



St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday, June 29, 2025, 10:30 a.m.
The Third Sunday after Pentecost

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Welcome to Our Guests

We are so glad you have chosen to worship at St. John's today.
You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized
in any Christian Church. Those who wish not to receive
Holy Communion may come to the altar rail, fold their arms across their
 chests, and receive a blessing from the priest.
Children's activity bags are available in the back of the church.

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HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE PRELUDE

*Come Holy Spirit, Lord Creator
Simple Gifts*

Dietrich Buxtehude
Dale Wood

THE OPENING HYMN 408 *Sing praise to God who reigns above*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

All stand.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

THE GLORIA



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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

All sit.

THE FIRST LESSON: 2 KINGS 2:1-2, 6-14

A Reading from Second Kings.

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 77:1-2, 11-20

Sung by the choir.

- ¹I will cry aloud to God; *
I will cry aloud, and he will hear me.
²In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; *
my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;
I refused to be comforted.
¹¹I will remember the works of the Lord, *
and call to mind your wonders of old time.
¹²I will meditate on all your acts *
and ponder your mighty deeds.
¹³Your way, O God, is holy; *
who is so great a god as our God?
¹⁴You are the God who works wonders *
and have declared your power among the peoples.
¹⁵By your strength you have redeemed your people, *
the children of Jacob and Joseph.
¹⁶The waters saw you, O God;
the waters saw you and trembled; *
the very depths were shaken.
¹⁷The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered; *
your arrows flashed to and fro;
¹⁸The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world; *
the earth trembled and shook.
¹⁹Your way was in the sea,
and your paths in the great waters, *
yet your footsteps were not seen.
²⁰You led your people like a flock *
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

THE EPISTLE: GALATIANS 5:1, 13-25

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger,

quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 603 *When Christ was lifted from the earth*

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 9:51-62

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

The Celebrant and People say together

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 (FORM VI)

All kneel as able.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Glenda and Brian our Bishops, Duncan and Mark our priests, Mawande our deacon, and all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

The people stand to greet one another.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The celebrant will say an offertory sentence. The people sit.

THE OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

All stand to sing the offertory verse when the offertory is brought up to the altar.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)

All stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

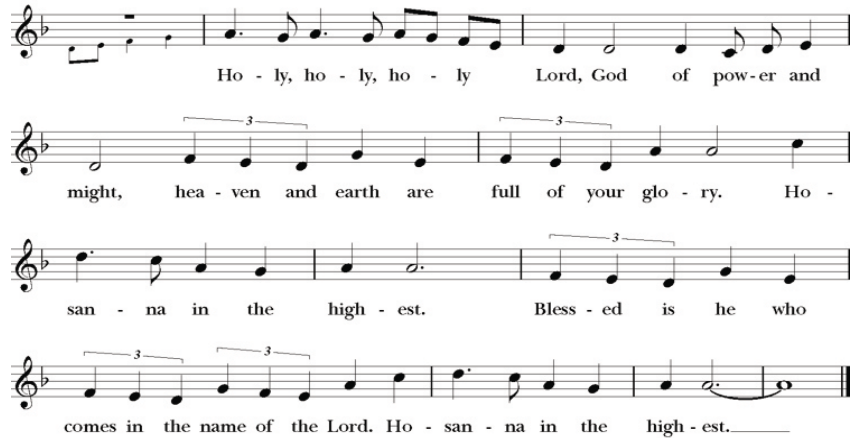
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS



All kneel as able.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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 for ever. **AMEN.**

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

People and Celebrant

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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant presents the holy gifts to the congregation saying

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.

The priest receives the Sacrament, and then serves the people with these words:

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

Communion is offered in both kinds at the communion rail or station on the floor.

Communicants may receive the wine by intinction or by drinking directly from the cup.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All kneel 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 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.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the people

Go now, and proclaim the reign of God.

Do not let bodily desires enslave you,
but live by the Spirit.

Use your freedom to grow in love for one another.

And may God reach out to you and save you;

May Christ Jesus give you a double portion of his Spirit;

And may the Holy Spirit bear fruit within you
and guide you in all your ways.

THE CLOSING HYMN 594 *God of grace and God of glory*

THE DISMISSAL

When the clergy have moved to the front door of the church, the Minister says

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

David Cherwien

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TODAY'S SERVERS

Clergy: The Reverend Dr. Duncan Johnston, *Rector*

Director of Children's Formation: Sarah Collier

Acolytes: Harlan White

Altar Guild: Ashley Hamlett

Lector and Intercessor: Radney Ramsey, Bill Harlow

Eucharistic Ministers: Virginia Banister, Kat Dailey, Tracey

Campbell, Betsy Cannon

Ushers/Greeters: Keith Miller, Rich Anderson, Liam McMullan,
Allison Prillaman

Flower Guild: Betsy Cannon, Mary Martin Mitchell

Flower Delivery Team: Emmi Harrell, Tracey Campbell

Altar Flowers given in memory of: John Joseph Schremser, II

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:

Rick Durden, Dave Funk, Mac Gipson, Emily Crump Johannes,

Valinda Johnson, Carma Marks, Richard McCrory,

Pat McDonald, Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Mosely,

Cameron Napier, Bud Nason, Elizabeth Potter, Jim Power,

Shirley Price, Johnny Smith, Scott Simmons, Debbie Steindorff,

Barbara Wallace

Prayers are also requested for these friends:

Emma Allshouse, Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, Matthew Daniel,

John Ferguson, Bob Geddie, Margaret Hixon, Stephanie Holmes,

Charles Lewis, Leslie Little, The Family of Sallie Millsap,

Karen Pacheco, Pam Slate, Ron Skoneki, Tade Smilie,

Madera Spenser, Chandler Taylor, Connie Thomas,

Katherine Weidner, Frank Winkler, Sharon Carney Wright

Please notify us when you are sick or hospitalized so that we might provide pastoral care. The prayer list will be updated monthly, please notify us if names need to remain longer.

Pastoral Care Team for July: Linda Hutchinson, Jean Smyth,

Elaine Galt, Mary Anne Durr, Renee Carlisle

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Ages Worship Service

Join us this summer (through Aug. 31) for a short, lively service for all ages. We'll sing, pray, have Communion together, and enjoy an interactive message from 9:30—10 a.m. in the third floor of the education building.

Summer Adult Formation Class

Join us for a new class: 'Digging Deeper - going beyond the sermon.' This is a chance to explore the depths of the Sunday Bible lessons. Each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the Small Dining Room Jon and Kat Dailey will host studies that will go deeper than a 15-minute sermon can. The atmosphere will be informal, accessible, and collegial. Please come and learn and share.

Bach's Lunch Summer Concert Series:

No Concert This Wednesday, July 2

Wednesdays this summer from 12:05-12:30 p.m., June 4-25 and July 9-30. Join us for a short concert and then enjoy lunch and fellowship in the Parish Hall. You may order a box lunch from the church website or bring your own brown bag lunch. A limited number of lunches will be available, so please pre-order by Monday at 2 p.m. See the Concerts tab on the St. John's website for more details.

Heavenly Hosts Adults covered dish supper Tuesday, July 8 from 6-8 p.m. Please bring your favorite covered dish and join us at the home of Radney and Kimberly Ramsey. Soft drinks will be provided by the church, but you are welcome to bring additional beverages

Visitors: Welcome! We are so glad you decided to visit with us today. Please use this QR code to provide us with some information about you and your family so that we can better serve you.

Visitor Card



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