

Welcome to St. John's Church



Orazio Gentileschi, Prado, 1633

The Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost:

August 27, 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/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

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

Organ Prelude

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 423

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

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

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
 Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on 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.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Readings

INTRODUCTION: Our Hebrew scripture reveals that a new king arises in Egypt who oppresses the population of Hebrews, ordering all the Hebrew boys are to be killed at birth.

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus (1:8-2:10)

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live." Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister

said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

After each Reading, the Reader may say
The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 124

***1 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;***

***2 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;***

***3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;***

***4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;***

***5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.***

***6 Blessed be the LORD! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.***

***7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.***

***8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.***

INTRODUCTION: In this reading, Paul urges Christians in Rome to devote themselves to God's service and to recognize that with different functions they are all members of one body.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (12:1-8)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think

with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn # 529 *In Christ There Is No East Or West*

*1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.*

*2 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
Who serves my Father as his child
is surely kin to me.*

*3 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.*

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

INTRODUCTION: In the Gospel reading, Peter realizes that Jesus is the Christ, and Jesus then sees Peter as the rock foundation for his church, and gives to him the keys to the kingdom.

**The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ
according to St. Matthew (16:13-20)**

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on

earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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

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 of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers

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 you absolution and remission of all your sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of God's 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 # 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 - risel 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.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus S # 125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer

Then the Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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 said

We break this bread
to share in the Body of Christ.
***We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.***

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.

Those wishing to receive Communion should come forward to the Altar rail as directed. The Celebrant will intinct the wafer in the chalice and place the consecrated host in the open hands or upon the tongue of the communicant, as desired.

NOTE: St. John's will return to offering the chalice of wine to all communicants, starting in September, who will have the options then 1) to simply sip from the chalice, 2) or to leave the consecrated wafer in their hands, so the priest could instinct it in the wine for them and place it again on their extended hands or upon the tongue, as desired, or 3) to cross ones' arms over the chest to indicate they did not wish to receive the wine in any fashion. Please begin to think of what practice you are most comfortable with.

for online worshippers, here is a 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 Hymn # 313 *Let Thy Blood In Mercy Poured*

1 Let thy Blood in mer - cy poured, let thy gra - cious
 2 Thou didst die that I might live; bless - ed Lord, thou
 3 By the thorns that crowned thy brow, by the spear-wound
 4 Wilt thou own the gift I bring? All my pen - i -

Bo - dy bro - ken, be to me, O gra - cious Lord,
 cam'st to save me; all that love of God could give
 and the nail - ing, by the pain and death, I now
 tence I give thee; thou art my ex - alt - ed King,

Refrain

of thy bound-less love the to - ken.
 Jes - us by his sor - rows gave me. Thou didst give thy -
 claim, O Christ, thy love un - fail - ing.
 of thy match-less love for - give me.

self for me, now I give my - self to thee.

After Communion, the Celebrant says
 Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us

one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

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

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn LEVAS # 109

What A Friend We Have In Jesus



1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y - where?
3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum-bered with a load of care?



1. What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
2. We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, Take it to the Lord in prayer.



1. Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, Oh, what need-less pain we bear,
2. Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
3. Do thy friends de-spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



1. All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
2. Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. In his arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Organ Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant*

Emily D. Souza: *Organist*

Jay Bauer: *8:00 Reader*

Ann Hodgman: *10:00 Reader*

Ann Hodgman: *Chalicer*

Joseph Claro: *VeeJay (VJ)*

MB Witt, Sara Coles: *Altar Guild*

Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers/Greeter*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**