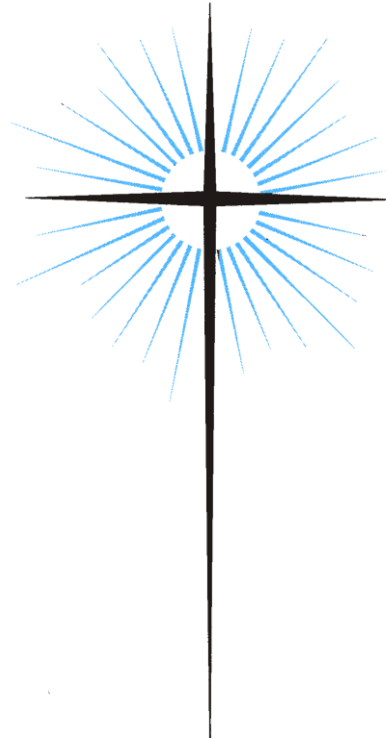


**A Liturgy of the Word
with
Holy Communion in Special Circumstances**



**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22204
10 A.M. SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

Livestream Access to In-Person Services

As St. John's transitions from primarily Zoom to in person services, we will continue to provide the ability to attend the services via Zoom. The limitations of this approach are that those attending via Zoom will only be able to listen to the service and not be heard by others. We will still enable the Zoom attendees to chat with each other up to 5 minutes before the service and at the end of the service.

You will be able to access the service using video or just audio by telephone. We will try to start the service as close to 10 am as possible so be sure to access the meeting early. The session will be open about 20 minutes before the service starts.

To participate using zoom click the link below or copy it and paste it into your browser address box.

CURRENT LINK AND MEETING ID BELOW

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87353789589?pwd=OWlmaElNYnpDZ1N2ZVFSWDNIK0ZDUT09>

If you can't copy the link - - go to zoom.com/join and enter Meeting ID: 873 5378 9589 and Password: 2020.

If you don't have Zoom on your device you will need to do that prior to the service, or on the launch menu screen click on access using browser.

If you only want to participate by phone, dial either 301-715-8592 or 253-215-8782. When you are connected you will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID: 873 5378 9589. You will then be prompted to enter the password 2020.

Thank you for coming to worship with us today—on Zoom for live-stream or in the church for the in-person service. We are thankful that we have been able to worship in different ways as one parish family. We thank those who always make this service possible for us.

- Thanks to Bill Pritchard, Regathering Committee Chair, and its members Eileen Tallent and Bryan Harbin for designing the plan, and all those who made it happen so well for us since last fall.
- And of course, Peter Olivere has enabled our sound and live-stream so that everyone had the opportunity to be with us. Vestry will review today's service so that we can learn from it and continue to plan for future ones.
- We are continuing our safety measures which are printed on the back of this bulletin. Thank you for your support!

Our doors are open today at 10 am! We ask that you come with a mask and remain masked during the service. You can expect that there will be singing (in masks), that those who wish may sit socially distanced in the transept, restrooms will be open, and communion from the reserved sacrament will be available as you leave. Please watch for the Weekly Update and updated provisions! We respect each person's decision to attend and the comfort level of her/his participation.

LIVE-STREAM: REMEMBER THAT YOU CANNOT INTERACT IN A LIVE-STREAM

PRELUDE: Jesu Meine Freude

J.S. Bach

GREETING: The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. "Larry" Packard

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN: "Tell out, my soul"

Hymnal 437

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People **And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant and People say

**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.**

The Celebrant and people stand and sing **THE GLORIA**

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Lesson: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 124 (*Book of Common Prayer*, p. 781)

(Read responsively by whole verse.)

1 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;

2 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;

3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;

4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;

5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

6 Blessed be the Lord! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

Second Lesson: James 5:13-20

Reader A Reading from James.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL HYMN: "Be thou my vision"

Hymnal 488

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-50

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Narrator: The apostle John said to Jesus,

John: "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."

Jesus #1: "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

Jesus #2: "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.

Jesus #3: And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. "For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. "Larry" Packard

THE NICENE CREED

The Celebrant and People say together

**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, FORM III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Intercessor and People offer their prayers.

The Celebrant and People add this concluding collect:

A PRAYER FOR ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

The Celebrant and People say

Gracious God,

**Send your Spirit upon us
during this interim period,**

**and bless our ministries
for the building up of our parish
and the mission of your Church.**

Grant us all things necessary for our common life,

And bless our calling of a new priest,

That we might receive a faithful pastor,

Who will equip us for our ministries.

Help us to reach out our hands in love of others,

Even as your Son Jesus

reached out his arms on the cross.

In his name, we pray.

Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN *(seated)*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the people remain in place to greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

William Walford/William B. Bradbury

DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #380, vs. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant says

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

Celebrant and People

**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.**

A PRAYER OF GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Celebrant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we humbly thank you for your goodness to us
and to all that you have made.
We praise you for your creation,
for keeping us and all things in your care,
and for all the blessings of life.
Above all we bless you for your immeasurable love
in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
In this season of Pentecost, we pray that you will
open our eyes to see the light of your mercies,
that with thankful hearts we praise you,
not only with our lips but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by living out your gifts of holiness and righteousness
in the power of his resurrection,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

COMMUNION UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

CELEBRANT: FOLLOWING THE DISMISSAL, AND AS YOU LEAVE, I INVITE THOSE WHO WISH TO RECEIVE TO PICK UP A COMMUNION CUP WHICH HAS THE BREAD AND WINE. ONCE YOU REACH THE FRONT WALKWAY, YOU MAY RECEIVE THE ELEMENTS AND DEPOSIT THE PLASTIC CONTAINER IN THE RECEPTACLE LOCATED THERE.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People Amen.

THE BLESSING

Go forth on this day with the peace of the risen life of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. May the blessing of God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and all you love this day and forever more.

People Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "O Zion, haste"

Hymnal 539

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Allegro

Bach/Vivaldi

**Thank you for leaving with mask on and respecting the distance of others.
A reception follows on the side lawn.**

PARTICIPANTS:

THE REV. DR. LAURENCE K. PACKARD, SUPPLY PRIEST
PETER OLIVERE, SOUND AND LIVE-STREAM COORDINATOR
LYNN ROBINSON, READER
DEL HUNT, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
BARBARA OLIVERE AND SANDY WINGER, ALTAR GUILD
BRYAN HARBIN, USHERS
BILL PRITCHARD, SERVICE MONITOR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastoral Care during the Interim Period. The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. (“Larry”) Packard is available for pastoral care—abiding by the Diocesan health and safety guidelines. He may be reached at: minister@stjohnsarlingtonva.org or 703-425-8315 or 703-606-3109 (cell, no voice mail).

Our Senior Warden, Cassandra (Sandy) Winger, is the individual charged with leadership until St. John’s appoints a successor to Ann. She can be contacted at srwarden@stjohnsarlingtonva.org or on her cell phone at 703-498-6990.

Bishop’s Visitation Set for December 5, 10 am. Please make plans to join us for this visit of the Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, Assisting Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia. If you would like to be *confirmed* (join the church), or be *received* into the church (you were confirmed in another denomination), or *reaffirm* your baptismal vows (to mark a new beginning in the church) – then please contact Fr. Larry at minister@stjohnsarlingtonva.org. He will be delighted to clarify these choices and answer any of your questions. A personalized preparation plan with safety measures will be available for anyone who wishes to participate in this way in the service.

The school supply drive is over. St. John's has contributed about \$350 in school supplies to Carlin Springs Elementary this year. Carol Sabatino, the school's community liaison, said the need was particularly great this year, so they are indeed grateful. Thank you to everyone who took part in the drive, either by shopping or by check.

St. John’s Book Club will meet on Tuesday, **October 5** at 7 pm near the Frank Todd Memorial Garden at the corner of 4th and Lexington Sts. Please remember to bring a chair. In case of rain, they will meet on Zoom. They are reading *A Single Thread* by Tracy Chevalier. Remember, everyone is invited to attend even if you haven’t read the book. This is a social gathering.

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St. John’s position on racism can be found on the home page of our website, www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org.

Prayers and Cards. If you have any requests for Sunday prayers, intercessory prayers or a card for someone who is sick, please contact Barbara Oliverre at prayers@stjohnsarlingtonva.org.

AFAC continues to need our help. They are looking for non-perishable food, such as low-sugar cereals, tuna, cooking oil, dried spaghetti (not canned), and condiments (salsa, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, and salt & pepper). Seasonings such as brown and cane sugar, poultry seasoning, sage, ginger, vanilla extract, canned milk, and any other spices are always welcome.

Please bring items to the church and drop off in front of the church door (Lexington St. side). The need is great as we have so many more people who are hungry. You can also donate money to AFAC by sending a check to AFAC, 2708 S. Nelson St., Arlington, VA 22206. Or you can give online at their website www.afac.org.

Thank you for observing these Instructions and Safety Precautions!

- The Bishop is sending regular updates concerning the easing of safety restrictions due to COVID. Your vestry is monitoring them and will determine how to apply them in our local situation.
- Please remain fully masked during the service. Hand sanitizer available at the entrance where you got your bulletin.
- At the peace—please wave to your neighbors from your seat.
- The restrooms are open for your use.
- Important! As you leave today, please deposit HC cups in the trash container outside.
- Etiquette: We have to become accustomed to maintaining appropriate social distancing until both persons acknowledge that closer distances may be observed.
- Follow instructions of those who conduct and monitor the service.
- In an emergency, Bill Pritchard will provide instructions.
- Notify Senior Warden Sandy Winger at srwarden@stjohnsarlingtonva.org if you contract COVID after 14 days of attending this service — October 10.