

## Saint John's Episcopal Church

### Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024 9 o clock in the morning

*Typically, Episcopalians stand to sing and for the proclamation of the Gospel; kneel for confession and prayer; and sit while listening to reading or preaching. Your presence is more precious than your posture: please stand, sit, or kneel as you are able and prefer. **Welcome! We're glad you're here!***

*Hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982, with service music indicated by 'S' at the front of the blue Hymnal 1982; 'LEVAS' for hymns from red/black Lift Every Voice and Sing; and 'WLP' for hymns from green Wonder, Love, and Praise.*

### The Holy Eucharist

**Prelude** Prelude on "Royal Oak" (All Things Bright and Beautiful), *Raymond Haan*

### The Liturgy of the Word

**Hymn 567** Thine arm, O Lord, *St. Matthew*

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

**Gloria S - 280**

### Collect of the Day

God be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### First Lesson

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah. *35:4-7a*

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
    'Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
    He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
    He will come and save you.'  
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
    and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
    and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
    and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water;

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 146 *Lauda, anima mea***

Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul! \*

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
for there is no help in them.**

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

**Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;**

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

**Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.**

The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

**The Lord loves the righteous;  
the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

### **The Epistle**

A Reading from the letter of James. *2:1-17*

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn LEVAS 74** Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, *Ghana Folk Song*

### **The Holy Gospel**

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark. 7:24-37  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

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

### **Homily**

### **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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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**

Let us pray.

We pray for the peace and unity of the Church of God, that all who know Christ may praise his name and serve the world by his grace. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For the leaders of all the Churches, and especially the leaders of our own Church: Michael and his successor Sean, Mark, and Gayle, that the shepherds of Christ's flock may lead us with wisdom and gentleness. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For the leaders of the nations, that they might use the powers entrusted to them to build and not destroy, gather and not scatter. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For the lonely, the lost, and the hopeless in our community, that they may find comfort and that we may see in them the image of Christ. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For those in our community and throughout our region who struggle with addiction, that our concern for them may grow into Spirit-filled action. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For the sick, those who travel, those in any trouble, and all for whom our prayers are asked, especially: *(Names will be read aloud, and are invited to be spoken or prayed silently by the congregation.)* that they may draw strength from our prayers and actions. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For our partners in mission, including St. Patrick's, Falls Church. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

For all who have died, especially: (*Names will be read aloud, and are invited to be spoken or prayed silently by the congregation.*) that they may have peace, and that we may worship with them in the communion of saints. Lord of life, **let your will be done.**

*Celebrant concludes*

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins to God.

**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.**

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**

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

**Announcements**

**Offertory Music** Let All Things Now Living (The Ash Grove), *setting Nancy Rabe*

**Doxology, Hymn 380, v 3, Old 100th**

**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 Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

### **Sanctus S - 125**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life. On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with John, Patrick, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 Breaking of the Bread**

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

**Fraction Anthem WLP 761, v 1** All who hunger gather gladly, *Holy Manna*

**All who hunger gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

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.

*Intinction and drinking from the common cup are both offered; the Bread and the Cup are distributed with these words*

The Body (and Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.

**Communion Music** Now Let Us from This Table Rise (Deus Quorum Militum), *Grenoble Antiphoner*

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

**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**

Holy eternal Majesty, Holy incarnate Word, Holy abiding Spirit, Bless you for evermore. **Amen.**

**Hymn LEVAS 111** Come, Thou fount of every blessing, *Nettleton*

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven (Laura Anima), *setting Don Hustad*

### **Participants in Today's Service**

The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, DMin, Rector  
Lynn Robinson, Minister of Music • René P. Milam, Guest Organist  
Eileen Tallent, Usher • Barbara Olivere, Sandy Winger, Altar Guild  
Lynn Robinson and I'm Wells, Readers • Barbara Olivere, Prayers of the People  
Barbara Olivere, Lay Eucharistic Minister  
Bill Pritchard, Teller • Faye Pritchard, Fellowship  
Peter Olivere & Sandy Winger, Sound and Live-stream Coordinators

### **Announcements**

**Welcome:** We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors and newcomers. **Please join us for coffee hour** downstairs after the service.

**The Path Ahead - 6 Week Course on Spirituality and Purpose in Later Life, continues, meeting Sunday afternoons at St John's 2:30 - 4, through September 22.** (No Meeting on Labor Day weekend.) "Participants grapple with ageism, identify changing spiritual needs, equip themselves with new prayer practices, and engage in discernment about God's continuing call." Please contact Julie+ with any questions.

**Celebration of Life Planning** Please save Wednesday, September 25th to gather at St Patrick's for what is a loving, but sometimes difficult, task - planning for a funeral or memorial service. Leaving a record of your preferred readings, music, and people you'd like to participate is a gift to those mourning your death. They will want to do their best to include your favorites.

**Dental Clinic at St Patrick's** Hope for Tomorrow, a free dental clinic operating domestically and internationally for 20 years, will host a dental clinic at St Patrick's on Saturday, September 28. There is a need for volunteers to prepare the Sanctuary for 20 dental chairs, to host the staff and clients, etc. PLEASE reserve time that week to be part of this crucial effort on behalf of our community's health and well-being. Sign up sheet now available for Hospitality tasks on the Clinic Day.

**St. John's Book Club Resumes in September!** St. John's book club kicks off a new year with its September meeting on Tuesday, September 10. This is the only month the book club will be meeting the second Tuesday of the month, a change in schedule to avoid the Labor Day weekend. September's book is *Poverty, by America* by Matthew Desmond. The book club will also be selecting books for later meetings, so bring your suggestions.

**AFAC Bulk Food Packing** On the second Friday evening of every other month, a group from St. John's spends an hour at the Arlington Food Assistance Center bagging food. Our next date is September 13, so mark your calendar and plan to join us. Contact Faye Pritchard on 703-931-2168 if you would like to join in this ministry to help our neighbors in need of food.

**Emergency Pastoral Care** -- For pastoral emergencies please call or text the Reverend Julie D. Bryant at 703-336-2256. Her email address is [juliediane Bryant@gmail.com](mailto:juliediane Bryant@gmail.com). Rev. Bryant also serves as Rector of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church (3241 Brush Drive, 22042) in Falls Church. They celebrate their Sunday service at 11 am where you are welcome to attend.



**Live-Stream Worship** Zoom access link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87353789589?pwd=OWlmaElNYnpDZ1N2ZVFSWDNlKoZDUT09> and Meeting ID: 873 5378 9589. Password: 2020.

Or, [zoom.com/join](https://zoom.com/join) Meeting ID: 873 5378 9589 and Password: 2020.

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**415 South Lexington Street, Arlington, VA 22204**  
**703 671-6834**

The Reverend Julie D. Bryant, *Rector* 703 336-2255