

St. John's Episcopal Church

The Season after Pentecost 2021
10:30am Outdoor Worship



St. JOHN'S
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Ministers: The People of St. John's!

A Note to Families

Welcome to the 10:30am Service of Holy Communion at St. John's. Our sacred time of worship includes several different activities: **singing, listening, praying, and sharing a holy meal.** This is not only a place where children may feel comfortable in worship, but also an opportunity for us to introduce them to the worshipping traditions of Episcopal faith.

We have added sidebars in the service bulletin to guide you and give you some additional information about the meaning and symbolism behind some aspects of Episcopal worship. Feel free to take the bulletin home with you and discuss it during the week.

This liturgy is enriched by the participation of everyone here. We encourage parents and others to involve their children by singing joyfully with them, leading them in prayer, modeling good listening, and sharing with them the sacrament of Holy Communion – *all are welcome, all the time!* If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask! There are lots of people who will help you find your way.



St. John's Welcome Statement

Welcome! We are St. John's, a parish that invites you be a part of our community and warmly embraces you when you do.

At St. John's, our history has taught us that accepting and embracing true diversity is challenging. As a result, we have come to claim a firm, undying commitment to inclusion. So here is our invitation to you: regardless of your cultural background, ethnicity, gender, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or

heterosexual identity, economic status, physical or cognitive ability – you will not be labeled, singled out or excluded here. You will be welcomed, affirmed, embraced and celebrated! We will be better because you are here.

Adopted by unanimous vote at St. John's Annual Meeting, January 31, 2016

Are you visiting or new to St. John's?

We are glad that you are here! If you are here for the first time, please help us to get to know you by filling out a Visitor Register at the sign-in table and we will follow up with you.

- If you are **new to our St. John's faith community**, know that we want to welcome and get to know you as you are comfortable. We are better because you are here!
- If you **have been a part of our faith community for a long time**, welcome home! On some level, we are all 'newcomers again' getting to know one another again after a long time apart.

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on a journey of faith, you belong here. And you are always welcome at St. John's. All are welcome to receive communion, and to participate in every aspect of our ministries. We want to do everything we can to help you make the most of St. John's Episcopal Church and its resources for your spiritual path.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

--- THE LITURGY OF THE WORD ---

OPENING HYMN *(on following page)*

Please stand and join in singing.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider †Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
All **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Presider God be with you.
All **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

After the Collect, please be seated.

LESSON FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURES

2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, “Give it to the people and let them eat.” But his servant said, “How can I set this before a hundred people?” So he repeated, “Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, “They shall eat and have some left.” He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GATHERING

Gather

First, we gather and prepare for our time together. This includes finding a place to sit where we can see and participate. Sometimes we may have prelude music to help us center and calm us

The leaders will welcome and make announcements for the good of all.

Opening Hymn

An ‘acolyte’ carries in a processional cross, and the clergy follow behind it. This cross is a symbol that Christ here among us. Some people bow or make the sign of the †cross on their foreheads as a sign of reverence when the processional cross passes by. Whether you do this is entirely up to you. *Some people do, some people don’t. There is no right or wrong way to worship.*

We sing together to praise God with our whole selves— our minds, our hearts, our lungs, with whatever voice God has given us! And we do it as a together as a community.

The Prayers

Here and throughout the worship service, the **bold portions** are the parts the congregation says together.

The priest says a short prayer at the beginning of the service called a ‘col’lect. It changes from week to week, and ‘collects’ all the themes of today’s scripture readings into one prayer.

The Lesson

Then we are seated as a gathered community to listen to the “Lesson” that is read to us from the Scriptures. These are the lessons being heard in congregations of all types throughout the world on this day. One of the people from the congregation is chosen to read it for all of us.

Note: If you would like to be a reader or ‘lector’, please let one of the clergy know. People of all ages serve as readers at St. John’s.

LISTENING

Gospel

It is a tradition for the Deacon to bring the Gospel (the sayings, teachings and testaments of Jesus) out into the midst of the people to read the Gospel. This is based on the ancient Jewish tradition of bringing the Torah out into the congregation to read a portion of the scrolls. It is a joyful time in the liturgy.

We stand during the Gospel reading to indicate the importance we place of Jesus' words and actions. We turn from wherever we are to face the Deacon while the Gospel is read – turning our ears. You will notice that some people make the sign of the †cross three times when the Deacon says “The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ” – *you might want to try it*. The silent prayer we say is “God be in my head (and make the sign of the †cross on your forehead); God be on my lips (and make the sign of the †cross on your mouth); and God be in my heart (and make the sign of the †cross on your chest).

Reflection

An appointed person reflects on what we have heard in a teaching called a Sermon or a Homily. It is designed to see how God is at work in our lives and in our world.

What did you hear in the sermon? Go home and talk about what you heard. Sometimes we hear very different things.

Before thy throne, O God, we kneel

Before thy throne, O God, we kneel:
give us a conscience quick to feel,
a ready mind to understand
the meaning of thy chastening hand;
whate'er the pain and shame may be,
bring us, O Father, nearer thee.

Let the fierce fires which burn and try,
our inmost spirits purify:
consume the ill; purge out the shame;
O God, be with us in the flame;
a new-born people may we rise,
more pure, more true, more nobly wise.

GOSPEL

John 6:1-21

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

Deacon †The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.
All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

Deacon The Gospel of Christ
All **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

REFLECTION

The people are seated for the reflection.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The people stand, and the Deacon calls us to prayer.
Intercessors lead us in prayer. After each petition, we respond,*

Intercessor . . . Lord in your mercy,
All **Hear our prayer.**

*In words selected for this day, we pray for:
the church, . . .
the world, . . .
those in need, . . .
the sick and those who have asked for our prayers,
the needs of this congregation, . . .
those who have died,
and then for our own prayers.*

Intercessor Please offer your own petitions and
intercessions, either silently or aloud.
*In thanksgiving for
I ask for healing for . . .
I offer prayers for , etc.*

When all have concluded

Intercessor . . . Lord in your mercy,
All **Hear our prayer.**

Presider 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.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.
All **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.**

PRAYING

Prayers of the People

The Deacon calls us to pray, and then one or more person/s from the congregation is chosen to lead the prayers for all of us.

Note: If you would like to be an 'intercessor' (a leader of these prayers) please let one of the clergy know. People of all ages serve as intercessors at St. John's.

The Prayers of the People is one of the most participatory parts of the worship service. We bring all of our prayers – for the church, the world, those in need, and those who have particularly asked for our prayers, before God.

You will hear lots of people voicing their prayers from wherever they are standing. That's ok! You might want to try this too.

There are several points where the congregation is invited to add prayers of *petition* (which is another word for prayers for our own needs) and *intercessions* (which is another word for prayers for others), either out loud or silently.

Confession of Sins

Often the Confession of Sin is said at this point in the service. This prayer acknowledges both our own wrongdoing, but also our participation in the big evils that exist in the world – like poverty, hunger, destruction of the environment, and bigotry. We ask God to forgive us all.

SHARING

Sharing the Peace

In the "Peace", we prepare for communion by sharing and making peace with one another before we continue in sharing the meal Jesus shares with us. In ancient times, Christians would greet each other with "the kiss of peace". Today we greet one another. There are no set words- "Peace", "God's Peace", and "The Peace of the Lord be with you." are all commonly used.

Offertory

Now we come to the second act in the drama of our service.. We begin with the "Offertory": Collecting financial gifts, or passing the plate, serves as a visible reminder that our whole lives are offered to God, and a part of the riches God has given to us are offered back to God in Thanksgiving for all that we have and all that we are. Musicians offer their voices in an Offertory Music. People from the congregation bring forward the bread and wine that will be blessed and shared. During this time we also prepare ourselves for the sacred meal.

Sharing the Sacred Meal

The meal Jesus offers us , also called Eucharist which means "Thanksgiving" is a meal that includes our thanksgiving to God, praise, reconciliation to God and to one another, and transformation – we are becoming something new every time we share this meal. At the end of the prayer we say The Great Amen! **Note:** *The Great Amen is the only word in our Book of Common Prayer in all capital letters. In it we all join in asking Jesus to be present in the bread and the wine- the Body and the Blood.*

ABSOLUTION

Priest †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

Presider May the Peace of Christ always be with you.
All **And also with you.**

The peace is exchanged among the people.

--- THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE ---

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Once the table is set with the bread and wine for the sacred meal, the people stand.

EUCHARIST/HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer

Presider God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider shares what God has done for us . . .

...Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we pray:

SANCTUS *All pray together*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

†Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The Presider asks God to bless and sanctify the bread and the wine . . .
The Presider asks God to bless and sanctify to bless and sanctify †us.*

*. . .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

We will sing it in a 'Call and Response' style. The Cantor will sing a line, and we will sing it back.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread. A period of silence is kept.

The Breaking of the Bread, also called the Fraction, both recalls Jesus breaking bread at the Last Supper, and it also reminds us that Jesus was broken and given for us.

Presider These are the Gifts of God.

People **And we are the people of God.**

Presider Behold who you are. Become what you receive.

This is Christ's table, and Christ is our host at this feast. Everyone who comes to the altar seeking Christ will be welcomed. The wafers are gluten-free.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After the meal, we stand and pray in thanksgiving for what we have received.

Presider Let us pray.

All **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

BLESSING

The people receive the Blessing from the Priest.

CLOSING HYMN *(the people sing – hymn on following page)*

DISMISSAL

The people face the Deacon for the Dismissal.

Deacon Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Everyone is welcome! Everyone belongs!

SHARING

The Lord's Prayer

This is the prayer Jesus taught us. Through repeating the words and actions of Jesus' last meal with his disciples, we ourselves join the story and make it our own. While the bread and wine remain the bread and wine, they are not unchanged. They become outward signs of inward grace. That grace, or gift from God, is Jesus' presence in the Eucharist through the power of the Holy Spirit. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in Eucharist is an ancient connection.

Receiving Communion

This is Christ's meal and Christ's table, and ALL are welcome to receive this meal.

Hold out your hands and you will be given the bread.

You will hear the words, "The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven."

Note: *If you seek a deeper relationship with Christ through baptism or by joining this faith community, please speak with a priest after the service.*

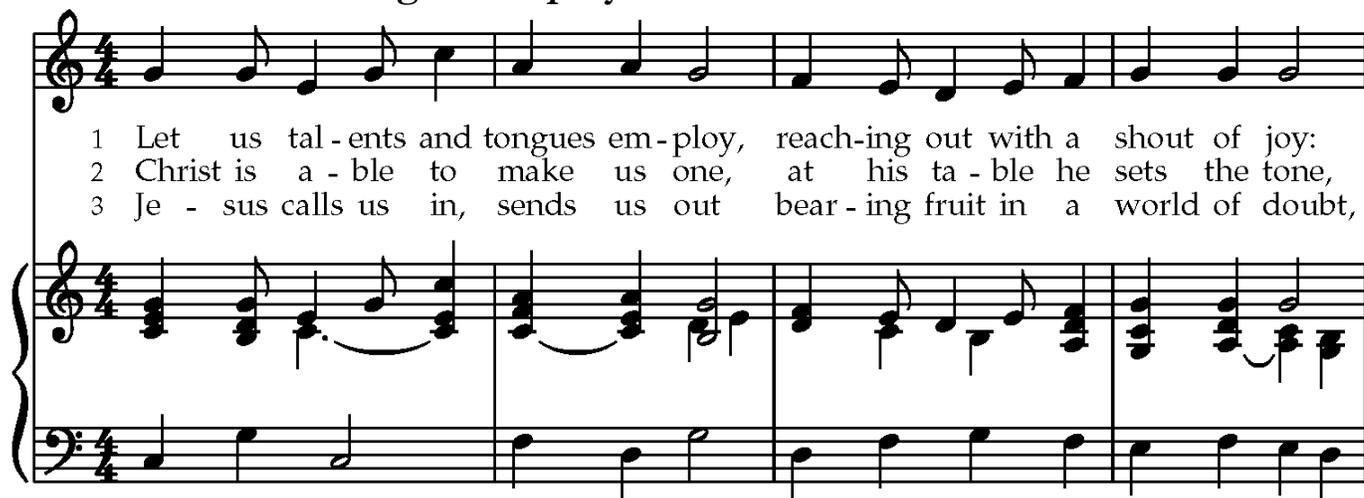
The Blessing

A Blessing is given to the people as a pronouncement of God's favor. As it is offered, many people make the sign of the †cross as the words "Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit" to show that they are receiving the blessing.

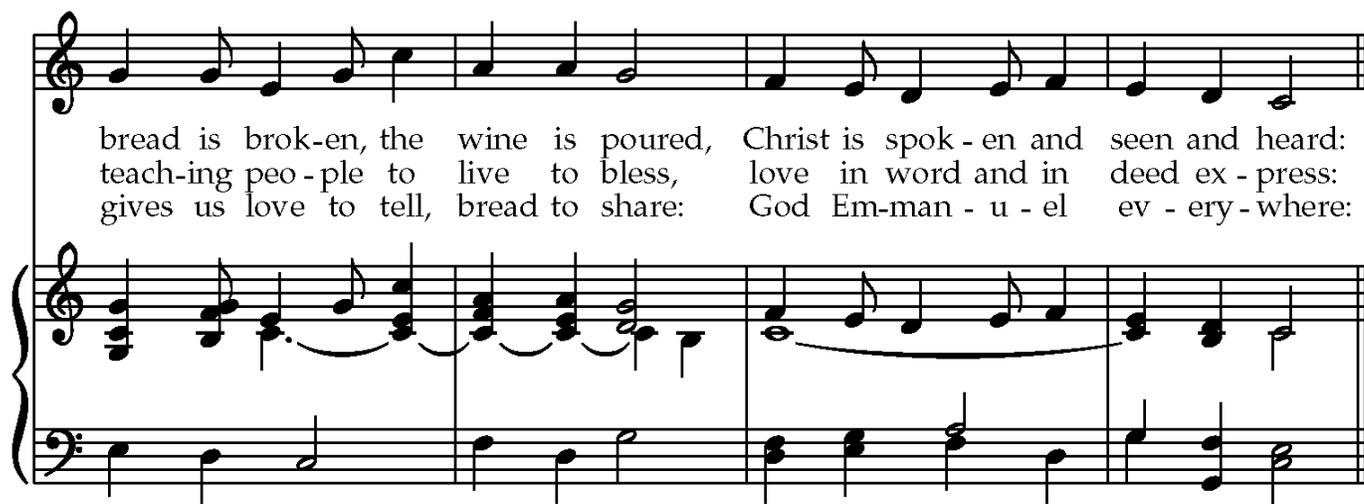
Dismissal

The final act of our common worship is the Dismissal. It is not an afterthought, but an integral part of the service. The word "Mass" comes from the Latin words "Ite, missa est" - "Go, you are sent". Jesus' final action on earth was to send his followers into the world to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them to obey all that he commanded. This is what we are all called to do.

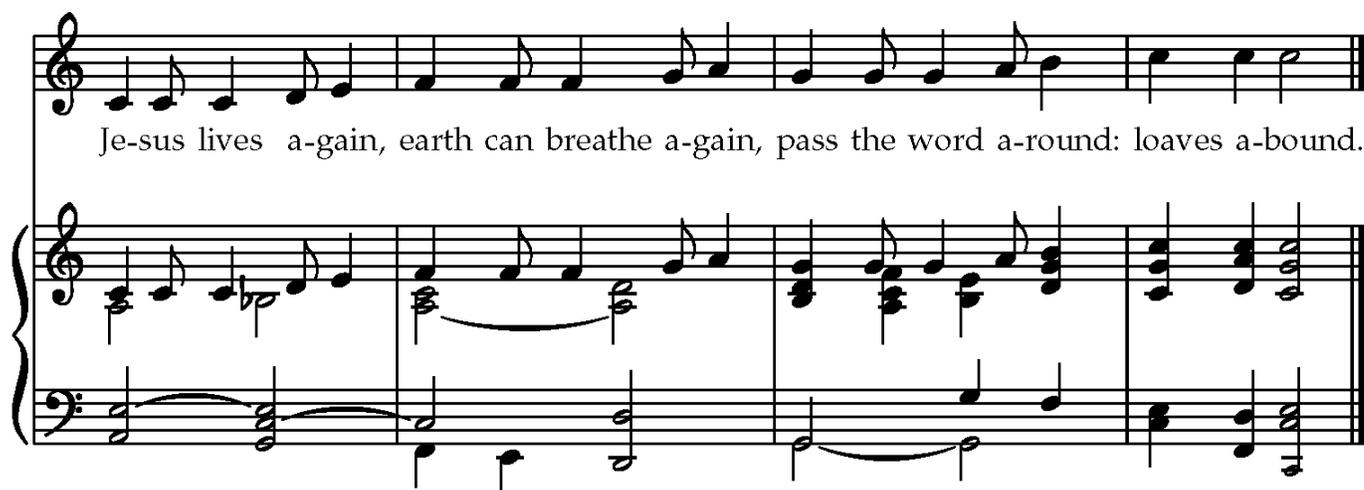
Let us talents and tongues employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is brok - en, the wine is poured, Christ is spok - en and seen and heard:
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press:
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God Em - man - u - el ev - ery - where:



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the word a - round: loaves a - bound.

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Music: *Linstead*, Jamaican folk song; adapt. Doreen Potter (1925–1980) © Hope Publishing Company,
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