

Chorus

'Cause You delight in showing mercy
And mercy triumphs over judgment
I know that You delight in showing mercy
And mercy triumphs over judgment

Bridge

So I will awake and spend my days
Loving the one who has raised me up
From death to life from wrong to right
You're making all things beautiful

(Please stand.)

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is with - in me, bless His

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The treble staff contains the vocal line with lyrics: "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is with - in me, bless His". The bass staff provides harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

ho - - - ly name.

The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "ho - - - ly name." and concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots. The word "Fine" is written above the treble staff.

He has done great things, He has done great things,

The third system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "He has done great things, He has done great things,". The music features a melodic line in the treble staff and accompaniment in the bass staff.

He has done great things, bless His ho - ly name!

The fourth system concludes the vocal line with the lyrics "He has done great things, bless His ho - ly name!". The system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots, with "D.C." (Da Capo) written above the treble staff.

THE SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

All: In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing the sacrament, that those to whom you go may share with us in this Holy Communion. We, who are many, are one body, because we are all part of the Body of Christ.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All: 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 your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

1. Praise, my soul, the King of hea - ven; to His feet thy tri - bute bring;
2. Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor to His peo - ple in dis - tress;
3. Fa - ther - like He tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame He knows;
4. An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; ye be - hold Him face to face;

ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more His prais - es sing:
praise Him still the same as ev - er, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
in His hand He gen - tly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him, dwell - ers all in time and space.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us bless the lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confirmation Class St. John's 2023

John Hare, Ph.D., Noah Porter Professor of Philosophical Theology, Emeritus, Yale University
The Rev. Charles L. Hoffman, D. Min, Priest in Charge, St. John's
The Rev. Canon Ellendale Hoffman, D.Min., LMFT, Priest in Charge
Michele Sigg, Ph.D and Dave Mahan, Ph.D., Wardens

When? Sundays after coffee hour/lunch (which Ellendale will coordinate)

Where? St. John's Episcopal Church undercroft classrooms

Who? Those who want to receive the sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation of faith. Families, friends, and those interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church, the worldwide Anglican Communion, or life at St. John's Episcopal Church, New Haven.

Session One: September 17 An Outline of the Faith: The Catechism from the Book of Common Prayer (page 845) (Chuck Hoffman)

Session Two: September 24 The Anglican Communion (John Hare)

Session Three: October 1 Eucharistic Theology and the 39 Articles of Religion, Book of Common Prayer, Historical Documents (page 867) (John Hare)

Session Four: October 8 St. John's Episcopal Church: Ministries, Mission, and all member ministry (St. John's wardens and teaching team)

Session Five: October 15 The Book of Common Prayer: Services of Holy Baptism and Confirmation & preparation for Sunday, October 22 (Chuck Hoffman)

Sunday, October 22: 10:30 The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, D.Min.
12:00 Coffee Hour with Bishop Laura Ahrens
1:00 Bishop Laura meets with the vestry

St John's Kitchen Table Panel on World Christianity: African Perspectives

Wednesday September 27 6:30-8:30 St John's Parish Hall, Light dinner served.

In this panel discussion four of our own experts will discuss the history and remarkable growth of Christianity in Africa, one of the most significant movements in the global church. Panelists Kyama Mugambi, Michèle Sigg, Mike Glerup, and Annette Dronyi will share about this amazing story, along with its challenges and implications for Christians around the world.

Morning Prayer on Thursday

Start your day with a short prayer service:
Thursdays at 7:30-8:00am in Grace Chapel

Intercessory Prayer on Fridays

Join in concerted prayer for the parish:
Fridays at 7:15-7:45am in Grace Chapel

OUR PREACHER TODAY

David Mahan is the Executive Director of the Rivendell Institute at Yale and a Lecturer in Religion and Literature at the Institute of Sacred Music, Yale Divinity School. He and his wife Karen have been members of St. John's since 1993. David serves St. John's as one of the two Wardens.

RESOURCES FOR THIS LITURGY

- *Book of Common Prayer, Holy Eucharist Rite II.*
- *The Lectionary Page: <http://lectionarypage.net>*
- *Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer.*
- *The Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer.*
- *The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA and used by permission.*
- *The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, (1979).*
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