

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ANTE-COMMUNION: RITE II
SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 AT 10:00AM



Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church in downtown Lancaster. Whether it be in person or online, we are grateful to worship with you. During this time when we are called to practice social distancing and mask wearing, we pray you will find St. John's to be a place of hope and connection. We believe God is at work in our lives and in our community and invites us to join in the healing and reconciliation of the world. Please know there is a place for you in the life and ministry of St. John's. To explore the various ways to stay connected please check our [Website](#), [Facebook](#) page, and [YouTube](#) channel for additional information and resources. As always if you need prayer, encouragement, or community our door is always open.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

Gather us in

OPENING HYMN

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

HYMN 690

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -
strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

OPENING ACCLAMATION**BCP 355**

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY**BCP 355**

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 (*spoken*)**BCP 356**

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**BCP 230**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

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.*

FIRST LESSON: EXODUS 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty.

The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.” Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 114

¹ Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

² Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

³ The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.

⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

⁶ You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸ Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall.

And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

O bless the Lord, my soul

HYMN 411

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.

GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 18:21-35

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON

THE REV. AMANDA R. KNOUSE

THE NICENE CREED *(Please stand)*

BCP 358

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man. (*pause*)
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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We lift up St. James Exchange and St. John in the Wilderness, Eagles Mere in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer and in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Anglican Church of South America. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; we pray for Donald, our President; Tom, our Governor; and Danene, our Mayor, we pray also for all those serving in the armed forces; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially Ty and Carole, give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We invite your own prayers of intercessions and thanksgivings at this time.

Celebrant O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE CONFESSION

BCP 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE *(take a moment to send someone a text, an email, or post on social media!)*

BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

COMMISSIONING OF THE TEACHERS

THE OFFERTORY

Thank you for your continual support of the mission and ministry of St. John's. Contributions can be placed in the offertory plate as you exit, given online on our website, or mailed to the church office (321 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster, PA 17603). Again, THANK YOU!

MUSICAL OFFERING *I will celebrate*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

Officiant 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.

PRAYER FOR WHEN WE CANNOT RECEIVE HOLY EUCHARIST

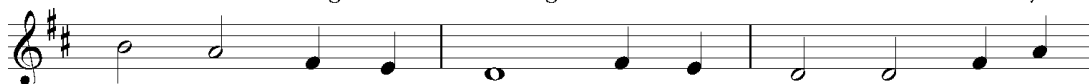
In union, O Lord Jesus Christ, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, we join in offering the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving to you. We present to you ourselves, our souls and our bodies, with the earnest longing that we may ever be united to you. And since we cannot receive the Holy Sacrament, come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves to you, and love you with all our hearts, with all our souls, with all our minds, and with all our strength. Let nothing ever separate us from you. Let us live and die in your love. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



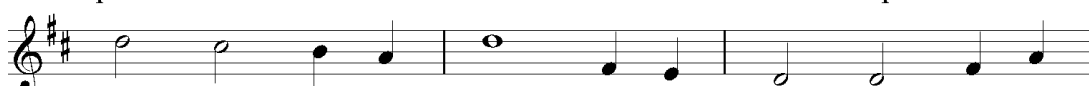
heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



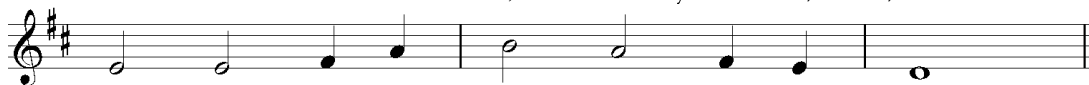
ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

GOOD NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Jesus lead on

UPCOMING MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

10:00 a.m.	Ante-Communion Rite II
11:00 a.m.	Virtual Coffee Hour (Zoom)
11:15 a.m.	Property Committee Meeting (Becker House)
2:00 p.m.	Women's Gathering (Long's Park)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

9:00 a.m.	The Village Training Meeting (Parish Hall)
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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
2:30 p.m.	Food Pantry
6:00 p.m.	VH Dance (Auditorium)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

10:00 a.m.	The Village (Morning Session)
12:00 p.m.	Ante-Communion, Rite II with Healing Prayers (Sanctuary)
12:30 p.m.	The Village (Afternoon Session)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

2:30 p.m.	Food Pantry
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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

10:00 a.m.	Ante-Communion Rite II
11:00 a.m.	Virtual Coffee Hour (Zoom)
11:30 a.m.	Vestry Meeting (Parish Hall)

Weekly Support Ministries

AA:	Tuesday - 6:00 -7:00 p.m. (All Purpose Room)
NA:	Wednesday - 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. (All Purpose Room)

FOOD PANTRY— Thank you for your continual support of our food pantry ministry. Your donations allow us to feed so many neighbors struggling to make ends meet during this difficult time. Thank you for being good news to those in need. We are currently in need of toiletry items, cereal, pasta, and canned goods. (please leave on the back porch of Becker House).

BOX TOPS— As part of St. John's partnership with Fulton Elementary School, we have collected and submitted Box Tops for Education. A year or so ago, that program switched to an electronic one (allowing submissions of scanned receipts through a smartphone app). However, they're still accepting the clipped coupons from products that bear them. If you've continued to clip and saving those coupons, please bring or mail them to church sometime in September, and we'll take them all to Fulton for one last submission. (Please check expiration dates first – thanks!)

THE COMMISSIONING OF TEACHERS

Officiant: You have been called to share the stories of faith with the people of this parish. You are charged to do this with gentleness and insight as the Spirit guides you in your words and witness. Through your teaching and example, the faith of our community will be nurtured and deepened. Do you promise to give yourself to this calling and to serve with diligence, energy, and love?

Teachers: *I will, with God's help.*

Officiant: God of grace, pour out your Holy Spirit on these your servants, that they may be faithful teachers in the church. Give them ears to hear the Holy Spirit's leading; anoint their lips to speak your truth with power. In everything, give them the mind of Christ, who taught in deed as well as in word. Give them joy in their work, and a sure sense of your abiding presence for their work of ministry; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

TEACHERS & CLASSES

AGE 4—GRADE 5

Jenn Hreben
Janelle Stone

MIDDLES (GRADES 6-8)

Sue Dodge

SR. HIGH YOUTH

Dawn Williams
Mike Williams
John Knouse

ADULT FORMATION

Matt MacDougall+
Amanda Knouse+

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PRESENTS

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

CALLING ALL YOUTH
GRADES: PRE-K - 8TH

BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH -
CHILDREN'S CHAPEL AT ST. JOHN'S
FROM 10:00AM - 11:00AM

2ND - 5TH SUNDAYS -
CHILDREN'S CHURCH ON ZOOM
FROM 9:00AM - 9:50AM

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR CHILD AT
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/STJREGISTRATION](https://tinyurl.com/stjregistration)

OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

The Rt. Rev. Audrey C. Scanlan, Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Amanda Knouse, Rector
amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Matt MacDougall, Associate Rector
matt@stjohns-lancaster.org

VESTRY

Debbie Carter (Senior Warden), Webb Cook (Junior Warden), Sue Heilman,
Tim Huber, Molly Moyer, Nicole Pham, Heather Trenary,
John Gouveia, Joe Way, Annie Lattanzio Hale

STAFF

Equilla Curry, Parish Administrator
Gina Keiser, Financial Secretary
Paul Reese, Minister of Music
Richard Kuhn, Sexton
Maria Weaver-Hollowniczky, Nursery and Security

PRIESTS AND CANONS ASSOCIATED WITH ST. JOHN'S

Canon William F. Honaman, DHL
The Rev. William Archer
The Rev. Faith D'Urbano
The Rev. Elizabeth Mollard

SERVING AT THE LITURGY

Celebrant
Preacher
Lector
Ushers

Web Streaming

The Rev. Matt MacDougall
The Rev. Amanda R. Knouse
Susan Tobie
Webb Cook, Charlie Rahe
Julie Rodriguez, Ian Thompson
Joe Way

GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE