

Welcome to St. John's Church



The Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

10:00 a.m.

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*

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/>

St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

HOLY COMMUNION

*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.*

Prelude *Euge Serve Bone* Orazio Vecchi (1550-1605)

Translation: "Well done, good and faithful servant: because thou hast been faithful over a few things, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. Faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath appointed over his family, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 397 *Now Thank We All Our God*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are as follows:

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voic - es,
2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us!
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,
who won - drous things hath done, in whom his world re - joic - es;
With ev - er - joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est hea - ven,
who from our mo - ther's arms hath blessed us on our way
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
e - ter - nal, Tri - une God, whom earth and heaven a - dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ev - er - more.

The Word of God

Celebrant Blessed be our God.

People ***For ever and ever. 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 Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The Readings

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

I don't need to write you about the time or date when all this will happen. You surely know that the Lord's return will be as a thief coming at night. People will think they are safe and secure. But destruction will suddenly strike them like the pains of a woman about to give birth. And they won't escape. My dear friends, you don't live in darkness, and so that day won't surprise you like a thief. You belong to the light and live in the day. We don't live in the night or belong to the dark. Others may sleep, but we should stay awake and be alert. People sleep during the night, and some even get drunk. But we belong to the day. So we must stay sober and let our faith and love be like a suit of armor. Our firm hope that we will be saved is our helmet. God doesn't intend to punish us, but wants us to be saved by our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ died for us, so we could live with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes. This is why you must encourage and help each other, just as you are already doing.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

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

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

Psalm 123

the congregation is invited to stand and sing the Psalm

- 1. To you, O Lord, we lift our eyes,
To you enthroned in heaven above;
As servants wait for those they serve,
So we look up and wait God's love.*
- 2. Have mercy on us now, O Lord;
Contempt has been our lot too long.
Too long have we been mocked and scorned,
Derided by the proud and strong.*

Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

A Reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew (25:14-30)

The kingdom of heaven is like a man who was leaving on a trip. He called his servants and handed his possessions over to them. To one he gave five valuable coins, and to another he gave two, and to another he gave one. He gave to each servant according to that servant's ability. Then he left on his journey. After the man left, the servant who had five valuable coins took them and went to work doing business with them. He gained five more. In the same way, the one who had

two valuable coins gained two more. But the servant who had received the one valuable coin dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five valuable coins came forward with five additional coins. He said, 'Master, you gave me five valuable coins. Look, I've gained five more.' His master replied, 'Excellent! You are a good and faithful servant! You've been faithful over a little. I'll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.' The second servant also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two valuable coins. Look, I've gained two more.' His master replied, 'Well done! You are a good and faithful servant. You've been faithful over a little. I'll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.' Now the one who had received one valuable coin came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a hard man. You harvest grain where you haven't sown. You gather crops where you haven't spread seed. So I was afraid. And I hid my valuable coin in the ground. Here, you have what's yours.' His master replied, 'You evil and lazy servant! You knew that I harvest grain where I haven't sown and that I gather crops where I haven't spread seed? In that case, you should have turned my money over to the bankers so that when I returned, you could give me what belonged to me with interest. Therefore, take from him the valuable coin and give it to the one who has ten coins. Those who have much will receive more, and they will have more than they need. But as for those who don't have much, even the little bit they have will be taken away from them. Now take the worthless servant and throw him out into the farthest darkness.' People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

A Children's Homily

Fr. Geoffrey, Priest-in-Charge

The children are invited to come forward and sit on the chancel steps for the homily.

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.*

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.

Silence

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.

Silence

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.

Silence

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.

Silence may be kept.

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.***

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of God be always with you.

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

The Holy Communion

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

Offertory Anthem *Peace and Harmony*

(Traditional)

The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

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

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to God.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord God.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. 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 S # 154

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.



Agnus Dei

Tom Brand

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for you, the Beloved People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive Communion in this place. This is God's house and the Lord's table, not ours

INSTRUCTIONS: Those wishing to receive Communion should come forward to the Altar rail as directed. Please speak with an Usher if you need to receive Communion in the pew. The consecrated host will be placed in the hands of the recipient. If they wish intinction, then the chalice bearer will take the host and dip it in the wine for them. Otherwise, communicants may sip from the chalice, assisting by taking hold of its base. If the communicant does not wish to receive the wine, one can simply cross their arms across their chest so to indicate.

Gluten free wafers are available. Just ask at the altar rail if you wish one.

Communion 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!***

Let us pray.

The People 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

May the peace of God, which passes 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 amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn LEVAS # 221

This Little Light Of Mine

1. This lit - tle light of mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it
 2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, _____ I'm gon - na let it
 3. Je - sus gave it to me, _____ I'm gon - na let it

Oh _____

1. shine, _____ This lit - tle light of mine,
 2. shine, _____ Ev - 'ry - where I go,
 3. shine, _____ Je - sus gave it to me,

Oh _____

1. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ This lit - tle light of
 2. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ Ev - 'ry - where I
 3. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ Je - sus gave it to

Oh _____

1. mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
 2. go, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
 3. me, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it

Oh _____

1. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____
 2. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____
 3. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____

Let us bless the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

Worship Ministers Today:

Celebrant: The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman

Organist & Choirmaster: Tom Brand

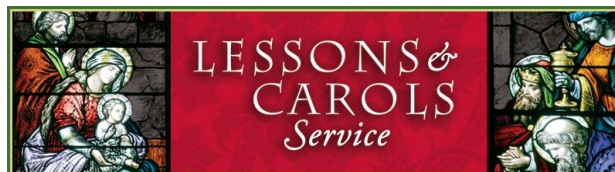
10:00 Reader: Laura Daly

VeeJay & Chalice: Laura Daly

Altar Guild: MB Witt, Camille Gillespie, Corinne Johnson

Ushers/Greeters: Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer

Coffee Hour Hosts: Susie Markert, Alec Purves



SUNDAY

December 17, 2023

4:00 p.m.