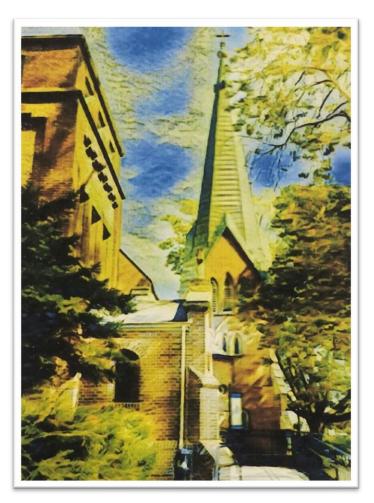
THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Holy Eucharist: Rite II September 17^{TH} at 10:15 A.M.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. John's is an Open and Affirming congregation. In faithfulness to Jesus and His commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves, we invite everyone to celebrate with us in the full life and ministry of the Church. We believe strongly in our mission statement to Grow in God, Act in Service, and Witness in Love.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Our Rite II service comes from the Book of Common Prayer and is filled with vibrant music, sacred scripture, and the breaking of bread. This service is filled with the joyful sound of children rustling in the pews, anthems sung to the glory of God, and the heartfelt prayers of those gathered. With acolytes and processions, communal singing, and a mission to love and serve our neighbors, this service invites one to participate in the coming of the Kingdom. At St. John's everyone is welcome to the Lord's table.

TO THOSE WHO MAY BE NEW OR ARE VISITING

We are so glad you are here! If you have any questions about our service, ushers are stationed at the back of the church and would be happy to help. Our restrooms can be found on the other side of the Parish Hall. For any of our families wishing to utilize our nursery, Ellia, our nursery attendant, would be glad to assist you. In addition to worship, opportunities for fellowship exist after the service in the Parish Hall. Please join us!

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRIES SURVEY

Please fill this out if you have an interest in learning more about the various ways that you can participate in ministry at St. John's. For a brief description of all the areas of ministry, feel free to access the 2023 Ministries Catalog by using the QR code included here. When using this document, there are many links to our parish website, local organizations, and national organizations. In the survey, each category of ministry links to that section of the 2023 Ministries Catalog.



THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE	Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen	George Blake
OPENING HY	CMN O worship the King	HYMN 388
OPENING ACCLAMATION (please remain standing as you are able)		BCP 355
Officiant People		

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.*

GLORIA

HYMNAL S-278

BCP 355

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.*

THE FIRST LESSON: Exodus 14:19-31 (please be seated)

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.

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

PSALM 114

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

THE EPISTLE: 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.

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

GRADUAL HYMN We gather together **HYMN 433** Verses 1 & 2 before the Gospel Reading; Verse 3 after the Gospel Reading

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35 (please remain standing as you are able)

CelebrantThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.PeopleGlory 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

SERMON

THE REV. AMANDA KNOUSE

BCP 358

THE NICENE CREED (please rise in body or spirit)

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: FORM II (please kneel as you are able) BCP 385

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; in the Diocesan and Anglican Cycle of prayer, we pray for Memorial Church of the Prince of Peace, Gettysburg and The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean; for our Bishops, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Audrey, our Diocesan Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people, especially Amanda, Jen, and Stacey, our clergy; Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. We pray for Joe, our President; Josh, our Governor; Danene, our Mayor; and those serving in the Armed Forces; Pray for justice and peace. I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. We pray for Claire Phillips & Michael Stank, Debbie Carter, Pat Pankey, Jeannie Zeller, Kate, Nancy Strasburg, Justin & Lisa, Ella & Colleen, Matt Patterson, Michael Yoder, Carmen, Kevin, Judy Modene, Angie Stamm, Flora Rutledge, Andrew Gilpin, Mike Patrone, Maria Sauder, Dawn, Kent Strickler and Brandon Stamm. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. We pray for our friends at home, especially Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaxa, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Carol Greenfield, Sandy Grove, Carole Humphrey, Tiny Nolan, Darlene Bentley, Peggy Zuke, and Paula Wolf.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

- *Celebrant* Let us confess our sins to God and our neighbor.
- PeopleMost 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. <i>Amen</i> .
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. <i>Amen</i> .

THE PEACE

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY	Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven	Larry Shackley
PRESENTATION HYMN	Joyful, joyful, we adore thee	HYMNAL 376, vs. 3

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

Celebrant	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 our God.
People	It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. *Glory to you for ever and ever.*

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. *Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS	Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might	HYMNAL S-129
	heaven and earth are full of your glory.	
	Hosanna in the highest.	
	Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.	
	Hosanna in the highest.	

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, *We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.*

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. *Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.*

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN**.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMNAL S-149

• 0 0 . 0 Fa - ther hal - lowed Our in hea - ven, be vour Name, 0 0 king - dom done, come. will be on earth in your your \mathbf{as} • • • 0 . 0 0 • Give hea ven. us to day our dai _ lv bread. • 0 ø . . . For - give our sins for give those who us as we • • . • 0 • . 0 0 trial, a - gainst the time of \sin us. Save \mathbf{us} from 0 0 us from e - vil. king-dom, the pow - er, and de - liv - er For the • 0 0 0 and the glo - rv are yours, and for now ev - er. Α men.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 366

CelebrantAlleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE 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.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The Episcopal Church invites all who seek God to our Lord's table. If you wish to receive, please come forward to the altar rail when the usher indicates. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. For the wine, you can receive by guiding the chalice to your lips or by dipping your wafer into the separate intinction cup. If you do not wish to receive the wine, cross your arms over your chest when the wine passes. If you desire a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest. When finished, please exit to your right. Gluten free wafers are also available.

COMMUNION HYMNS	Be thou my vision	HYMN 488
	Forgive our sins as we forgive	HYMN 674

SENDING FORTH OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

CelebrantIn the name of God and on behalf of this parish, I send you forth bearing
these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the
communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body.PeopleBecause we all share one bread, one cup.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen*.

THE BLESSING

Holy God, send us anywhere you would have us go, only go there with us. Place upon us any burden you desire, only stand by us to sustain us. Break any tie that binds us, except the tie that binds us to you. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you all and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING H	YMN Jesus shall reign	Hymn 544
THE DISMIS	SAL	
Celebrant	Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the Alleluia, alleluia.	power of the Spirit.
People	Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.	
POSTLUDE	To God be the Glory	Robert J. Hughes Tune by Wm. H. Doane

To God Be the Glory is a hymn with lyrics by Fanny Crosby and tune by William Howard Doane, first published in 1875. It appears to have been written around 1872 but was first published in 1875 in Lowry and Doane's song collection, Brightest and Best. It was already popular in Great Britain before publication. Ira Sankey had introduced it there during Moody's 1873-1874 evangelistic campaigns. The song failed to achieve wide usage in the United States and was included in very few hymnals. In 1954 Cliff Barrows, song leader for Billy Graham, was handed a copy with the suggestion that it be added to the song book for the London Crusade. It was so popular that he included it again later that year in the Crusade in Nashville, Tennessee. The audience responded enthusiastically and from that time on, he used it regularly. With this exposure, the song rapidly became familiar to Christians worldwide and is included in most modern hymnals.

Just as the Prelude is meant to quiet our hearts and prepare us for worship, the Postlude is meant to ignite our spirits in reflection of the service and prepare us to go out into the world and share what we have experienced.

St. John's Traveler Letter:

Connecting to our siblings in Christ across the world Did you know St. John's has a team of pilgrims who travel every week to the very places we pray for in the Anglican communion? Follow John as he shares a little bit about the church and the places he visits:

Dear Amanda,

Hello from Seychelles! I love just hearing the name of this stunning island paradise, which is pronounced "Say Shells!" I am writing to you as I sit in a colorful, outdoor coffee shop in Victoria Market overlooking pristine white beaches that stretch out to a turquoise blue Indian Ocean. The sun is shining as it does nearly every day in Africa's smallest country of approximately 87,000 people. I hear people speaking many languages, including French and English, because this East African country has long embraced many cultures. I am staying on Mahe Island, one of the largest of the country's 115 islands and home to Victoria, its capital and commercial hub.

Life moves at a slow, gentle, and relaxing pace here. Tourism and fishing are among the country's key industries, and the Seychellois are committed to conservation and protecting their beaches and natural beauty. Even in Victoria, there are no skyscrapers or large shopping malls. Most Seychellois enjoy a good income and access to healthcare and education; indeed, Seychelles is one of Africa's strongest economies. The delicious food here reflects Seychelles' multicultural heritage, and I have enjoyed spicy curries, French delicacies, and exquisite seafood. Last night I even tried octopus curry! I have enjoyed strolling through lively shops, restaurants, and art galleries and hiking along beautiful nature trails. The political situation is stable, and the country is generally quite safe. I was delighted to learn that President Wavel Ramkalawan, who was elected in 2020, is an Anglican priest!

Seychelles is part of the Province of the Indian Ocean, which includes Madagascar and Mauritius. This week I worshipped at St. Paul's Anglican Church in central Victoria. The church is a modest building with crisp, white-washed walls and beautiful stained glass. Most Seychellois are Roman Catholic, and there are also Muslim and Hindu communities here.

Despite its beauty and tranquility, this small country is wrestling with some big challenges. The tourism industry continues to rebuild after the COVID-19 pandemic, and many islands are threatened by rising sea levels due to climate change. A rise in drug trafficking and heroin addiction is one of the country's most devastating challenges, and the government earlier this year described the situation as an epidemic.

Please keep this beautiful, remote island and its people in your prayers. I will continue to keep you in mine.

Your friend, John Traveler

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

Coffee Hour to follow each service

8:00 AMHoly Eucharist: Rite I9:15 AMSunday School for ALL10:15 AMHoly Eucharist: Rite II12:00 PMVestry Meeting

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

6:00 PM Daughters of the King

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

12:00 PM	Healing Service
7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM	J2A Class

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

9:00 AM	Ministers' Meeting
2:30 PM	Food Pantry
7:00 PM	Handbell Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Rector's Day Off

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Coffee Hour to follow each service		
8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite I	
9:15 AM	Sunday School for ALL	
10:15 AM	Holy Baptism and	
	Holy Eucharist: Rite II	

WEEKLY SUPPORT MINISTRIES

AA: Tuesdays at 6:00 PM NA: Mon., Weds. & Fri. at 12:00 PM NA: Thursdays & Saturdays at 6:30 PM

FOOD PANTRY HELP DESPERATELY NEEDED!

Friends, our Food Pantry is feeding more people every week and we need your help! We are always in need of food donations, particularly canned tuna, canned chicken, cereal, peanut butter, pasta sauce and spaghetti. Donations can be placed in the basket in the back of the church or in one of the red carts. In addition, financial contributions are extremely helpful as we are trying to purchase as much bulk food at a reduced price as possible. Checks can be made out to St. John's Episcopal Church with "Food Pantry" in the memo line. Thank you for helping us feed the hungry and love our neighbors!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please sign up on our website, <u>www.stjohns-lancaster.org</u> or on the signup sheets in the Parish Hall to host a coffee hour or assist in the nursery!

WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church! We are glad you are here. Please tell us a little bit about yourself by filling out a pew card and placing it in the offertory plate.

OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

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

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

The Rev. Jen Trenary, Assistant Rector jen@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Stacey Catigano, Deacon scatigano@gmail.com

VESTRY

Mary Waskowicz (Senior Warden), Leslie Morgan (Junior Warden), Nick DiPace, Andy Welaish, John Modene Liz West, Ted Loose, Kathy Kyper

DELEGATES REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Drew Dorgan, Webb Cook, David Rutledge, Heather Trenary, and Sue Heilman

STAFF

Douglas Beach, Minister of Music & Communications Dana Sanborn, Bookkeeper John Knouse, Property Manager Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian Ellia Osofsky, Nursery Care

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