

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



Outdoor Worship
July 26, 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 worshiping outside as weather permits.

We hope you will experience God's own welcome in this place
and that you will return again and again.



Notes about outdoor worship at St. Mary's

We are glad you are here! Worshiping this way is a new offering for all of us. Please let us know how to improve the experience. Gathering our community for worship is of the utmost importance, as is fostering the well-being of all people.

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

If you would like to make an offering, please use the blue donation buckets in the worship space and around the property. Your generosity makes a difference!

- Masks are required while we are together.
- Restrooms are available downstairs in the Parish House.
- Please keep 6' distancing.
- Singing is not permitted because this known to 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.

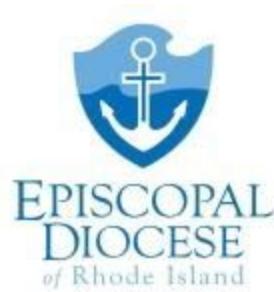
For Worship on the Lawn:

- A greeter will assign you a circle. Please remain in your circle until invited to depart and remember to keep 6' for social distancing as you walk between the lawn and your car. You will be dismissed one circle at a time.

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. Or you can find someone with a blue vest and they will get you a seat.

For information and announcements please go to our web site smcportsmouth.org, and read our weekly eNews, 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: Come Let Us Sing with Joy to the Lord

Paul Tate

Opening Acclamation

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

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

Celebrant 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.**

Song of Praise: Glory to God

Ed Bolduc

The Word of God

Collect of the Day

Priest God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest 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 People may be seated.

First Reading: 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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:129-136 *spoken by all*

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.

Second Reading: 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All may stand for the Gospel Procession

Gospel Procession: Could It Be?

Liam Lawton

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Gospeller 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."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Sermon

The Rev. Jennifer Pedrick

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

Leader

Let us pray for the world, our nation, the Church, our households, our hearts and minds. Be present with the people, leaders and staff of St. Mary's.

Silence is kept.

Grant, O loving God, that all who belong to you may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

During this time of pandemic, we pray for scientists, healers, and those in the medical profession. May they be blessed with wisdom, strength and knowledge to fight the Covid-19 virus and heal your people everywhere. We pray for the health and well-being of all across our nation.

We pray for all students, parents, teachers, and educational leaders. We pray for discernment and support as they make difficult decisions and weigh their hopes and fears as the new school year approaches. Please guard and guide them.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Help us to stay curious and engaged as racist systems are seen and dismantled. Keep us focused on the fight against white supremacy in our nation. Keep us mindful of those public servants who work to serve and protect all people. Help us to follow Jesus, loving all our neighbors and accepting God's grace as we are freed from our sins.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the gathering of our St. Mary's Community, for rest and renewal and for the beautiful summer weather.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, remembering especially Regina, Priscilla, Judith, The Naval Chaplain School, Bonnie, Fran, Tom, Donna, Bette, Megan, Carol, Michael, Mary, Karen and 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 -for Frances Sherman who was buried on Monday, for Josephine Yancho who died this week, for the 145,000 souls in the US who have died of Covid-19. For all those we name aloud.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **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 Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant May God give to you and to all those whom you love his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing ☩ of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song: Spread, O Spread Thou Mighty Word

Outdoor Worship Coordinator
Marlo Pratt

The Worship Team

The Rev. Jennifer Pedrick, Michael Templeton, Julie Zecher, The Rev. Laura Palmer,
Sheila Benevides, and Lydia DeAngelo.

Parking and Safety Team

David Brierley, George LeBlanc, Lynn Carlson LeBlanc, Steve Bakios, Jennie Nestlerode,
Harry Gustafson

Welcome Team

Murry Edwards, David Spengler, Lee Ferreira, Rose Muller, Judy & Bill Hall

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What's My Work?

St. Mary's Anti-Racism Discussion Series

(Session two on Thursday, August 20th will center on the gospel imperative for people of faith to do this work.)

Tuesday, July 28th

6:30-7:30 p.m.

via Zoom

Please register by e-mailing Lynn Carlson at lynncarlson96@gmail.com before July 27th. Once registered, the Zoom link will be sent directly to you.

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The Reverend Jennifer L. Pedrick, *Rector*
Karen Laroche, *Parish Administrator*
Michael Templeton, *Pastoral Musician*
Jon Walker, *Property Manager*

