

# The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

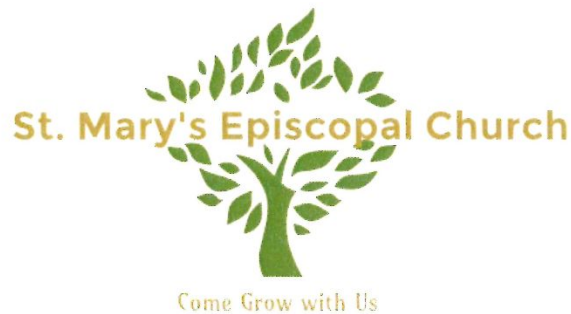


Holy Eucharist  
September 13, 2020 9:00 am

## **WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Our mission is to be a community of Christian worship, well-being and service.  
We will be worshipping outside as weather permits.

We hope you will experience God's own welcome in this place and through  
our online ministry. Worship and join us online [@smcportsmouth.org](https://smcportsmouth.org) or find  
us on Facebook [@smcportsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/smcportsmouth).



### **Notes about outdoor worship at St. Mary's**

We are glad you are here today! If you are outside your car, please wear a mask and maintain a distance of 6 feet between you and anyone outside your family.

Should you require special assistance today, you will see various team members in blue vests who are glad to assist.

- Restrooms are available downstairs in the Parish House.
- Singing is not permitted because this may spread the virus. Dancing, humming and clapping are encouraged.

For Worship from your car:

- Please turn your radio to 88.7
- We ask that you remain in the car to maintain social distancing.
- Holy Communion will be brought to you. Please keep a mask on and wait until the minister is 6 feet away before consuming the sacrament.

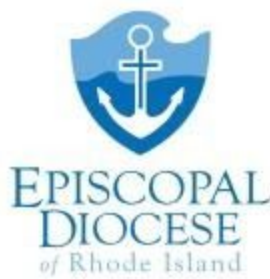
For Worship on the Lawn:

- A greeter will assign you a circle. Please remain in your circle until invited to come forward for Holy Communion. Keep 6' for social distancing as you walk and wait in line. Keep your mask on to receive and wait to return to your seat before consuming the sacrament.

For Worship from the Reserved Seating: (For those who need extra care and space.)

- Get on the list and we will save you a seat each week. Contact [srwarden@smcportsmouth.org](mailto:srwarden@smcportsmouth.org). Or you can find someone with a blue vest and they will get you a seat.
- Holy Communion will be brought to you. Please keep a mask on and wait until the minister is 6 feet away before consuming the sacrament.

For information and announcements please go to our website: [smcportsmouth.org](http://smcportsmouth.org), and read our weekly eNews, which arrives on Saturdays.



### **Covenant for Regathering**

I promise, to the best of my ability with God's help, to abide by the guidelines of the Diocese of Rhode Island and St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Portsmouth, for participation in church as we regather during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In fulfillment of the Baptismal Covenant (BCP p. 304-305), I will strive to:

#### **Love my neighbor as myself, I will...**

- Wear a mask or scarf over my nose and mouth at all times in church buildings, except momentarily to receive the sacrament or lead worship by an assigned speaking part, and follow public health guidelines for hand sanitizing and disinfecting.
- Only attend worship if I am non-symptomatic for the COVID-19 virus or any other transmittable disease that could compromise the health of another person also attending.
- Abstain from attending if doing so would put me at greater risk due to my own health status.

#### **Respect the dignity of every human being, I will...**

- Make no physical contact with people beyond the members of my own household. ▪ Maintain a six foot or more distance from other members of the congregation.
- Respect any requests for distance, masking, cleaning, and disinfecting to ensure the safety and comfort level of others.

#### **Seek and serve Christ in all people...**

- Support the decisions of my diocesan and congregational leaders.
- Stay connected with others in my community by telephone, video chat, mail, or other means

This is our expectation for all those who wish to worship with us in person. By participating in our worship, you assume responsibility for following the above.

## Gathering

### Welcome and Announcements

*All may stand at the ringing of the church bell.*

### Processional Hymn: I Sing the Almighty Power of God

### Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

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

### Song of Praise: Surely It Is God Who Saves Me

## The Word of God

### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* God be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The People may be seated.*

### First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

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 whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*All may stand for the Gospel Procession*

**Gospel Procession:** Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

**Holy Gospel:** Matthew 18:21-35

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

<i>Gospeller</i>	The Gospel of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<b>Praise to you, Lord Christ</b>

**Sermon**

The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely, Bishop

*All may stand for the Nicene Creed.*

### **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. Grant, most merciful God, that your ways may be known upon earth, your saving health spread among all nations, and may your people stand in awe of you. Deepen the faith of your church and strengthen her leaders.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Remembering that all humans are made in the image of God, keep our minds and hearts open to seeing injustice and systems of oppression. We pray for an end to violence in all its forms. May we serve those who are in need, those who need to be seen, heard, healed and lifted up.

Guide us and guard us, especially in this political season that we may love our neighbors as ourselves. Give us grace that may we model Jesus' respect for the dignity and value of all people.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that with wisdom we will care for your planet and people. Heal our blindness and ignorance as we address the climate crisis. We pray for all whose lives and homes are endangered by drought, fires, and storms. Keep us grateful for the gifts that sustain and delight us, and mindful of their source.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for scientists, leaders, and those in the medical profession. May they be blessed with wisdom, skill and knowledge to fight the Covid-19 virus and heal your people

everywhere. Guide and protect all educators, school employees, parents, and students in this season. Be with every person facing uncertainty and loss.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, for healing for Regina, Priscilla, Judith, The Naval Chaplain School, Bonnie, Megan, Kevin, Jillian, Tom, Shirley, Carol, Bev, Malcolm, Robert, Peter, Bev, Mary, Jennie, Jake and for those we name aloud.

*The people may add their own petitions.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, remembering especially all who have died of Covid-19 throughout the world, and for those we name aloud.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

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

*Silence*

*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.**



*the Priest, stands and says*

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**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**Offertory Hymn:** Now Thank We All Our God

### **The Holy Communion**

*If you would like to make an offering, please place it in one of the blue buckets.*

*The people may stand for the Eucharistic Prayer.*

#### **Eucharistic Prayer**

*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.**

*The celebrant continues...*

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

#### **Sanctus and Benedictus**

*The celebrant continues...*

*Celebrant* Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*People* **We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his glory;**

*The celebrant continues...*

...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. **AMEN.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant* 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**

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Fraction:** We Come to You

Blakesley

**Communion Music:** I Am the Bread of Life  
- These Alone Are Enough

Kaczmarek

Schutte

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord Amen.**

## **The Blessing and Dismissal**

*Celebrant* The blessing ✠ of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Closing Song:** Go Make A Difference

Tomaskez

Thank you to Bishop Knisely for leading worship with us this morning. This is a gift!

**Outdoor Worship Coordinator**

Marlo Pratt

**The Worship Team**

The Rev. Jennifer Pedrick, Michael Templeton, Julie Zecher, The Rev. Laura Palmer,  
Sheila Benevides, Paul Westrom

**Parking and Safety Team**

George LeBlanc, Lynn Carlson LeBlanc,  
Steve Bakios, Ray Edler, Harry Gustafson

**Welcome Team**

Murry Edwards, David Spengler, Lee Ferreira,  
Tara and Gretchen Alaniz, Judy & Bill Hall, Jennie Nestlerode

**Production Team**

David Brierley, Rose Muller, Haleigh Pratt, Bella DeAngelo

**Flowers:** Debby Timby **Set up/Break down:** Matthew Spohn

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**Community Announcement**

**A Good way to serve others!** The Food Pantry at the Dr. Martin Luther King Community Center is once again accepting food donations. Please consider bringing non-perishable food and fresh vegetables and fruit to St. Mary's, where each week it will be delivered by church volunteers to the Food Pantry. Items urgently needed:

- canned protein (such as tuna and peanut butter),
- pantry staples: such as flour, sugar, condiments, and jelly
- breakfast items, canned vegetables and tomato sauce
- household and toiletry items

Items can be conveniently dropped off at church upon arrival for Sunday service. Just hand it to the greeter at the welcome table.

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**

324 East Main Road, Portsmouth, RI 02871  
(401) 846-9700 ♦ [www.smcportsmouth.org](http://www.smcportsmouth.org)

The Reverend Jennifer L. Pedrick, *Rector*  
Karen Laroche, *Parish Administrator*

Michael Templeton, *Pastoral Musician*  
Jon Walker, *Property Manager*