

Welcome to St. John's Church



The Seventh Sunday Of Easter: The Sunday After Ascension Day

***Saturday, May 20, 2023
5:00 p.m.***

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**78 Green Hill Road
Washington, CT 06793**

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527

Parish Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

St. John's Email: stjohnschurch@snet.net

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

*Children's activity bags are available on the bench by the Baptistry.
Please return them after the Service.*

*There is a furnished children's room downstairs with soft toys and rugs,
and audio of the Service, if parents wish to use it.*

***There is an Ice Cream Social Reception for all
in the Parish Hall, following the Service!***

A SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER

There is a Reception for all in the Parish Hall, following the Service,

Prelude

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

All stand

Officiant O God, be not far from us.

People ***Come quickly to help us, O God.***

Officiant and People

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


Opening Hymn # 711 *Seek Ye First The Kingdom Of God*

***1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you: Allelu, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Allelu, alleluia!***

***2. Ask, and it shall be given unto you, seek, and ye shall find, knock,
and the door shall be opened unto you; Allelu, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Allelu, alleluia!***

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36 *the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain*

Refrain



Sing to God, O king-doms of the earth; sing prais-es to the Lord.

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of
God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!

- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!

The Readings

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While the apostles were still with Jesus, they asked him, “Lord, are you now going to give Israel its own king again?” Jesus said to them, “You don’t need to know the time of those events that only the Father controls. But the Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power. Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and everywhere in the world.” After Jesus had said this and while they were watching, he was taken up into a cloud. They could not see him, but as he went up, they kept looking up into the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes were standing there beside them. They said, “Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken to heaven. But he will come back in the same way you have seen him go.” The Mount of Olives was about a kilometer from Jerusalem. The apostles who

had gone there were Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon, known as the Eager One, and Judas the son of James. After the apostles returned to the city, they went upstairs to the room where they had been staying. The apostles often met together and prayed with a single purpose in mind. The women and Mary the mother of Jesus would meet with them, and so would his brothers.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle *Nunc Dimittis* James Hawkins (c.1662-1729)

*Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

Dear friends, don't be surprised or shocked that you are going through testing that is like walking through fire. Be glad for the chance to suffer as Christ suffered. It will prepare you for even greater happiness when he makes his glorious return. Count it a blessing when you suffer for being a Christian. This shows that God's glorious Spirit is with you. Be humble in the presence of God's mighty power, and he will honor you when the time comes. God cares for you, so turn all your worries over to him. Be on your guard and stay awake. Your enemy, the devil, is like a roaring lion, sneaking around to find someone to attack. But you must resist the devil and stay strong in your faith. You know that all over the world the Lord's followers are suffering just as you are. But God shows undeserved kindness to everyone. That's why he appointed Christ Jesus to choose you to share in his eternal glory. You will suffer for a while, but God will make you complete, steady, strong, and firm. God will be in control forever! Amen.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

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

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory Anthem

Children's Blessing

Jason Shelton

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

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 all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

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

The People may add their own thanksgivings

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.

The People may add their own petitions

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.

Leader and People

***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.***

Officiant: May Almighty God grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of God's holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn

This Little Light Of Mine

This lit - tle light of mine
Ev - 'ry - where I go

I'm gon-na let it shine!
I'm gon-na let it shine!

Gon-na let it shine! Gon-na let it

3

This lit - tle light of mine
Ev - 'ry - where I go

I'm gon-na let it shine!
I'm gon-na let it shine!

shine! Gon-na let it shine, shine, I'm gon-na let it

5

This lit - tle light of mine
Ev - 'ry - where I go

I'm gon-na let it shine!
I'm gon-na let it shine!

shine! Gon-na let it shine, shine, shine,

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics that are easy to remember. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody. The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number (1, 3, 5, and 7) indicating the start of a new line of music. The lyrics are written below the vocal line, and the piano part is written below the vocal line. The score ends with a double bar line.

*African-American Spiritual, arranged by Tom Brand
Copyright © 2023 Thomas Brand, used by permission*

Concluding Sentence

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** (Ephesians 3:20,21)

Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Officiant*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

MB Witt: *Altar Guild, Reception Hostess*

MB Witt: *Ushers*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

78 Green Hill Road

Washington, CT 06793

Staff

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

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*

Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

Vestry

Mary Davis, Jay Bauer: *Wardens*

David Gillespie: *Treasurer*

Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*

Laura Daly: *Clerk*

Class of 2023

Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Joseph Claro

Class of 2024

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

Class of 2025

Worth Bracken, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt

Laura Daly: **Alternate**