

Welcome to
St. John's Episcopal Church

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

9:00 am

Livestream on Facebook

*No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey,
you are welcome here*



The Word of God with Spiritual Communion

Opening Hymn

When morning gilds the skies

Hymnal 427



1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart, a - wak - ing, cries,
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:
3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heaven is known



1 may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning sha - dows fall,
2 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer
3 than, Je - sus Christ be praised! There to the e - ter - nal Word



1 this rings my cur - few call, may Je - sus Christ be praised!
2 hath none that can com - pare with: Je - sus Christ be praised!
3 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

Salutation

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen***

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.***

Presider Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Presider Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through

things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from 1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:129-136

Mirabilia

Your decrees are wonderful;

therefore I obey them with all my heart.

When your word goes forth it gives light;

it gives understanding to the simple.

I open my mouth and pant;

I long for your commandments.

Turn to me in mercy,

as you always do to those who love your Name.

Steady my footsteps in your word;

let no iniquity have dominion over me.

Rescue me from those who oppress me,

and I will keep your commandments.

Let your countenance shine upon your servant

and teach me your statutes.

My eyes shed streams of tears,

because people do not keep your law.

A Reading from Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.


The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.


Gradual

Almighty God, your word is cast

Hymnal 589



1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed up - on the ground,
2 Let not our self - ish - ness and hate this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant des - troy,



now let the dew of heaven de - scend and right - eous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - ery heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.

The Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Presider

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that

someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

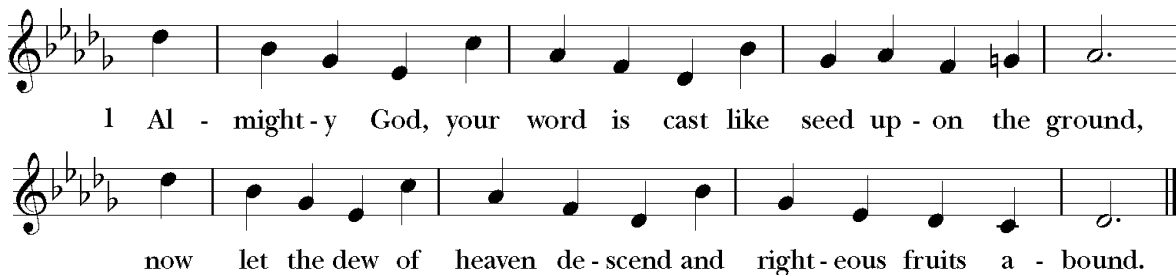
“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.



Sermon

The Nicene Creed

***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.
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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world and all who are in need.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your presence in the world.

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

Guide the people of this country, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your 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.

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

Bless all who live in relationship with one another, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

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

Comfort and heal all those who are weary in body, mind, or spirit; come to the aid of those who suffer from the coronavirus, the unemployed, the hungry, the homeless, and all those listed on our parish prayer list; give them courage and hope through our care, and give them the rest and joy of your salvation.

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

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Fr. Al Stott, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

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

Together let us pray for those serving in the armed forces, first responders, medical professionals, essential workers and their families

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces, first responders, medical professionals, essential workers and their families. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and challenges; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presider O Lord our God,
accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever . **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Presider 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.***

Presider 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

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

The Offertory

*Stewardship is about the offering of our time, talent and treasure.
Thank you to all those who make the work and ministry of St. John's continue.
We have made it even more convenient for you to offer a reoccurring or one-time gift online.
You will find a "Give Now" button on our St. John's website: www.saint-johns.org*

Doxology



The Lord's Prayer

Presider 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.***

Spiritual Communion

Presider It is a tradition in Episcopal churches to share together in the sacrament of Holy Communion, sharing in Christ's Body and Blood. Since we cannot gather in person, our church allows a person who hungers for Holy Communion to share in its benefits. This is called Spiritual Communion, and it draws us together as the Body of Christ in this world.

Let us pray together a prayer of Spiritual Communion.

***My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.***

Concluding Collect

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God.

This prayer was written by Lutheran and Episcopal prayer leaders in light of the COVID pandemic to unite us in common prayer and revive us for common mission, wherever and however we may be gathered.

Presider God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Presider 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 amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Thy kingdom come, O God

Hymnal 613



1 Thy king - dom come, O God! Thy rule, O Christ, be - gin!
2 Where is thy reign of peace, and pu - ri - ty, and love?
3 When comes the prom - ised time that war shall be no more,
4 We pray thee, Lord, a - rise, and come in thy great might;
5 Wher - ev - er near or far thick dark - ness brood - eth yet:



1 Break with thine i - ron rod the tyr - an - nies of sin!
2 When shall all ha - tred cease, as in the realms a - bove?
3 op - pres - sion, lust, and crime shall flee thy face be - fore?
4 re - vive our long - ing eyes, which lan - guish for thy sight.
5 a - rise, O Morn - ing Star, a - rise, and nev - er set!

The Dismissal

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Liturgical Leaders

Presider/Preacher	Rev. Roger Haenke
Readers/Responses	Judy Butcher, Jeff Bates, Lynn Young
Gospel/Dismissal	Rev. Jack and Sarah Tolley
Prayers of the People	Rev. Cathey Dowdle
Spiritual Communion	Rev. Cathey Dowdle
Psalmist/Vocalists	Jane Ferguson, Anna Brunner, Lucy Ferguson
Organist	Cheryl Seppala
Video Production	Cliff Berkowitz

From the Prayer Journal of Fr. Jack Tolley

Friends. "Be part of healing the world." That's what Maria Skobtsova did. This reflection by Shannon MacVean-Brown, the eleventh bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont, appeared in the July 21, 2020 issue of Forward Day by Day. It calls all of us to follow Maria's example by becoming involved in the issues of your community and the world.

Blessings, love, and hugs from a safe distance,

Fr. Jack.

Romans 14: 7-8. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

Maria Skobtsova lived a full life in her fifty-three years. Part of the cultural elite in Saint Petersburg, Russia, she was a poet, theology student, mayor, social activist, immigrant, register of Nazis, and finally a nun who would only submit to a religious rule if she could live her life with an open door to the world. Mother Maria ministered to the poor and eventually to Jews seeking safety in Nazi-occupied France. She and a priest -one of her partners in ministry - were arrested for forging baptismal certificates for Jewish victims of the Nazis. She was sent to Ravensbruck concentration camp where she died in a gas chamber. Mother Maria, saint of the open door, insisted on being completely involved with the issues of her day. Her faith in Jesus arose from her fervent desire to be part of healing the world.

Prayers List

Today and every day include some time for prayer, for yourself,
for your church family, and for those in need.

For our Military

Matt Jensen, Drew Shorkey, Cody Crossland, Cameron Ronie, Chariti Paden, Mark Stanfield,
Sean Robinson, Jonathan Martinez, TK Nguyen, Christopher Lindshield, Timothy Lindshield,
Jeremy Colton, David Sanchez, Jonathan Baldera, Nick Wyatt, Jamal Warner,
Matt Hernandez, Daniel Getreu, Jocelyn Hernandez, Devon Strunk, Taylor Harrold,
Jorge Zuazua, Katherine Milam, Sebastian Morales and Richie Lebron.

For strength in time of need

Scott Hunter, Betty Robertson, Rob McKay, Bill Rogers, Barbara Duncan, Dean Peters,
Fr. Jack and Sarah Tolley, Jan Jones, Sarah Freeman, and Rob Fredericks

For the repose of the soul of Fr. Al Stott
May light perpetual shine on him.

*(Names are kept on the Prayers List for 4 weeks and should be submitted by Wednesday.
If you wish to add a name, please email Maria Love at: maria@saint-johns.org.)*

We Are Available in Your Time of Need

If you have a pastoral emergency when the parish offices are closed,
please call Rev. Roger at 619-301-0724 or email revroger@saint-johns.org

St. John's Mission Statement

St. John's is a Christian community that intentionally gathers to experience God's love
through Episcopal worship, education, fellowship, and ministry to the wider community.

Prayer For the Human Family

*O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son:
Look with compassion on the whole human family;
take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts;
break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love;
and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth;
that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony
around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

St. John's Clergy

The Rev. Roger Haenke, *Priest-in-Charge*

The Rev. Jack Tolley

The Rev. Dr. Al Stott

The Rev. Cathey Dowdle

St. John's Vestry

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Ray Contreras

Muriel Kulikowski

Jim McDevitt

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