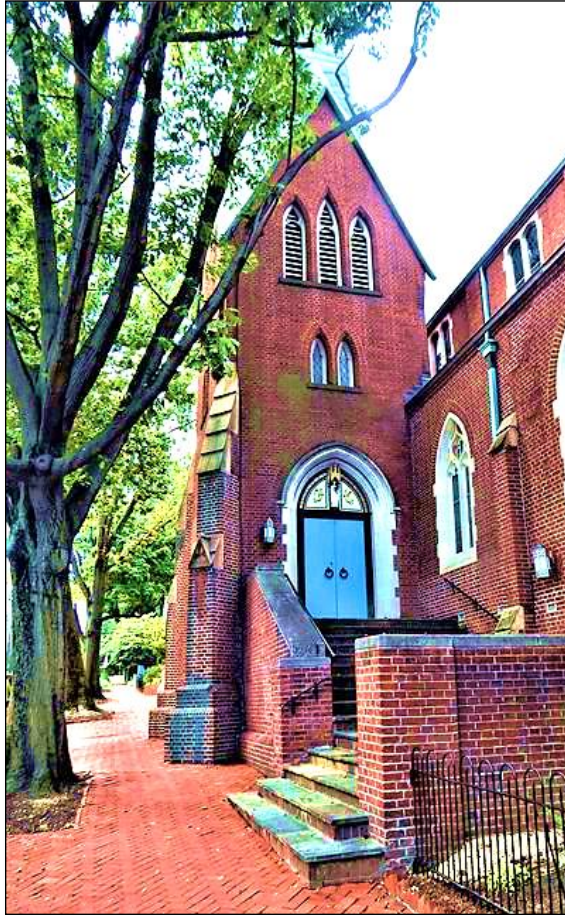


ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
JUNE 29, 2025 AT 9:00 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.

TO THOSE WHO MAY BE NEW OR ARE VISITING

We are so glad you are here! Ushers are stationed at the back of the church and can answer any questions you may have or please ask a neighbor in the next pew. Restrooms can be found on the other side of the Parish Hall. In addition to worship, opportunities for fellowship exist after the service in the Parish Hall. A nursery is available every Sunday for our littlest members next to the restrooms. Thank you for being here!

A NOTE ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

During the summer months, we worship as one congregation with a service every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. 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 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.

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*If you have an announcement, you would like the clergy to share,
please fill out the form on our website or let the office know no later than noon on
Wednesday.*

PRELUDE

*O Lord, our Lord
Solo*

Scottish Traditional

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

HYMNAL 525

OPENING ACCLAMATION *(please remain standing as you are able)*

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. 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.*

GLORIA

Glory to God

HYMNAL S-278

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 (*please be seated for the readings*)

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 77:1-2, 11-20

1 I will cry aloud to God; *

I will cry aloud, and he will hear me.

2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; *

my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;

I refused to be comforted.

- 11 I will remember the works of the LORD, *
and call to mind your wonders of old time.
- 12 I will meditate on all your acts *
and ponder your mighty deeds.
- 13 Your way, O God, is holy; *
who is so great a god as our God?
- 14 You are the God who works wonders *
and have declared your power among the peoples.
- 15 By your strength you have redeemed your people, *
the children of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16 The waters saw you, O God;
the waters saw you and trembled; *
the very depths were shaken.
- 17 The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered; *
your arrows flashed to and fro;
- 18 The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world; *
the earth trembled and shook.
- 19 Your way was in the sea,
and your paths in the great waters, *
yet your footsteps were not seen.
- 20 You led your people like a flock *
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

THE SECOND LESSON: Galatians 5:1,13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger,

quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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

GRADUAL HYMN

Jesus Calls Us

HYMNAL 550

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 9:51-62 (*please remain standing as you are able*)

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

People The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rt. Rev. Robert Gepert

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.

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. In the Diocesan and Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for St. John in the Wilderness, Eagles Mere, The Church of the Province of Myanmar; and Grace Church, Allentown, our “sibling parish”. God of love and mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons. Especially remembering Amanda, our Rector, during her time of sabbatical. God of love and mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray especially for Donald, our president; Josh, our Governor; Danene, our mayor; and those serving in the Armed Forces. God of love and 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. God of love and mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially our friends at home; we pray for Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Sandy Grove, Peggy Zuke, Peggy Buscher and Teresa Sullivan. Grant that we may serve Christ in them and love one another as he loves us.

God of love and mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit especially Nancy Strasburg, Ella, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Collin, Eileen Waite, Andrew Wright, Denise Chandler, Sandy, Marshall, Bonnie, Debbie Linton, Wade Hinkle, Heidi, Danny, Kenneth; Sarah Gordon, Leslie Tahsler, Shannon & family, Jesse Rutledge, Lainey Jane & family, Sergei and Shirley Parmer; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. God of love and 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.

God of love and mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your
will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE CONFESSION

Officiant 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.

Officiant 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

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

The Mind of God
Solo

John Bell

THE DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

HYMNAL 380 v.3**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A**

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.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might
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.*

HYMN S-129

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.
AMEN.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

BCP 365

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore 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. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. The wine is administered in two chalices: the common cup for drinking and the intinction cup for dipping your wafer into the wine. 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. Gluten free wafers are also available. If you are unable to come to the altar, please let an usher know and we would be happy to bring communion to you!

COMMUNION MUSIC

The Summons
Solo

Scottish Traditional

SENDING FORTH OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Celebrant In 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.
People We, who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

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 Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN *O Jesus, I Have Promised* **HYMNAL 655**

THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE *Built on a Rock the Church Doth Stand* Paul Manz

+++++

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:

St. John’s Traveler Letter:

Dear Pastors Amanda and Joe, and Bishop Bob -

Do you have friends or family that you disagree with? People that you enjoy visiting and want to keep close, but there are some things on which you just don't see eye to eye? Welcome to Myanmar, formerly Burma. (Actually, welcome from Bangkok in Thailand, but more on that later.) Myanmar is a beautiful country in southeast Asia. It sits on the coast of the Bay of Bengal, in between Thailand and Laos to its East, Bangladesh to its West, and mainland China to its North. The land here rises from sea level to its highest mountain peak of a bit over 19,000 feet. By comparison, that's just a thousand feet below the summit of Denali in Alaska, the highest mountain in the United States.

Continued on pg. 14

St. John's Traveler Letter Continued

The reason I'm writing from neighboring Bangkok is because the US State Department has issued a "do not travel" alert for Myanmar due to the current civil war amongst rival military groups fighting to seize control of the government. While there is never a good time for a civil war, this couldn't be much worse as there was a massive earthquake in Mandalay - the second largest city - this past March. The city's beautiful buildings weren't designed to withstand a 7.7 magnitude earthquake. 5,200 people died and more than 200,000 are now homeless. All while otherwise healthy men and boys are shooting at each other. Of course, there are many innocent civilians trying to live peaceful lives who are caught in the middle. These are lovely people. Lovely members of the Anglican communion, with whom we have some basic disagreements.

The Anglican Church of Myanmar is part of the Global South Fellowship of Anglicans branch of our worldwide communion family. The Global South grew over the years out of disagreements with churches primarily in the northern hemisphere, America, and Europe over issues about welcoming LGBTQIA+ clergy, and recognizing marriages of same sex partners, and its hope is to "reset" the worldwide Anglican Communion. While St. John's is proud to be an open and affirming church, the churches here are not. However, through much open discussion and productive negotiations these provinces have stayed in the Anglican Communion rather than breaking off and leaving completely. There are important matters of belief and theology on which we disagree, but we are staying together as friends and family in the same communion of Christ. It's a sign of a healthy family to be able to continue to love each other while acknowledging our differences. So please hold the beautiful people of Myanmar close, as they can use a good dose of prayer these days.

And blessings to you always,

-- John Traveler.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

LEMONADE TIME TO FOLLOW WORSHIP!

9:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

TUESDAY, JULY 1

1:30 PM MARTHA'S MINISTRY

2:30 PM FOOD PANTRY

5:00 PM IMMIGRATION CLINIC

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

12:00 PM HEIL WITH HEALING

THURSDAY, JULY 3

9:00 AM MORNING PRAYER

2:30 PM FOOD PANTRY

FRIDAY, JULY 4

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED – JULY 4TH HOLIDAY

SATURDAY, JULY 5

SUNDAY, JULY 6

LEMONADE TIME TO FOLLOW WORSHIP!

9:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST NEED!

The Community Breakfast Crew will be collecting sunscreen and hats (baseball hats, bucket hats) to hand out at breakfast this summer. Please consider purchasing SPF 50 and over. Contact Jess Eccles at jessicalp10@gmail.com with any questions.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – The Food Pantry needs 12 pack egg cartons again! Our partner Westfield Eggs is providing bulk eggs, and we are getting low. Thanks for your help!

Many Thanks to Sue Zuke for offering her musical gifts this morning!

Reminder – there will be no July Messenger. It will be back in August!

Citizens Money Essentials – the next class will be July 9th from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Yard Give Donation Collection starts on July 13th through August 7th. Monday's 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM and Sundays after church. The choir room in the undercroft area is the drop off location.

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. Dr. Joe Pritchett, Assistant Rector
Joe@stjohns-lancaster.org

VESTRY

Drew Dorgan (*Sr. Warden*), Charles Wear (*Treasurer*), Ted Loose (*Jr. Warden*),
Molly Moyer (*Secretary*), Liz West, Kathy Kyper, Gretchen Walden,
Penn Glazier, Mary Huber, Bruce Waskowicz, Sarah Jones

DELEGATES REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Pam Loose, Br. David Rutledge, Joe Way, Drew Dorgan

STAFF

Mark Herr, Minister of Music (music@stjohns-lancaster.org)
Dana Sanborn, Bookkeeper (finance@stjohns-lancaster.org)
John Knouse, Property Manager (property@stjohns-lancaster.org)
Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian
Danielle Hill, Nursery Attendant

GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE
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