



St. John's Episcopal Church

Hear the Spirit ~ See God's Beauty ~ Act in Love

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2026 10am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Toccata in E*

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn #390 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

Opening Acclamation

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

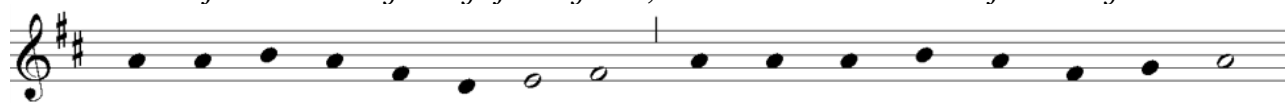
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.

The Gloria *Hymnal S-277*

Service music is found at the beginning of the hymnal, listed in numerical order before the hymns



1. Glo - ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



2. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you,



we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



4. you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



7. You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

insert

Presider The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The First Lesson: Exodus 14:19-31

insert

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114 *In exitu Israel*

Tonus Peregrinus



*1 *Hållelujah!*

When Israel / came out of Égypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people / of stränge spëech,

2 Judah became / God's sanctuáry *
and Israel his / domínion.

3 The sea / beheld it ánd fled; *
Jordan turned / and wént bäck.

4 The / mountains skipped líke rams, *
and the little hills / líke yóung shëep.

- 5 What ailed you, / O sea, that yóu fled? *
O Jordan, that / you túrned bäck?
- 6 You moun/tains, that you skípped like rams? *
you little hills / like yóung shëep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at / the presence óf the Lord, *
at the presence of the God / of Jácöb,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into / a pool of wáter *
and flint-stone into / a flówing spríng. [Ant.]

The Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

insert

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #581 *Where charity and love prevail*

CHESHIRE

Verses 1 - 4 will be sung before the reading of the Gospel.

Verses 5 and 6 will be sung after the reading.

The Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

insert

Presider The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Following the Gospel

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rector

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.**

The Prayers of the People

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Julia; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for Tony, Lyn, Megan, Lin, David, Gloria and Roger, Jack, Ned, Katherine, Edward here and for those we now name either silently or aloud.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

**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 Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All are invited to exchange greetings of peace.

Welcome and Announcements of our Ministries

The Rector



During the Offertory Hymn, our ushers will pass the collection plate. You are welcome to make an offering by leaving cash or a check in the plate, or by scanning the QR code to donate online via [Tithely](https://tithely.org).

Whether you are able to support our ministry financially or not, please know that you are invited to full participation in this church on exactly the same terms and conditions as God's grace and love: completely free of charge.

Offertory Hymn #336 *Come with us, O blessed Jesus*

WERDE MUNTER

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

The Presider gives thanks to God, continuing until the words

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

The Sanctus S-127



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, — hea - ven and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. —

The Presider continues to give thanks, and invites all to join in

Presider Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Presider continues praying, concluding with

Presider 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.

All **AMEN.**

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.

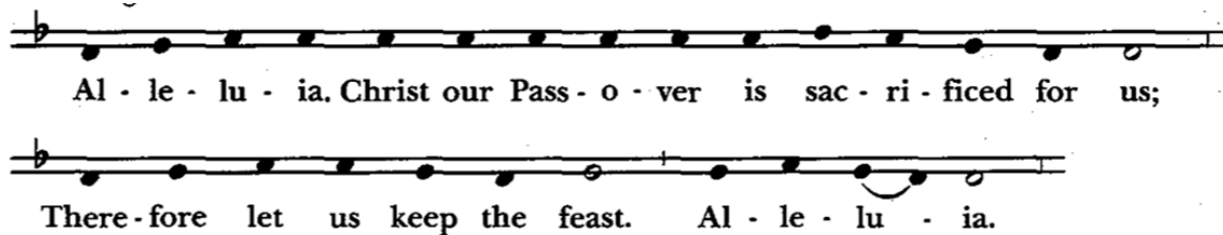
And forgive us our trespasses,

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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



All who seek to receive Christ in the sacrament of this meal are welcome to partake of the bread and wine. Please come to the altar up the center aisle and return to your pew down the side aisles. You are welcome to receive both the bread and the wine, bread only, or a blessing. To receive the bread, stand or kneel at the altar rail and the priest will place the host in your hands. The wine is available either from the common cup, or in individually pre-packaged containers on small tables at either end of the altar rail. To receive the wine from the pre-packaged cup, open the foil seal at the top of the container, drink the wine, and place the empty cup into the basket.

Communion Anthems

Sung in Alternatim

Veni Creator Spiritus

Komm Gott, Schöpfer, Heiliger Geist

Benedictine chant (ca. 1000)

from Eyn Enchiridion 1524

The Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand as able.*

Presider Let us pray.

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

The Blessing

Closing Hymn #516 *Come down, O Love divine*

DOWN AMPNEY

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Komm Gott, Schöpfer, Heiliger Geist*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The flowers on the altar today were arranged by Elizabeth Hay

Ministers Serving Today:

The Rev. Greg Johnston, Presider

Douglas Witte, Organist

Matt Hast, Vestry Person of the Day

Duncan Holbrook-Smith and Jane Struss, Readers

Simon Ringrose, Intercessor

Duncan Holbrook-Smith, Chalice Bearer

Robin Moody, Altar Guild

Elizabeth Hay and Matt Hast, Ushers

Jane Struss and many helping hands, Cook-out hosts and helpers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome back to Church School – thanks to Nancy Savage and Pia Bertelli for leading church school today! Ms. Nancy offers Godly Play to children ages 3 through 9. Pia will be sharing teaching duties for our older children and our friend Tilia will be in the nursery to care for our youngest members.

Cookout follows worship – a huge thank you to the many people who have contributed food, time and talent to make this afternoon special! Please join us after the service for this amazing feast!

Hooray for our choir – we have missed you and are so happy to have you back from summer vacation!

Looking for a way to serve this beautiful faith family? There are many ways! Please speak to the rector or anyone you see assisting in a way you could do as well.

Harvest Fair Sponsors are needed ... please see our list of local businesses and organizations that might help us continue to offer our “pay what you will” turkey dinner to our friends in the community. If you have a connection to one of them, please consider volunteering to reach out to them to ask for their support.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

27 Devens Street, Charlestown, MA 02129

617-242-1272 | stjohns02129@gmail.com | www.stjohns02129.org

The Rev. Gregory Johnston, Rector

Mr. Douglas Witte, Organist and Choirmaster

Ms. Nancy Savage, Godly Play Teacher

Ms. Priscilla Burns, Parish Administrator ~ Mr. Brian O'Neill, Sexton

Mr. Matt Hast and Ms. Shannon Fry, Wardens