

Welcome to St. John's Church



The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost:

*September 12, 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, masked indoors, 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 Page 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

In accordance with the guidelines of the CDC and the CT Department of Health, St. John's asks everyone to wear masks inside the church, whether vaccinated or not.

Prelude	<i>What is this lovely fragrance?</i>	Lovelace
	<i>Serenade to the Holy Family</i>	Berlioz
	<i>Voluntary in F</i>	John Stanley
	<i>Flute Piece</i>	Thomas Thorley

Opening Hymn # 618 *Ye Watchers And Ye Holy Ones*

- 1** *Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
raise the glad strain, Alleluia!
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, powers,
virtues, archangels, angels' choirs,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*
- 2** *O higher than the cherubim,
more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises, Alleluia!
Thou bearer of the eternal Word,
most gracious, magnify the Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*
- 3** *Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
ye patriarchs and prophets blest,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong,
all saints triumphant, raise the song,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*
- 4** *O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluia, alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

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.***

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, 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.***

The Lessons

INTRODUCTION: Our Old Testament reading offers reflection upon the characteristics of a godly life drawn from the wisdom literature attributed to King Solomon.

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs:

Wisdom cries out in the street;

in the squares she raises her voice.

At the busiest corner she cries out;

at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:

“How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?”

How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
and fools hate knowledge?
Give heed to my reproof;
I will pour out my thoughts to you;
I will make my words known to you.
Because I have called and you refused,
have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,
and because you have ignored all my counsel
and would have none of my reproof,
I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when panic strikes you,
when panic strikes you like a storm,
and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come upon you.
Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;
they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.
Because they hated knowledge
and did not choose the fear of the LORD,
would have none of my counsel,
and despised all my reproof,
therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way
and be sated with their own devices.
For waywardness kills the simple,
and the complacency of fools destroys them;
but those who listen to me will be secure
and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

After each Reading, the Reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

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

Silence may follow.

Psalm 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.*
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.*
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,*
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.*
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.*
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.*
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.*
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.*
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.*
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.*
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.*
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.*
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.*
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.*

INTRODUCTION: In the Epistle of St. James, the author continues his exhortation regarding Christian conduct. Now he rebukes teachers for intemperate speech and an unbridled tongue.

A Reading from the Epistle of St. James:

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

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

Gradual Hymn # 398 *I Sing The Almighty Power Of God*

1 *I sing the almighty power of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.*

*I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at his command,
and all the stars obey.*

2 *I sing the goodness of the Lord,
that filled the earth with food;
he formed the creatures with his Word,*

*and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!*

*3 There's not a plant or flower below,
but makes thy glories known;
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne;
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that I could be,
thou, God, art present there.*

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

INTRODUCTION: In our gospel this morning, Jesus and his disciples have retreated from the crowd to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, where Jesus asks his disciple, 'Who do people say that I am?'

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

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful

generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to thee, O Christ.

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

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork, as we join together in the offering of our intercessions, responding to each petition by saying, "Savior, be with us."

+ For the gift of wisdom, that the Church, the community of the baptized, may be a of mercy and generosity to those who live in the sad corners of poverty and despair in our community, remembering especially the work of the Washington Council of Congregations; let us pray.

Savior, be with us.

+ For peace among peoples and nations, remembering especially António, Secretary General of the United Nations, Joe, our President, Ned our Governor, Jim, the First Selectman of the town of Washington, the members of our Congresses and Courts, that words of blessing may overcome curses, and the power of God spare us from the temptations of self-interest; let us pray.

Savior, be with us.

+ For those who cast aspersions upon others with unbridled tongues, that we may deny themselves the luxury of gossip, pick up our cross, and follow in the ways of Jesus; let us pray.

Savior, be with us.

+ For a spiritual renewal amongst Christians throughout the western world, remembering 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, that we may express a joyful faith and attract others to become followers of the Way. Also bless and grant the Bishop Transition Committee the gifts of wisdom, humility, and empathy as they discern your will for a new shepherd, inspirational leader, and willing advocate as we further your work in the Episcopal Church in CT; let us pray.

Savior, be with us.

+ For those who struggling with the covid virus in overcrowded hospitals, overwhelmed nursing facilities, homeless shelters, and alone at home, for those struggling to rebuild their lives, especially in the wake of Hurricane Ida, and in

Haiti, in Afghanistan, and throughout this nation, remembering especially those for whom our prayers are asked, Mary Jo Keating, Marlene Smith, Tom Witt, Kathy Coe, Diana Clark, Lisa Lafleur, Ken Hecken, in quarantine and rehabilitation, and all who are housebound especially Janet Chenery and Joan Beattie; let us pray.

Savior, be with us.

+ For the faithful departed, especially the more than 1,500 Americans dying needlessly each day from this pandemic, that they may be received into the glorious company of the saints in light; let us pray.

Savior, be with us.

Joining our prayers with those who call for sound judicial systems and honest government, we continue our petitions.

With God's mercy to temper our judgments, let us continue our prayers and thanksgivings, pausing now so that all may add their own petitions or thanksgiving, either silently in their hearts or aloud in our midst.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, for health and fidelity, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, without shame, blame, or criticism, so that we may all work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***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*

Offertory Hymn # 379 *God Is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him*

- 1** *God is Love, let heaven adore him;
God is Love, let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him
and exalt him with one voice.
God who laid the earth's foundation,
God who spread the heaven above,
God who breathes through all creation:
God is Love, eternal Love.*
- 2** *God is Love; and Love enfolds us,
all the world in one embrace:
with unfailing grasp God holds us,
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then we find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.*
- 3** *God is Love; and though with blindness
sin afflicts all human life,
God's eternal loving-kindness
guides us through our earthly strife.*

*Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.*

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.*

This is God's table, not ours. All are welcome here.

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.

for online worshippers, and for those who for other reasons choose not to receive, 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 are not now receiving 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.

Communion Hymns:

sung by the Choir

*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.***

Closing Hymn # 404 *We Will Extol You, Ever-Blessèd Lord*

- 1 We will extol you, ever-blessèd Lord;
your holy Name for ever be adored;
each day we live our psalm to you we raise;
you, God and King, are worthy of all praise,
great and unsearchable in all your ways.***
- 2 Age shall to age pass on the endless song,
telling the wonders which to you belong,
your mighty acts with joy and fear relate;
praise we your glory while on you we wait,
glad in the knowledge of your love so great.***
- 3 You, Lord, are gracious, merciful to all,
close to your children when on you they call;
and slow to anger, merciful and kind,
in your compassion we your blessings find.
We love you with our heart and strength and mind.***

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

Postlude *Fanfare March*

Thomas Donahue

***The flowers on the High Altar today are given to the Glory of God
and in thanksgiving for gifts and ministry of Jon Lafleur***

*Anyone may reserve altar flowers on a particular Sunday for memorials.
The Altar Flower Chart is in the Parish Hall.*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
78 Green Hill Road
Washington, CT 06793

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Celebrant*

Jon Lafleur, *Organist*

Hunter Brown, Bob & Sara Coles, Laura Daly, Jeannette Hicks, Ann Hodgman,
Kristi Kunhardt, Susan Mullins, Jill & Marty Sauser, Charles Morgan, *Choir*

John Magee, *8:00 Reader*

Laura Daly, *10:00 Reader*

Larry Littlefield, *Veejay (VJ)*

Ginny Reynolds, MB Witt: *Altar Guild*

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St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>

St. John's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT>

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