

Welcome to St. John's Church



The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost:

August 13, 2023
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.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*, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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

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

St. John's YouTube Page:

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

MORNING PRAYER

Organ Prelude

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 493 *O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing*

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

The Invitatory and Psalter

The people standing, the Officiant may say

Officiant O God, open our lips.

People ***And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.***

Officiant and People

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Hymn # 391

Psalm 100

1 Be - fore the Lord's e - ter - nal throne, ye
2 His sov - ereign Power with - out our aid formed
3 We are his peo - ple, we his care, our
4 We'll crowd thy gates with thank - ful songs, high
5 Wide as the world is thy com - mand, vast

1 na - tions, bow with sa - cred joy; know that the Lord is
2 us of clay and gave us breath; and when like wan - dering
3 souls, and all our mor - tal frame; what last - ing hon - ors
4 as the heavens our voic - es raise; and earth, with her ten
5 as e - ter - ni - ty thy love; firm as a rock thy

1 God a - lone; he can cre - ate, and he des - troy.
2 sheep we strayed, he saved us from the power of death.
3 shall we rear, al - might - y Ma - ker, to thy Name?
4 thou - sand tongues, shall fill thy courts with sound - ing praise.
5 truth must stand, when roll - ing years shall cease to move.

The congregation may wish to sit for the Psalm

Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b

the congregation is invited to say the Psalm together in unison

***1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.***

- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.*
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.*
- 4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.*
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,*
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.*
- 16 Then he called for a famine in the land *
and destroyed the supply of bread.*
- 17 He sent a man before them, *
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.*
- 18 They bruised his feet in fetters; *
his neck they put in an iron collar.*
- 19 Until his prediction came to pass, *
the word of the LORD tested him.*
- 20 The king sent and released him; *
the ruler of the peoples set him free.*
- 21 He set him as a master over his household,
as a ruler over all his possessions,*
- 22 To instruct his princes according to his will
and to teach his elders wisdom.*
- 45 Hallelujah!*

The Readings

INTRODUCTION: Our Hebrew scripture is the story of Jacob sending his favorite son Joseph to assist his older brothers shepherding the flock.

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis: (37:1-4, 12-28)

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he

was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle # 9

The First song Of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

*Surely, it is God who saves me; **

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

*For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, **

and he will be my Savior.

*Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing **

from the springs of salvation.
*And on that day you shall say, **
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
*Make his deeds known among the peoples; **
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
*Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, **
and this is known in all the world.
*Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, **
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of 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.

INTRODUCTION: In this second reading, Paul teaches that the word of faith is a gift from God.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans: (10:5-15)

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn # 685

Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Should my tears for ev - er flow, should my zeal no lan - guor know,
3 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side that flowed,
all for sin could not a - tone: thou must save, and thou a - lone;
when I rise to worlds un - known and be - hold thee on thy throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
in my hand no price I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

The image shows a three-system musical score for the hymn 'Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me'. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The music is in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line, with three verses. The first system contains the first three lines of the first verse. The second system contains the first three lines of the second verse. The third system contains the first three lines of the third verse. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

INTRODUCTION: Our third reading is the story of Jesus' walking on the water and his rescue of Peter after his faith fails him.

A Reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew: (14:22-33)

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It

is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Ann Hodgman, *licensed Preacher*

The Creed Of The United Church of Canada

*We are not alone,
we live in God's world.*

*We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.*

We trust in God.

*We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.*

*In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.*

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

The Prayers

Officiant God be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

***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 Suffrages

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. ***And grant us your salvation.***
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. ***Let your people sing with you.***
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. ***For only in you can we live in safety.***
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. ***And guide us in the way of justice and truth.***
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. ***Your saving health among all nations.***
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. ***Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.***
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. ***And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.***

The Collect of the Day

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.. Amen.*

A Collect for Sunday

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our own hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love you: for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

Offertory Hymn # 380 *From All That Dwell Below The Skies*

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

An offering to God will be collected during the singing of this hymn.

Officiant: Let us continue our prayers, pausing now so that all may add their own prayers or petitions, either silently in their hearts or aloud in our midst.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Then may be said

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Closing Hymn # 411

O Bless The Lord, My Soul!

1 O bless the Lord, my soul! His grace to thee pro - claim!
 2 O bless the Lord, my soul! His mer - cies bear in mind!
 3 He will not al - ways chide; he will with pa - tience wait;
 4 He par - dons all thy sins, pro - longs thy fee - ble breath;
 5 He clothes thee with his love, up - holds thee with his truth;

1 And all that is with - in me join to bless his ho - ly Name!
 2 For - get not all his ben - e - fits! The Lord to thee is kind.
 3 his wrath is ev - er slow to rise and rea - dy to a - bate.
 4 he heal - eth thine in - fir - mi - ties and ran - soms thee from death.
 5 and like the ea - gle he re - news the vi - gor of thy youth.

6 Then bless his holy Name,
 whose grace hath made thee whole,
 whose loving-kindness crowns thy days:
 O bless the Lord, my soul!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.* *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Organ Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

Tom Hollinger: 8:00 *Officiant*
 Laura Daly: 10:00 *Officiant*
 Ann Hodgman: *Preacher*
 Emily Souza: *Organist*
 John Magee: 8:00 *Reader*
 Sara Coles: 10:00 *Reader*
 Laura Daly: *Veejay (VJ)*
 Susie Magee, Corinne Johnson: *Altar Guild*
 Natalie Dyer, Bob Futh: *Ushers*
 Sara Coles, Corrine Johnson: *Coffee Hosts*