# St. John's Gloucester



# THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S SUNDAY THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

OCTOBER 12, 2025 10:00AM

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

For thousands of years, First Nations people walked on this land in Gloucester; their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives and spirituality. St. John's is gathered on the traditional territory of the Pawtucket, and we give thanks to them, and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

They followed the seasons, hunted, fished, raised families, grieved for their dead, nourished their living, shared the stories of their ancestors, and considered themselves the caretakers of this place.

# THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

#### **PRELUDE**

Sonata in C Major

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

## THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Bring many names



# THE OPENING SENTENCES

Walking in the footsteps of our ancestors, listening, praying, singing songs of hope. Their words remind us that despite hardship and injustice,

# We remember their journey.

Creating in the image of the Creator, we sow and water, tend and harvest with the cycle of the moon and the seasons of the Earth.

# We remember their journey.

Hearing the voices of those who stepped out in faith from generations past, they call us to shake off the burdens of this life, to sing and to dance.

# We remember their journey.

Bound in spirit to one another, through the stories of our people, connected to Creator and earth in a web of relationship, seeking grace and balance in all we do.

The Creator and Great Spirit was with them, the same Creator and Great Spirit that is with us today.

Resource from Worship and Educational Resources, Minnesota Annual Conference

### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant 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 the Word.

People Amen.

# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Port Royal, VA

Celebrant May the Great Spirit be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray together.

O Great Spirit, God of all people and every tribe, through whom all people are related; Call us to the kinship of all your people. Grant us vision to see through the lens of our Baptismal Covenant, the brokenness of the past; Help us to listen to one another, in order to heal the wounds of the present; And give us courage, patience, and wisdom to work together for healing and hope with all of your people, now and in the future. Mend the hoop of our hearts and let us live in justice and peace through Jesus Christ, the One who comes to all people that we might live in dignity. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

Creator, you bent the earth like a bow until was one, round, shining planet. At your word the land was drawn into mountains and deserts, forests, and plains; the waters were gathered together into rivers, lakes and seas. The circle of your creation has been broken time and again by greed and violence and many lives have been shattered. Renew the circle of the earth and turn the hearts of all your people to one another; that they and all the earth may live, and be drawn toward you and through the power of your son, Jesus Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit now and always. **Amen.**From an Indigenous Peoples' Day liturgy prepared by the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona

#### THE CHOIR ANTHEM

A Native American Prayer

Nolan E. Schmidt

Let me walk in beauty. Make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.

Make my hands respect the things that you have made.

Make my ears sharp to hear your voice.

O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world. Hear me! I am small and weak. I need your strength and wisdom.

Make me wise so I may understand the things you've taught my people.

I seek strength, not to be greater than my brother, but to fight my greatest enemy,

Make me always ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes so when life fades as the sunset, my spirit may come to you without shame.

This week, the readings and gospel are taken from the 'First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the Old/New Testament."

This translation of 'the good story is dedicated to the Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island (North America) — the Tribal Nations that call this land home."

# THE HEBREW BIBLE

A reading from Proverbs 2: 1-9 - The Ways of Grandmother Wisdom

My child, welcome my words and hide my instructions in the medicine pouch of your heart.

Teach your ear to listen for the voice of Grandmother Wisdom. Open your innermost being to understand her ways. Call out to Creator and ask for eyes that see. Cry out to him for clear vision. Seek for Grandmother Wisdom as you would for precious herbs. Search for her like a hidden treasure buried in the ground.

As you do these things, you will gain a deep respect for Grandfather and learn the ways of the Great Spirit. For wisdom comes from Grandfather. From his mouth come words of knowledge and understanding. He stores up good things for the ones who stand tall and true. Grandfather is a medicine shield to those who walk with firm steps on the road of life. He watches over the path of those who bring harmony and balance and keeps his sacred followers safe from harm as they walk the road of life.

Then you will know the full circle of Creator's good road. You will learn to restore harmony and balance and walk a straight path.

Reader The Spirit of Many Names has spoken to us.

People Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 98:1-7

Sing the response **after** the Psalm reading. Read the Psalm responsively.



Sing a new song to Grandfather for the wonderful things he has done. His strong right hand and holy arm have won him victory, showing his power to set people free.

No nation is left out of the circle of Grandfather's power to set them free. They have seen his justice with their own eyes.

His great love has remained firm toward his sacred family, the tribes of Wrestles with Creator (Israel). All who live far and wide have seen the power of our Creator to set us free and make us whole.

Let all lands raise a joyful war cry to Grandfather. Let the singers, drummers and dancers join in. Sing with high voices to Grandfather, with honor beats on the drum, and the shaking of rattles.

Sound the eagle bone whistles with shouts of joy before Grandfather, our Great Spirit Chief. Let the great waters roar, and all that is in them. Let the world and all that lives on it raise a cry that thunders.

#### THE GREEK BIBLE

A reading from Philippians 4: 4-9 - Small Man to the Sacred Family in Village of Horses

Always dance with joy before our Honored Chief! I will say it again: dance with joy! Let everyone see how kind and thoughtful you are. Our Honored Chief is close at hand. Do not let your hearts be weighed down with anything. Instead, with every step you take, send your voice to the Great Spirit, asking him for the things you need. And in all your prayers remember to give him thanks. Then the peace and harmony of the Great Spirit, which goes far beyond our small and weak ways of thinking, will watch over your hearts and minds through the Chosen One, Creator Sets Free (Jesus).

Last of all, my sacred family members, if anything can be seen as good and honorable, think deeply about these things. Things that are true and noble, upright and pure, full of beauty and worthy of respect. Follow the way of life you have seen in me, the things you have learned from me, heard from me, and received from me. Keep walking in the traditions I have passed on to you. Then the Great Spirit of Peace will continue to walk with you on this road.

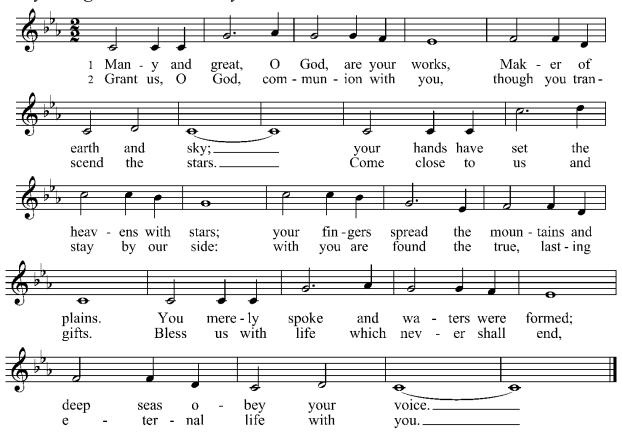
Reader The Spirit of Many Names has spoken to us.

People Thanks be to God.

Pause to reflect on the reading.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

(sing stanza 1 before the Gospel, stanza 2 after) Many and great, O God, are your works



THE GOSPEL John 3:16-21

Celebrant The Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to John.

People Glory to you, Christ Jesus.

The Great Spirit loves this world of human beings so deeply he gave us his Son-the only Son who fully represents him. All who trust in him and his way will not come to a bad end, but will have the life of the world to come that never fades away, full of beauty and harmony. Creator did not send his Son to decide against the people of this world, but to set them free from the worthless ways of the world.

The ones who trust in him are released from their guilt, but, for the ones who turn away from him to follow the ways of this world, their guilt remains. This is because they are turning away from the life of beauty and harmony the Great Spirit offers through his Son.

This is what decides for or against them. My light has shined into this dark world, but because of their worthless ways people loved the dark path more than the light. When they choose the dark path, they do not want others to see, so they hide in the darkness and hate the light. But the ones who are true and do what is right are walking in the daylight so others can clearly see they are walking with Creator.

Celebrant The good news of our Savior.

People Praise be to Christ.

# THE HOMILY

The Rev. Marya DeCarlen

#### THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Liturgy for Worship Northern Great Lakes Synod

We believe in Creator, Father-Mother Spirit, who called the world and all that is in it into being; who spoke the creative-forming word, and all came forth; who created women and men and set them free to live in love and humility to the will of supreme love, and in community with all.

We believe in Creator, Son and Brother, who because of love for all creation beyond our understanding, entered the world to share our humanity; to set before us the paths of life and death, and walk them with us; to be rejected and die, but finally to conquer death and in new life, draw the world to himself for all time.

We believe in Creator, in-dwelling Spirit, who calls us into community, that we may, through faith and that community of oneness, experience uplifting and sustaining grace; that we may fulfill our human responsibility to reach out to our neighbor, whomever that may be; that we may rejoice in the constant nature of creation and the wondrous joy of life itself.

We believe in Creator, whose word teaches us that all things grow together, the Circle of Life; that the paths of life and death, good and evil, too often come together; that choices are not clearly defined, but that we confidently and responsibly tread the path we choose and only the true One can be our judge. We believe in Creator, who is present and working in this world through all Creation. A-Ho and Amen.

# THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(During the prayers and confession, we invite you to stand or kneel, as you are able.)

Grandfather we know you hear us when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore, in confidence and trust we pray for the Church, especially the Churches of the North Shore Deanery: Christ Church, South Hamilton; Church of the Holy Name, Swampscott; Trinity Church, Topsfield; St. Stephen's Church, Cohasset; Asiamerican Ministries Grandmother, enliven the Church for its mission.

We are the salt of the earth and light to the world.

Breathe fresh life into your people.

Through our humility we reveal Christ in word and action.

We pray for the world offered by the Creator of all, lead us and every people into the ways of justice and peace.

That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.

Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.

So that we might understand how we show honor and respect for You and all that you made.

God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others. That all may act with integrity and courage.

Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours.

May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

We pray for those in need; especially: Carolyn and Bob Stewart, Malcolm and Yhanna.

God of hope, comfort and restore to wholeness all who suffer in body, mind and spirit. That balance be restored to all of creation.

We remember those who have died; especially, Latricia Reed. Are there others to be named aloud or silently? Our hearts cry out in pain at their passing We commend them back to you. **Bring peace to those who mourn.** We feel their loss because we are all connected.

# THE CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to the Almighty.

# THE CALL TO CONFESSION

Great Spirit, look at our brokenness. We know that in all creation the human family has strayed from the Sacred way—the way of love, respect, gratitude and reverence for all life. We know that we are the ones who are divided. And we are the ones who must come back together to walk the Sacred Way—the way of love, respect, gratitude and reverence for all life. Sacred One, teach us love, compassion, and honor, that we may heal the earth and heal each other.

# WORDS OF RESTORATION

May God our heavenly Maker, who with great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with earnest repentance and open faith turn to the good, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Christ the Word. **Amen.** 

#### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

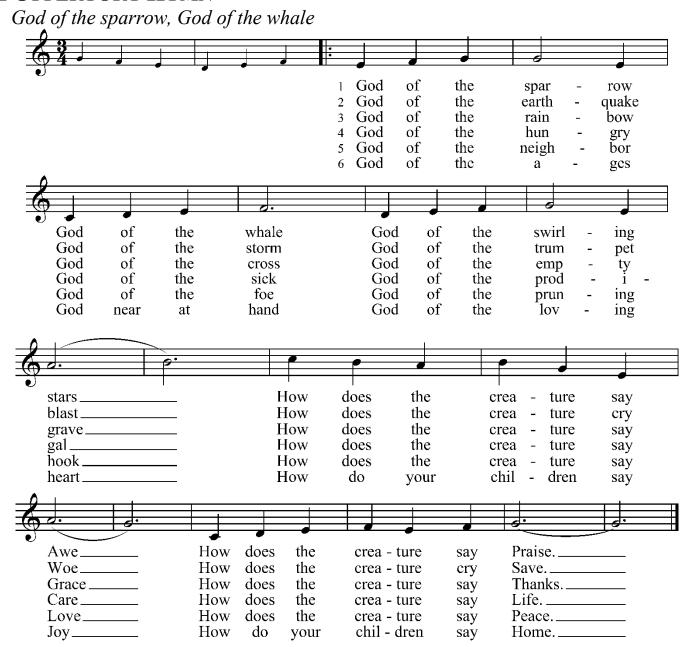
May the peace of God be ever with you! And within you!

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Let us with gladness devote the fruits of creation to our Maker.

#### THE OFFERTORY HYMN



The gifts of the people are brought to the Altar.

Praise God, who fills each cup and plate, Whose table's wide and love is great. From broken bread, may all be fed, And Justice rise where fear is spread. Amen.

# THE MINISTRY OF THE TABLE THE GREAT THANKSGIVING EUCHARISTIC PRAYER H

Eucharistic Prayer revised version from the Liturgy of St. John's, Red Lake, MN The sanctuary lamp burns this week in loving memory of Arlene Wilson, former Ms. Fixit's of St. John's Gloucester, given by Marge Bishop.

God the Creator is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God the Creator

Let us give thanks to God

It is right to offer our thanks and praise.

God the Creator, our Great Spirit, from the depths of our hearts we give you thanks. We say thank you, now and forever. From the place of the rising sun in the East, to the South where the warm winds blow, from the West where the soft rain comes, to the coldness of the North. We unite with all creation from the four directions to join in the everlasting thanksgiving and praise for the gift of Jesus Christ. With hearts lifted, we join with the angels, the guardian spirits, the saints, and all our ancestors as we say:

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!

O Great Spirit, our Creator from whom all holiness comes, we come before you again today. Just as in generations past, like our grandmothers and grandfathers, we come to worship you and acknowledge your greatness. We marvel at your creation.

You sent Jesus into creation because people had turned away from you and no longer loved each other, bringing death and destruction. Sharing our living and dying, Jesus

opened our eyes and our hearts to understand that we are all relatives and that you are our Great Spirit the Creator.

Stretching out his arms upon the cross, he became a perfect offering for all, uniting in beauty all that is, with all that has been, and with all that ever will be.

On the night Jesus was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; gave thanks, gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

# Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

In this ceremony which Jesus gave us, we celebrate our salvation. In our offering of praise and thanks, we stand in the memory, strength, and love of Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension. Remembering, we make our offering.

By your Holy Spirit, make our gifts holy, so that they may be spiritual food and drink. Make us holy, so that we respectfully receive this feast and serve you in each other.

Surrounded now by our ancestral saints, and all saints and all angels, with the heavenly community which gives you worship forever. May we also live in unity and live as relatives to all.

United in Christ with all who stand before you on earth and heaven, we worship you, God the Creator, our Great Spirit, in songs and dance of infinite praise. Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and for ever.

#### AMEN.

And now, as Jesus has taught us, we pray:

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

First Nations Version Translation

O Great Spirit, our Father from above, we honor your name as sacred and holy.

Bring your good road to us, where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above is reflected in the earth below.

Provide for us day by day--the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon. The corn, the squash, and the wild rice. All the things we need for each day.

Release us from the things we have done wrong, in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.

Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road, and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.

Aho! May it be so!

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Whoever comes to the table shall not thirst! Alleluia! Alleluia! And whoever comes to the table shall not be hungry! Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for you, the People of God!

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

St. John's welcomes everyone to come to God's table, for communion, to share in Christ's sustaining life. You may participate by extending your hands and placing one hand over the other for the bread and sipping from the chalice. If you prefer not to receive wine, you may cross your hands over your chest. If you prefer gluten free wafers, let us know. You may also come to the altar simply for a blessing, while others come for communion. To receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest. The Priest will pray for God's blessing upon you.

# **COMMUNION MUSIC**

Improvisation by Steve Lacey

#### THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

From the Liturgy of St. John's, Red Lake, MN

Jesus Christ, our leader, you are the Son of the Creator. Today we became your children. Today we became your grandchildren. We will live as you have taught us. We will follow your commandments. Watch over us. Speak to us from the trees, from the grass and herbs, from the breeze, from the passing rain, from the passing thunder and the deep waters. Before us there is beauty, behind us there is beauty. Allow us to walk a long life in happiness completed in beauty. Amen.

# BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND PRAYERS FOR TRAVEL

# THE BLESSING

Walk tall as the trees, Live strong as the mountains, Be gentle as the spring winds, Keep the warmth of the summer sun in your heart And the Great Spirit will always be with you.

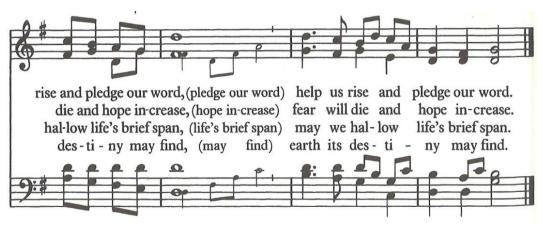
#### A-Ho and Amen.

Native American Proverb

## THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

For the healing of the nations





#### THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

#### THE POSTLUDE

The Colors of the Dawn

Heather Sorenson

#### PARTICIPATING IN THE LITURGY

The People of God gathered in St. John's Church

Celebrant The Rev. Marya DeCarlen

Lector Claudette Chmura

LEMDoug ParsonsAcolyteKaren Kasper

Ushers Doug Musco, Isabel Musco

Musicians Congregation, Choir, John Churchwell – Director of Music

Steve Lacey – *Recorder/Guitar* 

Altar Guild Dani Stotzer

Flower Guild Rosemary Sullivan, Kip Ellis

Live Streaming Norm Barr

Coffee Hour Karen Kasper, Geoff Grow, Dani Stotzer, Melanie Murray-Brown

Action Lunches Peter and Patricia Anders

# WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. JOHN'S GLOUCESTER

We know that Christ is present in each person here and we celebrate the diversity of the body of Christ. If this is your first visit, please introduce yourself today and visit again sometime. If you've been away, welcome back. If you are here every week, it's always great to see you! We worship in the Anglican tradition and are a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, which is part of the Episcopal Church USA. We honor individuals of every age, gender, ethnic heritage, sexual orientation and religious background. We respect the dignity of every human being.

# **NEWCOMER'S WELCOME**

Please accept our warmest welcome! We hope you will experience the power of the Holy Spirit in our worship together. Please greet the Priest as you leave and complete a visitor's card found in each pew and place it in the offertory plate, give it to an usher, or give it to the Priest. Please join us for coffee hour, which is located in the Parish Hall, so our community can get to know you informally. We have two restrooms; one (handicapped accessible) is located next to the Parish Hall, the other restroom is located on the second floor up the stairs from the Parish Hall kitchen.

# DATES TO KEEP IN MIND AND HEART FOR OUR WORSHIP LIVES TOGETHER

	WORSHII EIVES TOGETHER
October 26	Prayers for Healing (10:00am)
	The Rev. Ali Lutz Co-Preaching with Edward Ball
November 2	All Saints Sunday (10:00am)
November 2	Boston University Recital:
	Dr. Shiela Kibbe Dr. Alison Trainer (3:00pm)
November 9	Concert Fundraiser for the Open Door (4:00pm)
November 22	The Village Fair (9:00am – 2:00pm)
November 23	Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
	at West Gloucester Congregational (3:00pm)
November 30	First Sunday of Advent (10:00am)
November 30	Prayers for Healing (10:00am)
December 7	Advent Evensong (5:00pm)
December 13	Middle Street Walk (10:00am-3:00pm)
December 14	Boston University Recital: Abigail Cunningham (3:00pm)
December 24	Christmas Eve Service (5:00pm)
December 28	Prayers for Healing (10:00am)
January 11	Epiphany Lessons and Carols (3:00pm)
January 25	Annual Meeting
February 1	The Glennon Brothers Recital