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The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Eucharist Rite Two
Sunday, October 25, 2026
8:30 AM

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN

Sheltered In The Arms Of God

Rambo & Davis

1. I feel the touch of hands so kind and ten - der; They're lead - ing
(2. Soon I shall) hear the call from Heav - en's por - tals: "Come home, My
me in paths that I must trod. I have no fear when Je - sus walks be -
child, it's the last mile you must trod." I'll fall a - sleep and wake in God's new
side me, for I'm shel - tered in the arms of God. So let the
Heav - en, shel - tered safe with - in the arms of God.
storms rage high, the dark clouds rise; They won't wor - ry me, for I'm shel - tered safe with -
in the arms of God. He walks with me, and naught of earth shall harm me,
for I'm shel - tered in the arms of God. 2. Soon I shall God. _____

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People Glory to God for ever and ever.

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.*

OPENING ANTHEM *Glory to God*

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 1:1-5, 11-18, 29-31

The people sit.

A reading from the First book of Kings.

¹ King David was old and advanced in years, and although they covered him with clothes, he could not get warm. ² So his servants said to him, “Let a young virgin be sought for my lord the king, and let her wait on the king and be his attendant; let her lie in your bosom, so that my lord the king may be warm.” ³ So they searched for a beautiful young woman throughout all the territory of Israel and found Abishag the Shunammite and brought her to the king. ⁴ The young woman was very beautiful. She became the king’s attendant and served him, but the king did not know her.

⁵ Now Adonijah son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, “I will be king.” He prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him.

¹¹ Then Nathan said to Bathsheba, Solomon’s mother, “Have you not heard that Adonijah son of Haggith has become king and our lord David does not know it?

¹² Now therefore come, let me give you advice, so that you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon. ¹³ Go in at once to King David and say to him, ‘Did you not, my lord the king, swear to your servant, saying, “Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne? Why then is Adonijah king?”’ ¹⁴ Then while you are still there speaking with the king, I will come in after you and confirm your words.”

¹⁵ So Bathsheba went to the king in his room. The king was very old; Abishag the Shunammite was attending the king. ¹⁶ Bathsheba bowed and did obeisance to the king, and the king said, “What do you wish?” ¹⁷ She said to him, “My lord, you swore to your servant by the Lord your God, saying, ‘Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne.’ ¹⁸ But now suddenly Adonijah has become king, though you, my lord the king, do not know it.

²⁹ The king swore, saying, “As the Lord lives, who has saved my life from every adversity, ³⁰ as I swore to you by the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne in my place,’ so will I do this day.” ³¹ Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the ground and did obeisance to the king and said, “May my lord King David live forever!”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 61

Remain seated.

1 Hear my cry, O God, *
and listen to my prayer.

2 I call upon you from the ends of the earth
with heaviness in my heart; *
set me upon the rock that is higher than I.

3 For you have been my refuge, *
a strong tower against the enemy.

4 I will dwell in your house for ever; *
I will take refuge under the cover of your wings.

5 For you, O God, have heard my vows; *
you have granted me the heritage of those who fear your Name.

6 Add length of days to the king's life; *
let his years extend over many generations.

7 Let him sit enthroned before God for ever; *
bid love and faithfulness watch over him.

8 So will I always sing the praise of your Name, *
and day by day I will fulfill my vows.

SECOND READING: James 5:1–6

Remain seated.

A Reading from the letter of James.

¹ Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. ² Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure during the last days. ⁴ Listen! The wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.

⁵ You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have nourished your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN *More Precious Than Silver* **DeShazo**

Lord, You _ are more pre-cious than _ sil - ver. Lord, You _

are more cost - ly than _ gold. Lord, You _ are more

beau - ti - ful _ than dia-monds, and noth-ing _ I de - sire com-pares with

You.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:19–27

All stand as able.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Reverend Benedict Varnum

THE CREED

All stand as able.

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

All remain standing.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Scott, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray for John, Recia, Barbara, Elle, Brendan & children, Chris, Carol, Jill, Lorraine, Don, Geno & family, Irene, Tom, Carol, Norma, Carla & family, Easton, Mike, Marie, Jean, Willie, Ralph, Jim, Jan, Mark, Emyrsen, Caleb, Jim, Avery and Hayden & family. Are there any others who need our prayers?

Silence, the People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence, the People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God in heaven;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence, the People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant says:

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays: Autumn Weber

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

OFFERTORY

Consider The Lillies

Hemphill

1. Con-sid - er the lil - ies, they don't toil nor spin, And
2. May I in - tro - duce you to this Friend of mine, Who

there's not a king with more splen - dor than them; Con -
hangs out the stars, tells the sun when to shine, And

-sid - er the spar - rows, they don't plant nor sow, But they're
kiss - es the flow - ers each morn-ing with dew, But

fed by the Mas - ter, who watch - es them grow.
He's not too bus - y to care a - bout you?

We have a heav - en - ly Fa - ther a - bove, With

eyes full of mer - cy and a heart full of love;

He real-ly cares when your head is bowed low, Con -

-sid - er the lil - ies, and then you will know.

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA

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.

PROPER PREFACE

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

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.

By your will they were created and have their being.

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

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.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

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:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy

S 130

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first system contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and". The second system contains the lyrics: "might, ——— Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,". The melody is primarily composed of half notes and whole notes, with some rests. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding notes.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, ——— Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Celebrant continues

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.”

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.*

EPICLESIS

The Celebrant continues

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; Lord God of our Mothers; God of Sarah, Rebekah, 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.

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

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, 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. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People and Celebrant

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

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

DISTRIBUTION

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. *Amen.*
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. *Amen.*

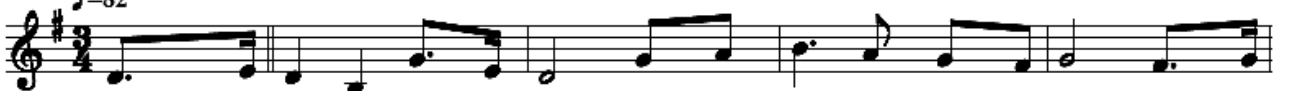
The ministers receive the Sacrament and immediately deliver it to the people. All who are present are welcome to receive communion in bread and wine. Receiving either element (or both) is a full communion, and we have gluten free bread available on request. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, please cross your arms across your chest at the front altar. It is also perfectly respectful to remain seated if you do not wish to come forward.

COMMUNION HYMN

Rock Of Ages

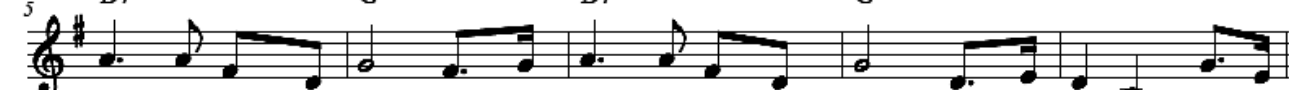
Hastings

J=82 **G** **G/D** **D** **G**



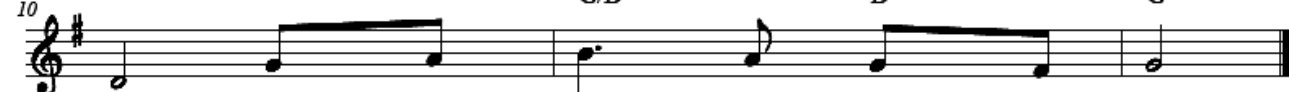
1. Rock of Ag - es, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in Thee. Let the
 2. Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill Thy law's de-mands. Could my
 3. -Noth ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to the cross I cling. Na - ked,
 4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eyes shall close in death, when I

5 **D7** **G** **D7** **G**



wa - ter and the blood, from Thy wound-ed side which flowed, be of sin the dou-ble
 zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for-ev - er flow, all for sin could not a -
 come to Thee for dress; help - less, look to Thee for grace. Foul, I to the foun-tain
 soar to worlds un-known, see Thee on Thy judg - ment throne, Rock of Ag - es, cleft for

10 **G/D** **D** **G**



cure; save from wrath and make me pure.
 - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
 fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 me, let me hide my - self in Thee.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance,
 you have fed us
 with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
 you have united us
 with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

POST-COMM. HYMN***Just A Closer Walk With Thee******Benson***

1. I am weak but Thou art strong, Je - sus keep me from all wrong;
2. Thru this world of toil and snares, If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
3. When my fee - ble life is o'er. Time for me will be no more;



I'll be sat - is - fied as long, As I walk let me walk close to Thee.
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.
Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er, To Thy king - dom shore, to Thy shore.



Just a clos - er walk with Thee, Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea; Dai - ly walk - ing close to



Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October Special Collection - The Benedictine Way

Our October Special Collection goes to the Benedictine Way, which operates both a monastic community and a weekly food pantry in partnership with Church of the Resurrection at 30th and Belvedere. They have been an Outreach partner for several years, and are part of our Outreach team's focus on food ministries at least once each quarter, and they will be present to lead worship on October 18th this year to offer the opportunity to experience the monastery style of prayer and worship leadership here at St Augustine's.

Thanks also for a very successful September collection, which raised a total of \$1,254 for Episcopal Relief and Development!

Vestry Notes for October

The Vestry (the parish board) met on October 18th for their regular meeting. They approved minutes and monthly financial reports, and reviewed updates on outreach ministries, building projects, and our stewardship campaign. Significantly, the vestry has elected **Mark Christenson as Junior Warden**. The Junior Warden has a traditional role of keeping aware of the parish's building needs and vendors. Mark works in Lincoln, so his leadership will be in more of a management and communication style than a handyman style as he holds the position. The vestry also took formal action to approve an updated letter of agreement and compensation package for Kate Kielion as our Director of Ministries. This reflects both the skills Kate has built up, the expansion of her responsibilities over time, and the chance to use staff transition across several positions this fall (administrator, associate priest) to review which position titles most appropriately handle certain tasks. Congratulations to Kate on this

acknowledgement of her work and tenure here on our church staff! The next Vestry meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 15th at noon**; vestry meetings are always open to any members of our church community who wish to attend, and if there's a topic that needs vestry review, please let Fr Ben or a vestry member know prior to the meeting so it can be incorporated in the agenda.

Special Notes for this Year's Stewardship Month

In October, we have a special Stewardship Month at St Augustine of Canterbury:

- Stewardship Letter: a letter will be mailed to parish households by the first week of October, including a note from our Jon Vest (our Finance Chair) and Fr Ben, along with a pledge card, FAQ for the pledge campaign, and some practical graph tools we've used for several years. If you don't receive one, it may mean we need to update your mailing address at the church office, and you can call 402-289-4058 or e-mail parish@sainta.net.
- Treasure Meeting, **October 4th** after each service. This coffee hour conversation lets our planning team share information about the coming year's financial needs and goals. It is intended to help people begin prayerful discernment about their financial pledge for the pledge card, and it is a chance to learn about our financial practices at church and ask any questions we have.
- Talent Sunday, **October 11th** focuses on how we use our gifts at church. We'll hear about ministries in different ways this morning, including an Outreach presentation between our services and an acolyte training at 11:45.

- Time Sunday, **October 18th** will offer a chance to reflect on the time we commit to God and neighbor and our church community. This year, we'll be hosting The Benedictine Way's monastic community to lead Sunday worship and share about their contemplative programs, food pantry, and weekly prayer opportunities, both to invite people to join in their work and to help us reflect on the role of prayer here at St A's.
- Ingathering **Sunday, October 25th** is the date we bring our pledge cards to worship to bless during worship, and celebrate our ingathering with a coffee hour celebration. We'll have extra pledge cards on hand throughout the month and on this Sunday, and everyone is encouraged to participate in our liturgy that day, even if they need to write "still thinking" or "turned in already."

Stay tuned for more as we move through our Stewardship Month in October, and feel free to ask our staff, finance team, or vestry members if you have any questions!

Outreach Notes from September

Our parish Outreach Committee met on Tuesday, September 15th to review events and plan upcoming programs. We heard major updates from the COPE strategic planning process: they're spending the fall setting goals and talking about structure, with some big topics on the table. Our COPE liaisons and Outreach team will keep our church updated as we hear more from them. We reviewed plans for the COPE breakfasts, Blood Drive, Chili Cookoff, Merry Market, and set the next two Outreach meetings (see separate announcements through the Fall!). The next meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 1st, at 11:35.**

Parish Outreach Meetings

Our Outreach Committee's next two meetings will be presentations, all are welcome to attend to hear more. On October 11th, the Committee presented upcoming Outreach events throughout Fall and Winter. On **November 1st**, the Outreach Committee will lead a parish meeting after the late service; everyone is welcome to attend as the Outreach team discusses plans for 2027, including setting our calendar of special offerings for the coming year.

October Midweek Study: Rule of St Benedict

On **Thursdays at noon** in October, we'll be studying the Rule of St Benedict, led by Fr Benedict (no relation). The lives of monastic Christians have long been a model for contemplation and community, and the commitments made by monks, nuns, oblates, novices, and others were among the earliest examples of holding to a "rule of life" grounded in faith. For those who would like to read along further, Fr Ben will be using Joan Chittister's commentary, "The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century" to help guide this class. It is also a great chance to learn more about monastic practices as we prepare to welcome the Benedictine Way monastery community to lead our worship on **Sunday, October 18th**. The Rule (which is very brief) can be read online for free here, among other places: <https://ccel.org/ccel/benedict/rule/rule.toc.html>

Suggested Readings:

- For **Thursday, October 29th**, Chapters 54-73

November Midweek Study: Wisdom Literature Part I

On Thursdays, **November 5, 12, 19 at noon**, we will begin a two-month series on Wisdom literature. We will focus this first part of our study on the Old Testament books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. The first four verses of the book of Proverbs informs us that wisdom leads to justice; right understanding leads to right action. As we understand wisdom literature, may we find new ways to live into them. You are welcome to come to just one or all three of these sessions.

Updated Building Access

Our building access system has been updated to better serve our security needs. This change will require getting updated access fobs – if you need an updated fob and have yet to receive one, please reach out to the office!

Book Club

Over the course of the next month, the Elaine Randall Book Club will be reading *Better Living Through Birding: Notes from a Black Man in the Natural World* by Christian Cooper. Join us on **October 27th at 11:30 am** to discuss the book. The book bag is available above the coat rack across from the kitchen. Please be sure to sign your book out.

Boo Bash Youth Halloween Party

Calling all thrill-seekers and taco lovers! Get ready for a night of fun and fright as our Youth Group transforms the Parish Hall and Sunday School Rooms into the ultimate Halloween extravaganza on **Wednesday, October 28th at 6pm!** We'll have a Costume Party and Haunted Happenings Activities: Face Painting, Crafts, Games, and more! Feast: Dive into our Taco Bar, enjoy a Popcorn Bar as well, then head outside for the Bonfire: Toast S'mores and share spooky tales by the fire Special Attraction: Enter the "Scary Story Room" if you dare!

Bring your family, bring your friends, and brace yourselves for a night of ghoulish delight! Costumes are a optional, but a must if you'd like to enter the costume contest! Bravery is optional to walk through the Haunted Hallway to the Scary Story Room. Let the hauntingly good times roll!

See you there, if you dare

All Saints Day Remembrances

This year, the Feast of All Saints (**November 1st**) falls directly on a Sunday morning, and we will be including our annual remembrance of loved ones during worship that morning. Before service, we will have river stones and sharpies for anyone to write the name of a loved one on a stone. During our announcements and community prayers at worship, we will have a moment to bring those stones forward and place them on the altar before communion, as a sign that Holy Communion unites the living and the dead in the feast of Christ's Table. After this worship service, the stones are placed in the basin of our waterfall feature in the garden as a standing witness to our loved ones. This symbolic act and prayer is open to anyone who attends, and may be a moment to invite someone in your life to come and participate in honor or recognition of someone they're remembering, especially as we approach the holiday season.

Forming Some CLAY

We have formed a team to support our parish Children, Littles, And Youth, spelling out CLAY as we think about how our church life helps form their faith and character as they grow up here at St A's. Kate will be holding the second team meeting, **Sunday, November 8 at 11:45am**. Meetings will be about once a quarter to talk about plans for our young people ranging from age 0 to 18, and how St A's is meeting their faith and formation needs. We're hoping several people will feel called to help lead this along with our staff but also expect to keep these meetings open to parents (and youth!) with regular scheduling and invitations on Sunday mornings. Please join us to hear more about plans for the Nursery, Sunday School, Youth Group, acolytes, Vacation Bible School, worship, and service opportunities.

Recognizing Veterans

At worship on **Sunday, November 8th**, we'll have a prayer for veterans for their service, commitment, and sacrifice, with an opportunity to come forward for a blessing, in the style of our prayers for birthdays and anniversaries. If there's a veteran in your life for whom it would be meaningful to be recognized at church for that prayer, please feel free to invite them or name them during the blessing.

"Feast of All Chilis" Cookoff and Scenes from A Christmas Carol

We'll once again celebrate our Feast of All Chilis this coming November on **Sunday, November 15th, 5-7 pm!** You can sign up to bring a chili and compete by e-mailing Kate at ministries@sainta.net. Over the past few years, we've been entertained by a whodunnit floor show with enthusiastic players drawn from our parish's hidden thespian reserves ... this year, with our director on a brief medical leave, we're going to do pop-up readings of scenes from A Christmas Carol! We'll invite people to stand up and choose parts scene by scene ... if you have a hidden talent for the stage but no time to rehearse, this is a great chance to share it! We'll create our own floor show as we sample chilis and vote for a winner. Bring-Your-Own-Props are welcome!

Leaf Raking Party on Sunday 11/22!

On Sunday, November 22nd, please plan to wear work clothes to church and help us rake the leaves in our garden after worship at either service! Garden Steward Jim Keepers is inviting "many hands to make light work" as we take care of our beautiful setting and prepare the gardens for the winter. We'll have the leaf bags and some tools available, but if you have your own rake or gloves that will be a help! There will be plenty of jobs for all ages to take care of our church home together on this last Sunday before Advent, and a chance for a warm cup of coffee or cocoa after our outdoor chores!

Merry Market: Calling all Crafters!

Vendor booths are available to book! If you'd like to sell your crafts at our Merry Market this year, Sunday, **December 6 from 9:30 AM-4:00 PM**, it's time to reserve your spot! Go to www.sainta.net to the Merry Market Page for more information and request a booth.

COPE Adopt a Family Event

Santa's Elf help needed! If you want to use some of your time and talent there is an opportunity for you. Rhonda Vest is looking for help organizing the COPE adopt a family event. Gift tags should be coming out in early November. Late November. Help is needed checking in gifts, making sure they all are received and accounted for. Assistance is also needed delivering the gifts to Bethany Church in the first week of December. Contact Rhonda (contact information available via the church office) if this is something you could help with.

Daughters of the King Card Ministry

Our Naomi and Ruth Chapter of the Daughters of the King has a regular ministry of mailing birthday, anniversary, and Christmas cards to our parish. (If you have not received one, please make sure your address and birthday/anniversary info is correct in our Breeze app or with the office!). The Daughters want to thank the parish for regularly donating cards, and to let people know that they are currently at capacity for all categories except religious Christmas cards (which may be brought to the office if you would like to donate some to this ministry).

Save the Date

October

Sunday, October 25th

Stewardship Ingathering

Wednesday, October 28th

Youth Worship w/ Children's Sermon 10:30 am
"Boo Bash" Halloween Party 6pm

November

Sunday, November 1st

All Saints Day

Sunday November 8th

Recognizing Veterans in services

CLAY Meeting 11:45 am

Sunday, November 15th

Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, November 22nd

Leaf Raking Party

Sunday, November 29th

Youth Worship w/ Children's Sermon 10:30 am

December

Wednesday, December 2nd

St. Nick's Feast – Parish Dinner

Sunday, December 6th

Merry Market 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Sunday, December 13th

Coffee hour in celebration of Mother Lisa

Sunday, December 20th

Lessons and Carols 9:00 am

Thursday, December 24th

Christmas Eve 3:00 pm service led by Joyful
Noise

Christmas Eve 11:00 pm service, carol singing
at 10:30 pm

Ministers of the Day	This Week 10/25/26	Next Week 11/1/26
Musicians 8:30am:	Joyful Noise	Joyful Noise
Musicians 10:30	Peggy Wolverton	Peggy Wolverton
Deacon:	Rebecca Smith	Rebecca Smith
Liturgical Shepherd:	Erin Vest	Pam Wright
Acolytes 10:30am:	Warren, Ferris, Josie	Ferris, Devyn, Dixon
10:30 am Greeter:	Lynette Kautz	Jack Ott
8:30 am Lector:	Judy Tomanek	Mary Jane Smith
10:30 am Lector	Youth	Jean Lahti
Altar Guild 8:30 am:	Mary Jane Smith	Kathy Lake
Altar Guild 10:30 am	Carol Ott	Barb DiGiovanni
A/V Tech 8:30 am	Rich Hill	Dave Wright
A/V Tech 10:30 am	Rich Hill and Joe Threlkeld	Alice and Joe Threlkeld