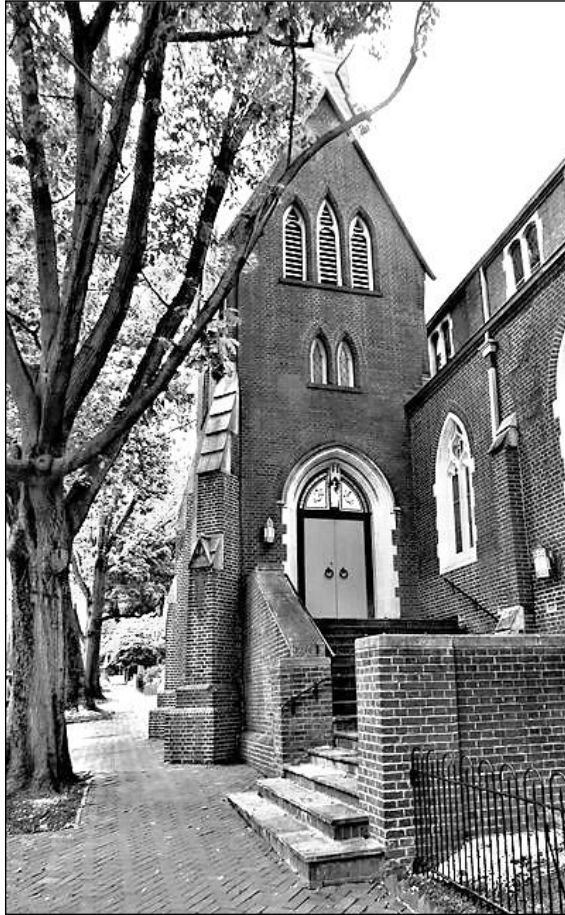


ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 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.

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

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.

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Our Wednesday healing service at 12:00 P.M. is an invitation to lay before God the people and situations in need of healing. This service, using the Book of Common Prayer and other resources, is grounded in healing prayers, anointing with holy oil, and the sharing of the sacrament. The service is short enough to accommodate lunch breaks yet full enough to transform hearts.

Every Thursday at 9:00 A.M. Brother David leads Morning Prayer in the Mary Chapel. This quiet, contemplative service is open to all and is a wonderful way to begin one's day. The service lasts about 20 minutes.

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 by noon on Wednesday.*

PRELUDE *Prayer for Peace (Psalm 34:14)* Paul Fey

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Holy Father, Great Creator* **HYMNAL 368**

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.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 *(please be seated)*

My joy is gone, grief is upon me,
my heart is sick.

Hark, the cry of my poor people
 from far and wide in the land:
 "Is the LORD not in Zion?
 Is her King not in her?"
 "Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
 with their foreign idols?"
 "The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
 and we are not saved."
 For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,
 I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.
 Is there no balm in Gilead?
 Is there no physician there?
 Why then has the health of my poor people
 not been restored?
 O that my head were a spring of water,
 and my eyes a fountain of tears,
 so that I might weep day and night
 for the slain of my poor people!

	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>

PSALM 79:1-9

- 1 O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance;
 they have profaned your holy temple; *
 they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.
- 2 They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the air, *
 and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the field.
- 3 They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem, *
 and there was no one to bury them.
- 4 We have become a reproach to our neighbors, *
 an object of scorn and derision to those around us.
- 5 How long will you be angry, O LORD? *
 will your fury blaze like fire for ever?
- 6 Pour out your wrath upon the heathen who have not known you *
 and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your Name.
- 7 For they have devoured Jacob *
 and made his dwelling a ruin.

- 8 Remember not our past sins; let your compassion be swift to meet us; *
for we have been brought very low.
9 Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your Name; *
deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your Name's sake.

THE EPISTLE: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all-- this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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

GRADUAL HYMN

Jesus, All My Gladness

HYMNAL 701

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13 (*please remain standing as you are able*)

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own

generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

SERMON

The Rev. Amanda Knouse

THE NICENE CREED *(please rise in body or spirit)*

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: Form IV

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. In the Diocesan and Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for Memorial Church of the Prince of Peace, Gettysburg; Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan; and Grace Church, Allentown, our “sibling parish”. God of love and mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons, especially Sean our Presiding Bishop; Audrey, our Diocesan Bishop; Amanda and Joe, our clergy; and Emma, our seminarian. 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 Ella, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Sandra Gilpin, Cheryl and Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Collin, Eileen Waite, Denise Chandler, Shirley Parmer, Erin Heintzinger, Phyllis Shearer, Ann Marie, Sandy Patrone, Marshall, Leslie Tahsler, Paul Hershey; 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 *Be Thou My Vision* Carlton Young

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 sing,

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in
 hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
 For - give us our sins as we for - give those who
 sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

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

*Peace Before Us
Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

**WLP 791
WLP 795**

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

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. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Saviour, Again To Thy Dear Name We Raise

HYMNAL 345

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!*

POSTLUDE

Our Lord, Master of All

Rex Koury

Being with God:

Contemplative Prayer and Meditation in the Christian Tradition



A Four-Week Series at St. John's

Join at 9:15 a.m. in the All Purpose
Room beginning Sunday, October 5th

Be still and know that I am God. Ps 46:10

St. John's Traveler Letter:

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 Pastors Amanda and Joe,

Oftentimes I write you letters bringing joy from far-off corners of the globe, from southeast Asia to central America. Today, unfortunately, is not one of these letters. For the past week, I've been stuck at the small Kenyan town of Nadapal trying to talk with the authorities about traveling to the nation of South Sudan, just over the border. And for the past week I've been unsuccessful.

Earlier this year, the State Department put out a warning telling US citizens to "do not travel" to South Sudan. It's the youngest country in the world and also the poorest, and has been caught in a cycle of violence even after its civil war officially ended in 2020. More than four million people have been forced to leave their homes. To make matters worse, severe flooding has devastated local towns and villages.

As recently as 2023, the United States spent more than \$760 million on emergency food assistance and health care in South Sudan, but recent decisions to all but eliminate this aid have made South Sudan's terrible situation even worse.

Earlier this week, I spoke with Napita, a mother of eight who somehow slipped across the border undetected. She doesn't know where three of her children are. She hasn't seen her husband since a militia overran a military base where he was stationed in March. She's spent the last few days trying to find someone to watch the kids she led across the border so she can go back to her hometown and search for the remaining children.

That's just one story of many I've witnessed here on the frontier of one of the world's most dangerous states. Please pray for Napita, pray for her family, and pray for an end to the violence that's ruptured families here and around the world.

Blessings always,
John Traveler

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:15 AM	Sunday School
10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite II
12:00 PM	Vestry Meeting

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

12:00 PM	Healing Service
2:00 PM	Men's Bible Study
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9:00 AM	Morning Prayer
9:30 PM	Staff Meeting
2:30 PM	Food Pantry
5:30PM	Preconvention Meeting

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Rector's Day Off

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Coffee Hour to follow each service

8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:15 AM	Sunday School
10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite II
1:00 PM	Education for Ministry

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

Today on the International Day of Peace, there will be a short outdoor service at 6:30pm at Mountville Church of the Brethren. They are currently hosting Lancaster's t-shirt Memorial to the Lost remembering those killed by gun violence in our County over the last 10 years. You are very welcome to join us. Questions? Contact Sue Heilman

FIRST FRIDAY EVENTS: OCTOBER 3 BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AT ST. JOHN'S & COMPLINE AT ST. JAMES

Mark your calendars for our Annual Pet Blessing on **Friday, October 3rd at 6:00 P.M.** in the courtyard! All pets, stuffed animals, or pictures are welcome! We will celebrate the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, honoring the bond between humans and animals, acknowledging God's creation, and our stewardship over all God's creatures.

At **9:00 P.M.** all are welcome to attend Compline at St. James. This meditative service is sung by candlelight in the beautifully lit sanctuary and is the perfect way to end this Friday night. The thoughts that inspire the prayers during Compline are the need for divine forgiveness and protection against the powers of darkness. Prayers for peace and rest are offered as night falls.

DEBBIE CARTER'S ART & GLASS COLLECTION: ONLINE AUCTION

Debbie Carter's generosity continues! She wished for an auction of her art collection to benefit St. John's. The online auction will be available October 1-8. Preview of several of her special pieces will be on display at St. John's for Lancaster First **Friday, October 3 from 6:00-9:00 P.M.** and again between services on October 5. Debbie's collection includes many craftsman pieces, signed painting, prints and an extensive collection of glass art.

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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