



ST. JOHN'S GLOUCESTER

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE IV
A CONTEMPORARY TEXT UNDER
1979 RITE II RUBRICS.

October 19, 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

Meditation in G Major

Gerald Jones (b. 1966)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

How firm a foundation

FOUNDATION and LYONS

1982 Blue Hymnal #636 and #635

Sing Hymn #636, Stanzas 1, and 2. Sing Hymn #635, Stanzas 3 and 4.

Sing Hymn #636, Stanza 5

OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.**

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. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray together.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ADVOCACY *For Families Relying on Food Assistance Programs*

God of sustenance, you nourish your people with your love and feed the world with the fruit of the earth. We lift before you the families who fear losing access to food assistance programs amid the continued shutdown of our government. Many people in this nation already live on the edge of hunger, and the threat of losing this important safety net deepens their worry. Strengthen your church to feed the hungry and to speak for those whose voices go unheard. Pour out your comforting spirit upon them and move the hearts of leaders for the sake of the vulnerable. Sustain all who labor so that no child or parent goes unfed. Through Jesus Christ, the bread of life, who gave himself for the life of the world. **Amen.**

THE SONG OF PRAISE

Blessed Assurance (Refrain only)

ASSURANCE

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The lyrics are: "This is my sto - ry, this is my song, — Prais - ing my sav - ior all the day long; — This is my sto - ry, this is my song, — Prais - ing my sav - ior all the day long. —". The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of eighth and quarter notes, and some rests. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with mostly quarter notes.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915), Music: Phoebe P. Knapp (1839-1908).

THE CHOIR ANTHEM

Be Gracious, God

Bob Moore

Be gracious to me God and hold my Spirit fast, for I seek shelter by our side until the storm is past. Though snares are set for me yet may I sleep in peace, for I have asked the care of God whose love shall never cease. Awake my soul and sing, God's boundless love recall exalt God's name above the skies, God's glory over all.

THE HEBREW BIBLE

Genesis 32:22-31

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Reader The words of holy scripture.

People **Thanks be to God.**

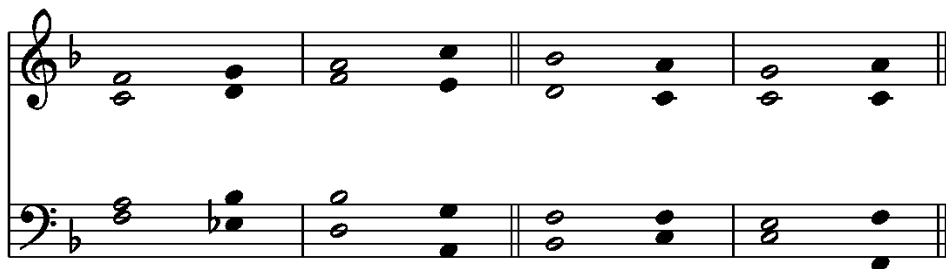
Pause to reflect on reading.

PSALM

PSALM 121

The Choir and Congregation will chant the Psalm together.

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved
and he who watches over you will not fall a-sleep.
Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;
it is he who shall keep you safe.
The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for ever-more.

THE GREEK BIBLE

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

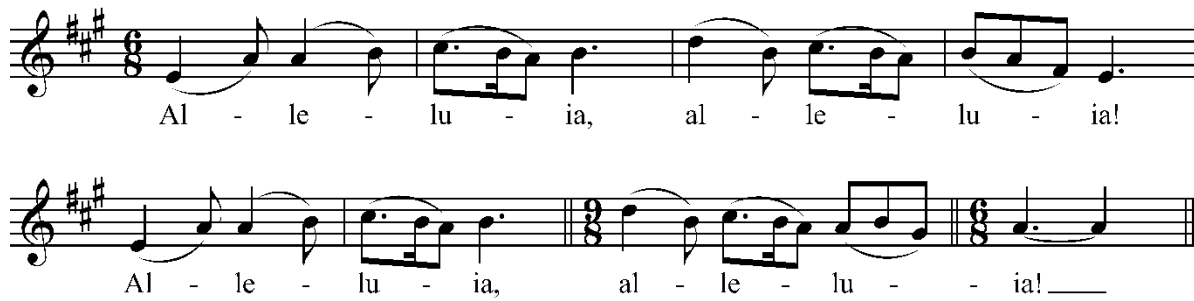
Reader The words of holy scripture.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Pause to reflect on reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Choir and Congregation will sing before and after the Gospel Reading.



THE GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8

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

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

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Celebrant The good news of our savior.

People **Praise be to Christ.**

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Marya

DeCarlen^[PA1]

THE 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Let us pray for the whole church and the world, asking almighty God, to hear our prayer. Open our eyes, dear God, to behold your revelation in nature, discerning your gracious hand in all your works: that we attend to the intricate beauty of this world, and gently nurture it; so that rejoicing with all creation we may show forth your glory.

Dear God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Give grace, our heavenly Maker, to all bishops, priests, and other ministers: that they may both in their life and doctrine set forth your true and living word, and rightly and duly administer your holy sacraments. Dear God, we pray for the Churches of the South Shore Deanery: Trinity Church, Rockland; St. Luke's Church, Scituate; Church of the Holy Nativity, South Weymouth; All Saints' Church, Whitman; and the Commission on Ministry, Commission on Ministry.

Dear God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Maker, today, we bless and give thanks for all whose lives are closely linked with ours. *Please add your own **thanksgivings** aloud or silently.*

Dear God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Dear God, who became poor among us that we might know the riches of your grace: have mercy for all in need around our shores, those without home or work; those who will eat poorly today or eat not at all; those who are famished by drink or drugs; those diminished by illness or grief. We especially pray for: **Carolyn and Bob Stewart, Malcolm and Yhanna.** *Are there others to be named aloud or silently?*

Dear God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

And we ask you to inspire all people with the spirit of truth, unity, and harmony: that all who share this earth may live in peace. We ask you also, so to incline the hearts of those entrusted with authority in this and every land, that they may honestly and impartially do justice, grant mercy, and act wisely: that we and every nation may be well and quietly governed, for the peace and wellbeing of all.

Dear God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

And we bless your holy name for all your servants who departed this life in the grace of faith: that light perpetual may shine upon them; and that, by faith, we too may share in your divine presence. We remember especially those close to us who sleep in your eternal peace, and whom we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

Dear God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says the following prayer

Grant these our prayers, almighty God, for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, our only representative before you, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to the Almighty.

THE CONFESSION

Almighty God; maker of all, judge of all: 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 deeply sorry and we earnestly repent. Have mercy upon us, dear merciful God, for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ: Forgive us our sins. And grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please you in newness of life; to delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the honor and glory of your name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

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

Christ is here right now making peace among us.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

There is a Balm

BALM IN GILEAD

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed

whole; There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul. **Fine**

1. Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged, And think my work's in vain, But
2. If you can - not preach like Pet - er, If you can - not preach like Paul, You can
3. Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged For Je - sus is your friend, And

1. then the ho - ly spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
2. tell the love of Je - sus, And say He died for all.
3. if you lack for know - ledge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend. **D.C.**

THE DOXOLOGY

*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 EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER IV

*The altar flowers today are given in memory of Mary Hooper Lupo,
by her daughter, Sue Lupo.*

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And within you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is good and right to do so.**

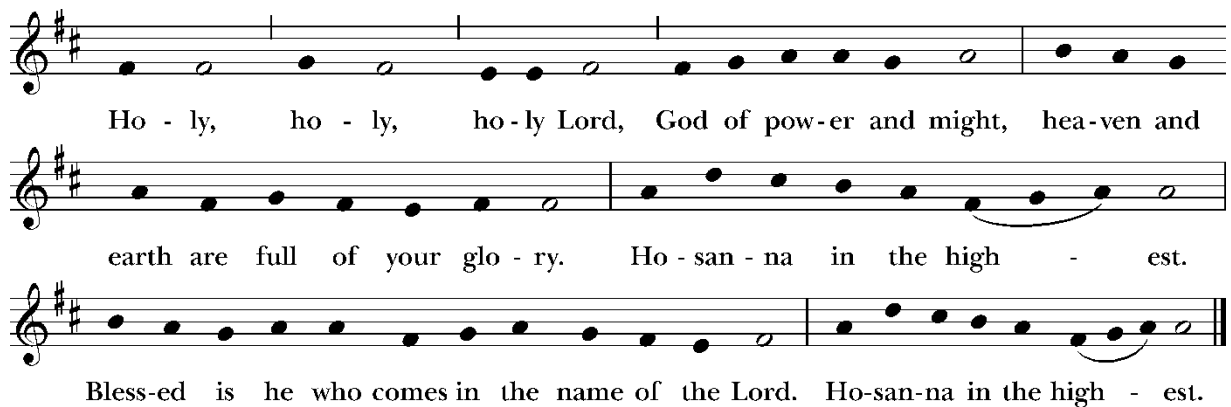
It is very good, right, and our joyful service, always and everywhere to lift thanks up to you, the source of all, our holy Creator, almighty, everliving God. For you alone are the one God, the font of all being and the form of all good, resting beyond time and forever. That through Christ your eternal Word brings all things into being: sun, moon and stars; earth, wind and waters; and every living thing. That makes all that is made, and breathes life into the earth.

For your Holy Spirit, that on the day of Pentecost came down from heaven with a sudden great sound, like a mighty wind, like fiery tongues lighting upon the apostles to teach them and to lead them into the truth: giving them the gift of many languages and the boldness to preach the good news to all people; to bring us out of darkness and error into the clear light and true knowledge of you, our almighty Creator, and of your Word our Savior Jesus Christ.

And so raising our voices with angels and archangels and all the chorus of heaven who forever exalt your glory, we praise you rejoicing as we sing:

THE SANCTUS

1982 *Blue Hymnal* #S124



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Most holy and gracious God, in your infinite love you made us in your own image, a faint reflection of the eternal Word.

And when we fell into sin and faced evil and death, you did not abandon us. For you are the one God. You called your people as a light to the nations. You led them out of bondage and into a new land. You handed down the law, and spoke in the prophets.

And then, in the fullness of time, you in your mercy sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Word, to be born for our sake: to live and die as one of us; to reconcile us to you. Born of a woman, of our very nature, Jesus taught the law, healed the sick, and fed the poor.

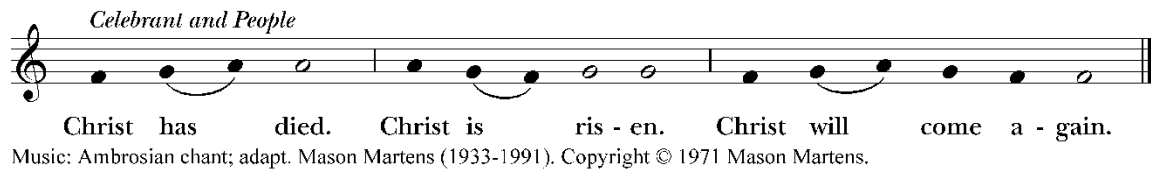
And when the time had come, Jesus stretched out arms upon the cross, and died for our salvation. Almighty God, in Christ you bring us out of error into truth, out of sin into grace, out of death into life.

For in the night before God died for us, Jesus took bread; and after giving thanks, Christ broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying, “Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Likewise after supper, Jesus took the cup, and after giving thanks, Christ gave it to them, saying, “Drink of this, all of you: for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and the many for the forgiveness of sins. As often as you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” And so, dear God our heavenly Maker, offering to you your own from your own, we your people do gather here before you to celebrate the sacrament of faith:

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

1982 Blue Hymnal #S133

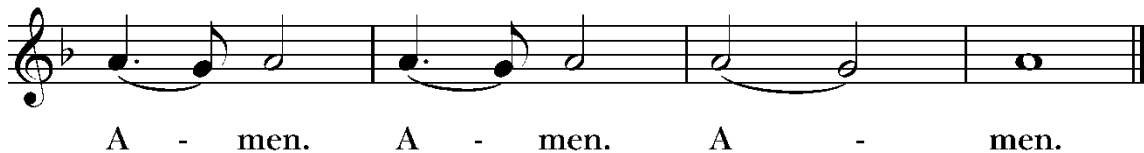


And we appeal to you, dear merciful God, to hear us, and of your almighty goodness to pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, to bless and sanctify these your creations of bread and wine: that they may be to us the body and blood of your Word our Savior Jesus Christ; and that we receiving them may share in that most blessed presence; so that we, and all those who share in your holy communion, may be filled with your grace and heavenly blessing, and in pure love and charity be made one body with Christ your Word: that Christ may live in us, and we in Christ.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, our almighty Creator, time without end.

THE AMEN

1982 Blue Hymnal #S147



Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 Theodore Presser Co. Used by permission.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our dear God, that is in heaven: blessed be your name.

Your dominion come: your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

**Give us today our next day's bread: and forgive us our offenses,
as we forgive those who offend against us.**

And leave us not prey to temptation: but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the dominion: the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant The bread of life!

People 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

Break thou bread of life

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we most gratefully thank you for feeding us, in this holy sacrament, with the spiritual food of the most blessed presence of your Word our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us thereby of your favor and goodness towards us; and that we are living members of the body of Christ, the blessed assembly of all faithful people; and may also share, through hope, in your everlasting reign. And we earnestly pray you, our heavenly Maker, so to assist us with your grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as you have prepared for us to walk in; through Christ your Word, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, time without end. Amen.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND PRAYERS FOR TRAVEL

THE BLESSING

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of the Word our Savior Jesus Christ; and may the blessing of God almighty, the One, the Word, and the lifegiving Spirit, be among and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

O day of peace that dimly shines

1982 Blue Hymnal #597

JERUSALEM

THE DISMISSAL

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Festival Benediction

Paul Manzo (b. 1970)

PARTICIPATING IN THE LITURGY

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

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Rev. Marya DeCarlen
<i>Vestry Ambassador</i>	DeeDee Bedford
<i>Lector</i>	Pete Goodwin
<i>LEM</i>	Geof Pope
<i>Acolyte</i>	Sue Lupo
<i>Ushers</i>	Tom Chmura and Doug Musco
<i>Musicians</i>	Congregation, Choir, John Churchwell – <i>Director of Music</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Karen Kasper
<i>Flower Guild</i>	DeeDee Bedford and Kip Ellis
<i>Live Streaming</i>	Norm Barr
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	Sue Lupo, Claudette Chmura, and Jan Goodwin
<i>Action Lunches</i>	Mary Jane Sawyer

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

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

PRAYER GROUP

Weekly, a group of parishioners gathers at St. John's to speak aloud the names on our short and long term intercessory prayer lists, to wander into that liminal space where we share with God our concerns for those we cherish. If you would like to join us, we are resuming for 2025-26 on Tuesday, October 7 at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary. Questions? Call Sarah Larson 703-395-4233.

PARISH HALL LABYRINTH

Beneath the tables and chairs and shoes and walker wheels in our Great Hall is a labyrinth, patterned into the tiles. The brainstormers of the Adult Formation team would like to offer a program on labyrinths—their history, how they factor into our faith journey, what they offer to us today.

While we have one expert on hand, we are looking for a **BUDDY EXPERT!** Do you need to know anything in advance about labyrinths? That would be great, but not really. All you need is a lively curiosity and a willingness to learn and help run a class for your fellow parishioners.

Intrigued? Call Sarah Larson at 703-395-4233



St. John's Gloucester

stjohnsgloucester.org

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The Rt. Rev. Julia E. Whitworth, Bishop of Mass. & The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carol Gallagher, Assistant Bishop

The Rev. Marya DeCarlen, Priest-in-Collaboration
mdecarlen@comcast.net

Priest Associates: The Rev. Malcolm Henderson
and The Rev. Ali Lutz

Marge Bishop, Church Assistant

marge@stjohnsgloucester.org

John Churchwell, Director of Music

Elizabeth de Veer, Parish Administrator

Wardens: Patricia Anders & Katharine Newhouse

Clerk: Geoff Pope

Treasurer: Karen Kasper, Assistant Treasurer: Sue Lupo

VESTRY: 2026: Dee Dee Bedford, Rick Britton, Sarah Larson

2027: Maryann Tapiro

2028: Sue Lupo, Doug Parsons, Lindsay Smith, Barbara Soreng

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