

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



HOLY EUCHARIST: ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP
JULY 19, 2026 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 at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. A nursery is available for our littlest members during this service, however, please know children are always welcome in worship. Thank you for being here!

A NOTE ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Our service comes from the Book of Common Prayer, Enriching our Worship, and the 1982 Hymnal. This service is filled with vibrant music, the reading of sacred scripture, and the breaking of bread. 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.

In addition to Sunday services, we also offer a Healing service with Holy Eucharist every Wednesday at noon and on Thursday at 9:00 a.m., Brother David leads Morning Prayer in the Mary Chapel. All are welcome to join!

FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS

Our friends at home: Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Peggy Zuke, Theresa Sullivan, Peggy Buscher, Jim Crothers

Our prayer list: Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Collin, Eileen Waite, Ann Marie, Sandy Patrone, Marshall, Leslie Tahsler, John Lawrence, Elly, Heidi, Danny & Kenneth, Briz Skiles, Maria Wright, Denise Chandler, Kate Benson, Barbara Graeter, Garth Alexander

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Halle, Halle, Halle

Caribbean Folk Tune

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, thou almighty King

HYMNAL 365

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

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People *Glory to God for ever and ever.*

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

Glory to God

HYMNAL S-280

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 28:10-19a *(please be seated)*

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of

Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

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

PSALM 139:1-11,22-23

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"

- 11 Darkness is not dark to you;
 the night is as bright as the day; *
 darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; *
 try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me *
 and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

THE EPISTLE: Romans 8:12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

GRADUAL HYMN

Praise to the living God!

HYMNAL 372

vs. 1-2 before the Gospel reading; vs. 3-4 after the Gospel reading

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30,36-43 *(please rise in body or spirit)*

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

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

SERMON

The Rev. Rob Kazee

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human. *(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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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 *(please kneel as you are able)*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God especially Good Shepherd, Milford; St. Thomas, Lancaster; and the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan.
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey and Kevin, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

(The People may add their own petitions)

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

(The People may add their own thanksgivings)

We will exalt you, O God;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

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

THE PEACE *(please rise in body of spirit)*

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



Thank you for your generosity as we seek to live into our mission and ministries. Together, our gifts make this community of welcome, reconciliation, and service possible. You can place your offering in the plates when they are passed or by using our secure QR Code. Thank you for sharing your gifts!

THE OFFERTORY

Lift Thine Eyes

Felix Mendelssohn

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 1

EOW

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 our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

THE SANCTUS

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.*

HYMNAL S-125

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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.*

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

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

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 *Father, we thank thee who has planted
 Lord of all hopefulness*

HYMNAL 302
HYMNAL 482

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

EOW

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing*

HYMNAL 344

THE DISMISSAL

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

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

POSTLUDE

Prelude in A

Johann Sebastian Bach

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,

My travels have taken me to Egypt in northern Africa this week, and I am writing to you again with a heavy heart. I have learned that Egypt is home to hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of Sudanese refugees fleeing a humanitarian nightmare and a civil war that has raged since 2023. I am ashamed to say that I did not know much about the crisis in Sudan because it has received very little coverage in the Western press.

Sudan is Africa's third largest country and had been home to over 50 million people. It shares borders with the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Libya, and South Sudan, and it has had two of the longest-lasting civil wars on the African continent. Fighting between the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces and the Sudanese military has displaced millions and devastated much of the country. I also have heard from many aid workers that fears of famine are growing and that cuts in funding are endangering the lives of so many innocent people.

My new friend, Ahmed, who works with Egypt's Refugee and Resilience Response Plan (ERRRP) has shared with me how the international community and host countries have worked to support Sudanese refugees who are fleeing unimaginable violence. Since there are no formal refugee camps in Egypt, the government here has worked to help refugee populations integrate into local communities and access healthcare, education, and employment. Ahmed told me with tears in his eyes about his Sudanese friend, Siddiqui, who wept for joy when he learned that his wife and children had escaped from Sudan into Egypt on foot just last week. In Chad, which also borders Sudan, formal refugee camps are much more common, and humanitarian organizations such as the International Rescue Committee and a number of UN organizations help to manage the camps and provide food, healthcare, and other necessities.

When I was last home in Lancaster, I had the privilege of meeting some of our Sudanese neighbors. I admire their strength, courage, and resilience, and I give thanks to God that they are safe. Please keep Sudan, its people who remain in the country and those seeking safety in foreign lands, and the aid workers who care for them in your prayers. I am now committed to learning more and finding ways to help. I hope that others will be, too.

Blessings Always,
John the Traveler

KIDZ KORNER

PARABLE OF THE WHEAT AND WEEDS WORD SCRAMBLE

SEE IF YOU CAN UNSCRAMBLE WORDS FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL LESSON!

EAHTW _____

SEWD _____

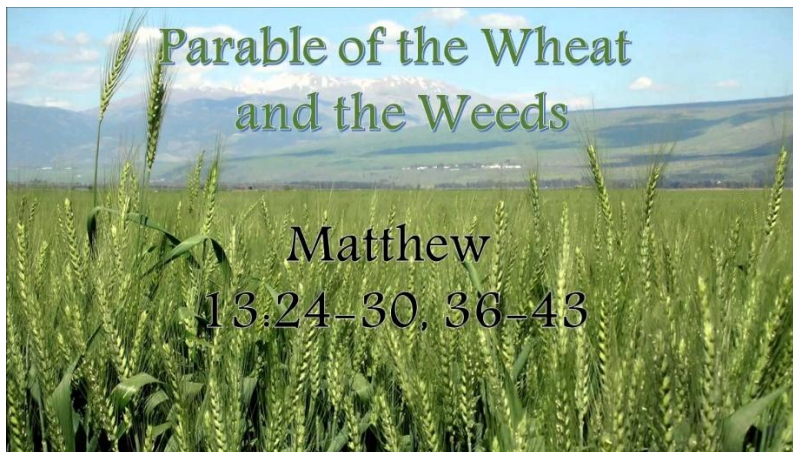
FDELI _____

BRNU _____

SVTHREA _____

ERAPESR _____

ARBN _____



ANSWERS (NO PEEKING): WHEAT, WEEDS, FIELD, BURN, HARVEST, REAPERS, BARN

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

BIBLE STUDY | WEDNESDAYS AT 2:00 PM | PARISH HALL

Every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m., a group meets in the Parish Hall for a lively discussion of the Holy Scriptures. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend! All you need is a bible and an open heart. Please join us!

YARD GIVE COLLECTION | SUNDAYS IN JULY!

It's time to collect donations for this year's Yard Give! We are looking for the following items: Household items (think pots, pans, dishes, silverware, countertop appliances, etc.) clothing (especially children's clothes), toys, sporting goods, linens. Please make sure items are in good condition and clean! Thank you!

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

Lemonade Time at 9AM

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

10:15 AM Holy Eucharist II with Choir

1:00 PM Education for Ministry

5:00 PM Sisterhood Gathering

MONDAY

Administrative Day (office closed)

TUESDAY

1:30 PM Martha's Ministry

2:30 PM Food Pantry

5:00 PM Immigration Clinic

WEDNESDAY

12:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing

2:00 PM Weekly Bible Study

THURSDAY

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

9:30 AM Staff Meeting

2:30 PM Food Pantry

FRIDAY

Rector's Day off

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

The Rev. Rob Kazee, Ecumenical Associate

VESTRY

Drew Dorgan (*Sr. Warden*), Mary Huber (*Jr. Warden*), Charles Wear (*Treasurer*),
Emma Luck (*Secretary*), Gretchen Walden, Penn Glazier, Mary Huber,
Bruce Waskowicz, Sarah Jones, Bruce Morgan, Brad Zuke

DELEGATES REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

John Gouveia, Wade Hinkle, Kim Bomberger, Michelle Engle

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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