



Worship with Communion 13th Sunday after Pentecost A New School Year Begins

VIDEO: View & interact on any device live at 10AM on August 30

go.mysjec.com/facebook or go.mysjec.com/youtube

You can watch the videos at any time after they air live.

Welcome! We're glad that you chose to worship with us today!

Amma Diane

♪ **Thou, Whose Almighty Word**

Thou, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray, and, where the Gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!

Thou who didst come to bring on thy redeeming wing healing and sight,
heal to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind, let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love, life-giving holy Dove, speed forth thy flight!
Move on the waters' face bearing the gifts of grace,
and, in earth's darkest place, let there be light!

Holy and blessed Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide, rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide, let there be light!

Text: John Marriott, 1813. Tune: MOSCOW/ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1769.

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

All And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. **AMEN!**

A New School Year Begins

Celebrant We find ourselves in the beginning of a new school year. This is perhaps the most unique school year in any of our lifetimes, filled with new challenges and new opportunities. We worship a God of new creations and new beginnings. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. God created new life, blessed that life, and called it good.

People **O God, we thank you for new beginnings, and for this new school year. We give you thanks and praise that you call us good.**

Celebrant Bless the parents, families, and other guardians who guide their children, hold up dreams for them, hug them, read to them, drive them all over town, support them, trust them, pray for them, and give them more values and time and love than they knew they had.

People **We lift them up to you, O God, and we offer you our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Bless the teachers, assistants, librarians, aides, administrators, facilitators, advisors, cooks, coaches, drivers, tutors, volunteers, and others who encourage students, teach them, believe in them, care for their needs, and give them more time and energy than they knew that had.

- People** We lift them up to you, O God, and we offer you our thanks and praise.
Celebrant Bless the students of all ages who dream so big, work so hard, and achieve so much. Bless their hope and joy, as well as their anxiety and fears. Help them discover new friendships and cherish old ones. Instill in them a vision beyond tomorrow.
- People** We lift them up to you, O God, and we offer you our thanks and praise.
Celebrant Bless all schools, colleges, and universities, be they public, private, or home schools, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom. Bless all participants as they experience education in new ways.
- People** We lift them up to you, O God, and we offer you our thanks and praise.
Celebrant Bless all of us as we encourage and support all students, parents, teachers, and others involved in education. May we lend our wisdom and support, our time and patience, and our prayers and resources to the communal work of guiding young people. Help us, God, to seek ways to support quality education for every student.
- People** We lift ourselves up to you, O God, and we offer you our thanks and praise.
Celebrant Let us pray.
- All** Almighty God, strengthen us to love all your children... those who are motivated, and those who are misguided... those who are bullied, and those who are bullies... those who are forgotten, and those who are favored. Help us find ways to help all students grow intellectually, physically, and spiritually. Help us to appreciate and support those under-appreciated professionals who've committed themselves to educate others. Help us to be knowledgeable advocates and supporters of education for all. Bless all of us, O God, in the many ways each of us learns and teaches. AMEN!

First Lesson

Romans 12. 9-21

- Reader 1** A reading from the letter to the Romans.
Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
- Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*
- Reader 1** The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Unison Reading

Psalm 26. 1-8

Reader 1 Let us read together from Psalm 26.

All Give judgement for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in you and have not faltered. Test me, O Lord, and try me; examine my heart and my mind. For your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful. I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked. I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, that I may go in procession round your altar, singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds. Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

Gospel

Matthew 16. 21-28

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

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

Amma Diane

Nicene Creed*Celebrant* Let us join in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All 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

Reader 2 Creator God, by the mercies of your son, our Lord, Jesus, compel us to TURN our hearts to his Way of Love. That we might follow Jesus together as your faithful people, we pause, listen, and respond in prayer.

All **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

Reader 2 Jesus, your life, death, resurrection, and ascension inspire the church to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship. Guide your people to LEARN your Word, that we might see God's story unfolding in our midst.

All **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

Reader 2 Son of God, you responded to your Father in PRAYER and pleaded that we might all be one. Guide the leaders and faithful citizens of this nation to respond to God and to one another in compassion — in thought and deed, with or without words — that the people of the United States might live in unity and peace.

All **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

Reader 2 Light of the World, you taught us to WORSHIP in spirit and in truth. Lead us to join with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, that the whole world might be united in the truth of your love.

All **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

Reader 2 Lord, you came not to be served but to serve. Empower us to BLESS one another and our neighbors, that your spirit of generosity, compassion, and selfless action transform us and the people in our midst.

All **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

Reader 2 Savior, you came into our midst that we might know life. Embolden us to GO among those who are weary, burdened, sick, or imprisoned, that we might live like you, crossing the boundaries that divide rich from poor, sick from well, and sinner from saint.

All **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

Reader 2 Lamb of God, in your death you destroyed death and taught us the way to eternal life. Compel us to daily die to self and REST in your grace. May all who have died rest in peace and rise in glory.

All **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

Reader 2 We lift up the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

All **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

Reader 2 Lord Jesus Christ, who gave your life for the life of all, we commit our lives to following you. Continually guide us in your way and draw us in to live as your Beloved Community in this age and in age to come; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All **AMEN!**

Reader 2 We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All **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!**

Celebrant 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.

All **AMEN!**

Passing the Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Invitation to Communion

from the Iona Community, Scotland

Celebrant The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

♪ We Thank You God, for Teachers

We thank you, God, for teachers who help us learn your Way,
Who show by their example how we can serve and pray,
Who find great joy in worship, who listen with concern;
For in their loving witness, they help us want to learn.

We thank you, God, for children and older people, too,
Who value times of learning and want to grow in you,
Who seek your precious kingdom and wisdom from above;
For wise ones of all ages still seek to learn your love.

We thank you, God, for families of every kind and size,
 Who keep the vows they spoke when their children were baptized,
 Who pray and read the Bible, who love and serve the poor;
 They teach, by what they value, the way of Christ our Lord.

We thank you, God, for churches that welcome one and all,
 That nurture every person in answer to Christ's call.
 So fill us with your Spirit, and give us life anew,
 That we may help each other live faithfully in you.

Text: © 1999 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Tune: *AURELIA*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864.

Offering Our Gifts

Celebrant Gifts and offerings may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at mysjec.com/donate. Thank you for your financial support as we've adapted our ministry and mission together these past few months.

Celebrant Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:

People **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

All **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant 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.

All **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant 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.

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

Celebrant 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.

All **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Celebrant 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:

All **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.**

Celebrant 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.

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."

All 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.

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, of Isaac and Rebekah, of Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; 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 only, 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.

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

Celebrant 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.

All **AMEN!**

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

All **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!**

Breaking Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Celebrant gives the invitation to spiritual communion to all participating near and far.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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!

Blessing

Celebrant May the blessing of God, who Creates, Redeems, and Sustains, be upon you and all you love and pray for, this day and for ever more.

All Alleluia! AMEN!

♪ O God, As We Pause from Our Usual Ways

O God, as we pause from our usual ways, as millions stay home, as we count passing days, may we learn what matters—what really has worth. May we seek your reign as we live here on earth. May we find your blessings in small, common things; may we learn the joy that community brings. In loving our neighbors, in stopping to pray, may we know your presence in each passing day. God, may we reflect on a world that has changed—a world where our values have been rearranged. For those who once thought they could stand by themselves now value the workers who restock the shelves. As greed and injustice are being laid bare, may we build a nation that's loving and fair. God, give us the courage to change what we can, to work for the justice that's part of your plan. So, turn us around, Lord, to make your world new; May we seek, in all things, to first follow you. In change and in sorrow may we seek your reign. O God, in our pausing, restore us again!

Text: © 2020 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Tune: *ST DENIO*, Traditional Welsh melody.

Sending

Celebrant Go forth into the world, sharing the Good News of God's love. Alleluia, alleluia!

All Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220

If you have any questions, concerns, or pastoral needs, please call The Rev Diane M Murray, Rector: 920.860.5152

Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank.

There are also online giving options on our web site at mysjec.com/donate. August's special offering supports Amma Diane's discretionary fund to help those in need—please label accordingly.

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