

# Welcome to Saint Mary's Episcopal Church!

## Ninth Sunday after Pentecost—July 25, 2021

PRELUDE

*We Shall Rise Again*  
St. Mary's Choir

Jeremy Young

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant* Blessed be the One Holy and Living God.  
*People* **Glory to God forever and ever.**

SONG OF PRAISE

*For Everyone Born*  
Saint Mary's Choir

Words: Shirley Erena Murray  
Music: Brian Mann

OPENING COLLECT

*Celebrant* God be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* God of the abundance, in whole nothing is lost and all are fed; liberate us from meagre rations of scarce and grudging love for which we must compete; show us another kingdom which stills our all consuming fear and fills us with new hope; through Jesus Christ, the peace of creation. **Amen.**

FIRST MESSAGE

*Lay Leader* Let us prepare ourselves to hear the Word Of God as it comes to us from a sermon preached at First United Church of Christ in Northfield, MN, on February 3, 2013.  
*People* **Our hearts and minds are open.**

As we walk the Christian journey, we discover that what we need to heal the aching in our lives and the crises of our time is here. The gifts we need are here, in the church. In the faith that we carry, in the love we have for one another and in the love we give to the world. The gifts we need are here, and not in a marginal way, but in abundance. God gives abundantly, can't help it. As we walk the Christian way, in the church and sent by the church, we will see signs of God's abundant love and grace all around us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Lay Leader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

*Bread Is Broken*  
Saint Mary's Choir

Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan  
Sidney Fowler

GOSPEL

John 6:1-21

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

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and

sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

HOMILY

The Reverend Susan Moss

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH AND BAPTISMAL PROMISES

*Lay Leader*    Let us affirm our faith.

*People*         **We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;  
                      in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,  
                      conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.  
We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity,  
                      a feasting God.  
We affirm a faith, that takes us beyond a safe place into action,  
                      into vulnerability, into the streets.  
We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line;  
                      to bear responsibility, to take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;  
                      to stand with those on the edge;  
                      to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of Hope. Amen.**

*Lay Leader*    And now we join together with members of the worldwide Anglican/Episcopal Communion in translating the beliefs in our hearts into action in our lives, in these baptismal questions. Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People*         **I will, with God's help.**

*Lay Leader*    Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People*         **I will, with God's help.**

*Lay Leader* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Lay Leader* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Lay Leader* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?  
*People* **I will, with God's help.**

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Lay Leader* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*After hearing "Lord, in your mercy", the people respond:*

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

#### SAINT MARY'S COMMUNITY PRAYERS: CONCERNS AND THANKSGIVINGS

*Everyone is invited to offer concerns and thanksgivings.*

*Lay Leader* O God, accept the prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
*People* **Amen.**

#### PEACE

*Celebrant* Peace be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

*People* **God be in my head and in my thinking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in my heart and in my loving.  
God be in my hands and in my giving. Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

*Celebrant* God be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts  
*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
*Celebrant and People* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant and People on Zoom*

Gracious God, You stand at the door of our hearts and knock. You wait for us and we only can let you in. We believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill us with your presence. Nourish us with your body and unite us in your blood, that we may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant and People*

Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your Name.  
your kingdom com, your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are your, now and for ever. Amen

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ  
*People* We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread

COMMUNION HYMN

*We Come to this Table*

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette  
Music: KREMSER

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant* Let us pray together.  
Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, and renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ. Amen.

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG

*How Can I Keep from Singing*  
Saint Mary's Choir

Robert Lowry

DISMISSAL

*Deacon* <Deacon says the words of dismissal.>  
*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

*For Everyone Born (Reprise)*

## SOURCES

The Opening Collect is based on *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* by Steven Shakespeare.  
First Message is from *TBD*. Affirmation of Faith is from *Iona Abbey Worship Book* by The Iona Community.  
*Enriching Our Worship*, Church Publishing.