Welcome to St. John's Church



The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost:

July 4, 2021 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME BACK TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP!

The health and safety of the most vulnerable in our congregation and community remains the highest concern to St. John's. Remember that many in our communities are not vaccinated; like most of those under 16 years old, those who are immuno-compromised, and those who have chosen not to be vaccinated for other reasons. While many are now vaccinated, remember that even a small percentage of those vaccinated can contract the corona virus, and while their symptoms may be milder, they can also spread the virus to loved ones and friends back home. We have not yet reached herd immunity as a nation. So please remain vigilant in safety protocols, mindful of the risk in our community, social distancing and getting vaccinated if possible. And be assured that we will continue to 'live stream' our worship to both our St. John's YouTube Pæe and our St. John's Facebook page.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Liturgy for the Proclamation of the Word of God and Celebration of the Holy Communion

The fully vaccinated need not wear face masks inside the church, if they do not wish to do so. Any who wish to may continue to wear them. And the unvaccinated are asked to stay masked.

Prelude My Country 'Tis of Thee

Come, Ye Sinners (American folk melody)

Steal Away (Spiritual)

Simple Gifts (American folk melody)

National Hymn Raymond Haan Gilbert Martin Dale Wood

Congregants are welcome to sing quietly with or without their masks

Opening Hymn # 636 How Firm A Foundation, Ye Saints Of The Lord

- How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
 What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you that for refuge to Jesus have fled?
- 2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!
 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
- 3 "When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.
- 4 "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
- 5 "The soul that to Jesus hath fled for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell shall endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant may say

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

The Celebrant says

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*.

Congregants are welcome to sing quietly with or without their masks

The Trisagion S # 102

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The Lessons

INTRODUCTION: In our first reading, David has become King of Judah, that is, of the southern tribes. In the north, Abner, once Saul's military commander, has made Ishbaal King of Israel, but recognizing a lost cause, he has switched to David's side. Ishbaal has been killed, leaving the northern tribes of Israel without a leader.

A Reading from the Second Scroll of the Prophet Samuel:

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who

led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inwards. And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

Congregants are welcome to recite the Psalm quietly with or without their masks

Psalm 48

- 1 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised; * in the city of our God is his holy hill.
- 2 Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, * the very center of the world and the city of the great King.
- 3 God is in her citadels; *
 he is known to be her sure refuge.
- 4 Behold, the kings of the earth assembled * and marched forward together.
- 5 They looked and were astounded; * they retreated and fled in terror.
- 6 Trembling seized them there; *
 they writhed like a woman in childbirth,
 like ships of the sea when the east wind shatters them.
- 7 As we have heard, so have we seen, in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God; * God has established her for ever.
- 8 We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, * in the midst of your temple.
- 9 Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end; * your right hand is full of justice.

10 Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, * because of your judgments.

11 Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about her; * count the number of her towers.

12 Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds; * that you may tell those who come after.

13 This God is our God for ever and ever; * he shall be our guide for evermore.

INTRODUCTION: Paul continues to rebut his critics. He now answers another of their claims to superiority. He has written: "If I must boast, I will boast of things that show my weakness".

A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

After each Reading, the Reader may say
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People Thanks be to God.

Congregants are welcome to sing quietly with or without their masks

Gradual Hymn # 635 If Thou But Trust In God To Guide Thee

If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through all thy ways, he'll give thee strength whate'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days. Who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on a rock that nought can move.
Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving; so do thine own part faithfully, and trust his word, though undeserving; thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God never yet forsook in need the soul that trusted him indeed.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

INTRODUCTION: In our gospel reading this morning, Jesus returns to his hometown of Nazareth and finds suspicion and a lack of faith.

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark *People Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to thee, O Christ.*

People

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Priest-in-Charge

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: and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. who 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

Come, let us join together as a nation in praising God, offering our prayers and petitions, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

+ Holy Spirit, pour your generosity into the hearts of the people of this country, that we may reach out to others in love and service, bringing hope to those living with anxiety and despair, and the bread of life that never fails to those who are hungry, lonely, and fearful, thankful for the work of the Washington Council of Congregations; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Heavenly Father, author of creation, the fruits of the earth are beautiful to our eyes, and delightful to our taste; help us to honor what your hands have fashioned in this land of ours; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Jesus, Word made flesh, help us take to heart God's grace and let us know that it is sufficient for all our endeavors, mindful always of the needs of the poor and suffering; and remembering the work of the Church, especially Hosam, the Archbishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Bartholomew, Patriarch of Constantinople; Francis, Bishop of Rome; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Ian and Laura, our Bishops, Fr. Geoff, our priest, and for all the members of this congregation; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Redeemer of the world, banish the unclean spirits of this nation, that war and deprivation may cease, and that through the power of your Holy Spirit the world may receive your unwavering peace; remembering especially António, Secretary General of the United Nations, Joe, our President, Ned our Governor, Jim, the First Selectman of the town of Washington, and for the members of our Congresses and Courts; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Spirit of Truth, help us to see our sins and to dispel their power, that we may turn to your forgiveness, and bear witness to your liberating love for all; remembering especially those for whom our prayers are asked, Mary Jo Keating, Marlene Smith, Tom Witt, Ed and Zemma White, Kathy Coe, Diana Clark, Lisa Lafleur and all who are housebound especially Janet Chenery, Joan Beattie, and Ken Hecken; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

+ Father of all mercies, your breath animated creation; bring eternal life to those who now rest in faith, remembering especially the more than 600,000 Americans

who have perished in this pandemic, and those who have died in the building collapse in Florida, that at the last they may all rise to the life immortal; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

In the company of angels, archangels, and all the saints, let us continue our prayers, pausing now so that all may add their prayers or petitions, either silently in their hearts or out loud in our midst.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

The Almighty and most merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*.

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Congregants are welcome to sing quietly with or without their masks

Offertory Hymn # 671

Amazing Grace!

- Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

 I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
- 3 The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
- 4 Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come; 'tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant faces the congregation and sings or says

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 unto our Lord God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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.

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:

Celebrant and People S# 130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John, our Patron and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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*.

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

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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 will be distributed in one kind only, the bread, and will be received in the pews, so it is very important that attendees sit in every other pew as designated, so that the Celebrant can move along in the empty pews to share. If an attendee does not wish to receive Communion, they need only to cross their hands over their chest so to signify. Others may receive as they wish, standing, kneeling, or seated. Please wait until the Celebrant has passed before removing your masks and consuming the bread.

Communion Anthems sung by the Choral Group

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing

The peace of God, which surpasses 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 Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen*.

Congregants are welcome to sing quietly with or without their masks

Closing Hymn # 719 O Beautiful For Spacious Skies

O beautiful for spacious skies,
 for amber waves of grain,
 for purple mountain majesties
 above the fruited plain!
 America! America!
 God shed his grace on thee,
 and crown thy good with brotherhood
 from sea to shining sea.
 O beautiful for heroes proved
 in liberating strife,
 who more than self their country loved,
 and mercy more than life!
 America! America!

God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.

3 O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.

The Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude God Of Our Fathers

National Hymn

The flowers on the High Altar today are given to the Glory of God

Anyone may reserve altar flowers on a particular Sunday for memorials.

The Altar Flower Chart is in the Parish Hall.

for online worshippers, here is the Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer our praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest desire that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you physically, we ask you to come into our hearts spiritually. We embrace you with all the affections of our souls, confident that nothing can ever separate us from the love God, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

78 Green Hill Road Washington, CT 06793

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Celebrant*Jon Lafleur, *Organist*Bob & Sara Coles, Jeannette Hicks, Jill & Marty Sauser, *Choir*John Magee, 8:00 Reader
Hunter Brown, 10:00 Reader
Laura Daly, *Veejay (VJ)*The Flower Guild: Julia Metcalf, *Altar Flowers*Susie Magee, MB Witt: *Altar Guild*MB Witt, Laura Daly: *Coffee Hour*

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St. John's Website:

http://stjohnswashington.com/

St. John's Facebook Page:

https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT

St. John's YouTube Page:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg