

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ESSEX
9:00 AM IN-PERSON WORSHIP
ALL SAINTS DAY
NOVEMBER 1, 2020

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Prelude: *Festival Trumpet Tune*

David German

Jeremiah Mead, *organist*

Procession with organ improvisation: *For All the Saints*

*Due to COVID-19 we are not singing as we would normally do at this time
and rather have the gift of the organ during the procession.*

Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

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

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

The Celebrant continues

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.

Then is sung the following hymn of praise.

Song of Praise:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

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

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The following prayer may be added.

Parish Transition Prayer

Almighty God, you know the challenges we have faced this year. We know you have great plans for us and that you know the church's needs everywhere. Grant the members of our Vestry the guidance of your Holy Spirit as they choose a new rector on our behalf. Help these trusted leaders make sound decisions. Give them discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing. Many things await us once we make this important choice. We are thankful that you are always with us through these unsettling times. Give us the courage to be the people God intended us to be. Let our confidence not rest in our own understanding but in your guiding hand. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Written by all members of the St. John's Prayer Team. Some inspiration from St.
Augustine's Prayer Book by Forward Movement.

The First Lesson: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God
who is seated on the
throne, and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 34:1-10, 22 *Benedicam Dominum*

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1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

2 I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.

3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *
let us exalt his Name together.

4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.

5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.

6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.

8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.

10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.

22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

The Epistle: 1 John 3:1-3

A reading from the First Letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

At the Sequence: *Blessed Assurance*

Fanny Crosby/Phoebe Knapp

Fay Godbolt, soloist

At the Gospel Procession there will be a short organ improvisation.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Warren Godbolt

The Nicene Creed

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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.

The Prayers of the People

Form III, BCP p. 387

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest. We remember today Johannes and Teddy van der Horst and Walter and Sara Aronson, parents of Karen and Robbert van der Horst, and brother-in-law John Aronson, in whose loving memory the Altar flowers are given by Karen and Robbert van der Horst. We also remember Margaret Gaby Ashby (aunt of Lee Gaby), Walter Wallace, Jr., and the victims of last week's Nice tragedy.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

We pray especially for those who have commended themselves to our prayers: Ginny Buracchi, Matheus Burke, Helen and Bill Chatman, Maureen Cole, Sandra and Tony Custodio, Ray and Joan Daly, Roger Deakin, Darlene Ferris, Eliot Field, Dustin Fitzpatrick, Brad Guarino, Maryann Hanick, Donald Hibbard, Deborah Knight, Dan Kucharski, Rich Lammlin, Sarah Lively, John Pfarr, Hannah Roemhild, Pam Ryan, John Schumacher, Dan Taylor-Stypa, Elizabeth Traester, Sean & Jessica Wheeldon, Ginny Willetts, and all on our Home Prayer list.

We pray for all who have been sickened and affected in any way by COVID-19, for the First Family, for all on the White House staff, for elected and nominated government officials, and for peoples throughout our nation and world.

We also pray for the safety of those from our parish who serve in the Armed Forces, especially Douglas Hamilton, Carl Heise, Molly Jane Fresher, Jon Hilzinger, Andy Morgado, Andrew Roemhild, Spencer Russo, and Brian Tewart.

We give thanks for the work of our global ministry partners in Mozambique and the Diocese of Lebombo, especially Bishop Carlos, Father David and the congregation of St. Bernard's, and Jose, our Seminarian. We also pray for the work of Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti.

And we also give thanks the ongoing work of our local ministry partners: the Shoreline Soup Kitchen; Middlesex Habitat for Humanity; the Old Lyme VFW; and Sister Cities Essex Haiti. We give thanks for the ministries of A Sacred Place, Camp Washington, and Incarnation Center.

We give you thanks for creating the diversity of humankind, including our sisters and brothers of color and all races and all cultures and all nations; and we give you thanks for calling us to be reconciled to one another. Your love is the source of our healing, and you transform us from death to life. Continue to give us new hearts and make us

instruments of hope as we walk these days of COVID-19, economic distress, and racial inequity.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

As we enter this week of national elections, we pray for all candidates and for peace in our land. May we all be a people at peace among ourselves. Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PRESENTATION

The People sit.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good and the edification of the Church. On this All Saints Day, we commission Allison Huther Fresher in the Name of God and of this congregation to the special ministry of Verger to which she has been called. That full commissioning and vesting will take place at our 10:45 a.m. service, and we do a portion of the commissioning liturgy at this service.

Rich Lammlin:

Since the early days of the church, laypersons have been commissioned to assist the clergy in the conduct of liturgy. The position of verger was developed in Medieval England where the verger served as the “escort and protector of the procession.” They walked before clergy, deans or bishops as they processed within the precincts of the church or cathedral. They carried a large mace or virge, used to dissuade animals or unruly people from disrupting the procession. Today the verger typically assists the clergy in liturgy planning and helps in overseeing the preparations and execution of worship services.

Celebrant:

The candidate may now be presented.

Presenter Rich Lammlin:

I present to you Allison Huther Fresher to be commissioned as a verger in this congregation.

Celebrant:

Do you believe her manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Rich Lammlin:

I believe her to be well qualified for this ministry.

THE EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Celebrant:

Do you believe that this person has been prepared for her office by a commitment to Christ our Lord, by regular attendance at worship, by the knowledge of her duties, all to execute the office of Verger to the honor of God and the welfare of God's Church?

Rich Lammlin:

I do.

Celebrant:

Allison, you have been called to the ministry of verger. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work in this congregation, perform it with diligence?

Allison:

I will.

Celebrant:

Will you respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your clergy?

Allison:

I will.

Celebrant:

Will you who witness this commissioning do all in your power to support this person in her ministry?

People:

We will.

Celebrant:

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, bless the ministry of Allison, give her understanding and patience to persevere in the fulfillment of her duties; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world, and the service of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

THE COMMISSIONING

Rich Lammlin:

Accept this certificate, and let it be a reminder of the love and support of your colleagues in the Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church as you begin your new ministry.

Celebrant:

In the Name of God and of this Congregation, I commission you to serve as vergers in this parish. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. ***Amen.***

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant says an Offertory sentence, and the Holy Table is prepared.

At the Offertory: *How Great Thou Art*

Stuart K. Hine

Fay Godbolt, soloist

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP p. 369

As the Eucharistic Prayer begins, the names of those who have died since last All Saints Day will be read aloud.

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

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 him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Celebrant and People

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.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.*

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then is said

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in
your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Because of the physical separation we are experiencing, the following prayer of Spiritual
Communion adapted from diocesan priest Bennet Brockman is prayed by Celebrant and People.*

God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Sacrament of the altar you assure us of your presence within us and within the body of Christ, the faithful through all the generations; grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

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To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*All then join in saying the following prayer.**

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.

**used at the urging of our Presiding Bishop, and composed jointly by Episcopalians and Lutherans calling us both to renewal in the midst of the pandemic and also honoring the nearly two decades of full communion between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

The Celebrant then blesses the people.

The Deacon or Celebrant dismisses them with these or similar words

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Procession with Organ Improvisation: *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

*Due to COVID-19 we are not singing as we would normally do at this time
and rather have the gift of the organ during the procession.
The people remain standing as the Altar party processes out.*

Serving today: Jeremiah Meade, Organist; Ken and Keith Krzeminski, Checkers; Darrell Jones, Greeter; Deb Swaney-Jones, Usher; Fay Godbolt, Soloist; Rich Lammlin, Verger; Allison Fresher, Verger-elect; Deb Swaney-Jones, Lector; Jan Perruccio, Lector; Greg Perruccio, Prayers of the People; Rev. Warren Godbolt, Preacher; The Rev. Linda Spiers, Celebrant; The Rev. Geoffrey T. Smith, Deacon.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Clergy and Staff: The Rev. Linda Spiers, *Interim Priest-in-Charge*; The Rev. Geoffrey T. Smith, *Deacon*; The Rev. Carolyn J. Sharp, *Priest Affiliate*; Chelsea DiDonato, *Parish Administrator & Communications Director*; Darlene James, *Music Director*; Becky Honan, *Christian Education Director*; Richard Lammlin, *Verger*; Craig Larson, *Sexton*; Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

Vestry: Brian Fresher, *Warden*; Karen Kaestle, *Warden*; Anne Littlefield, *Vestry Clerk*; Howard Tuttle, *Treasurer*; Mary Bowers, Skip Fiorelli, Lee Gaby, Darrell Jones, Gregory Perruccio, Kathy Randall, Paulette Rider, Maggie Walden, Kirsten Wendell

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