



ST. JOHN'S GLOUCESTER

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

OCTOBER 04, 2026 - 10:00AM

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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.

OneLicense A-715980

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 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.

PARTICIPATING IN THE LITURGY

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

<i>Celebrant:</i>	The Rev. Marya DeCarlen, Priest-in-Collaboration
<i>Lector:</i>	Doug Musco
<i>Acolyte:</i>	Doug Wilcox
<i>Lay Eucharistic Minister:</i>	Geoff Pope
<i>Ushers:</i>	DeeDee Bedford, Ian Bedford
<i>Musicians:</i>	The Congregation, the Choir, Maryann Tapiro, Cellist Dr. Carl Klein, Interim Director of Music
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Karen Kasper, Neila LeBeau, Melanie Murray-Brown
<i>Flower Guild:</i>	Rosemary Sullivan
<i>Coffee Hour:</i>	Connie DeSimone, Patricia Anders, Priscilla Gerrard
<i>Action Lunches:</i>	The Murray-Brown Family

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

PLEASE OBSERVE SILENCE FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE AND DURING THE PRELUDE.

PRELUDE

FUGUE IN G

Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Blue Hymnal #495

Hail, thou once despised Jesus

IN BABILONE

John Bakewell (1721-1819)

[Old Dutch melody, 1710]

OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant: Holy, holy, holy is the God of hosts!

People: The whole earth is full of God's glory!

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.

KYRIE

The Kyrie musical notation consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The first staff is divided into two parts: 'Choir' and 'ALL'. The lyrics are 'Ky - ri - e___ e - le - i - son___'. The second staff is also divided into 'Choir' and 'ALL' parts, with lyrics 'Chri - ste___ e - le - i - son___'. The third staff is divided into 'Choir' and 'ALL' parts, with lyrics 'Ky - ri - e___ e - le - i - son___'. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: God be with you

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray together

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.

HEBREW BIBLE

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19:7-14

GREGORIAN CHANT, SUNG BY THE CHOIR

GREEK BIBLE

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN [STANZAS 1, 2, 7] Blue Hymnal #458

My song is love unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

Samuel Crossman (1684-1683)

John Ireland (1879-1962)

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The United Church of Canada. Used with permission

We are not alone. We live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

adapted from the United Reformed Church

Loving and gracious God, you wrap us in your love like a loving mother and carry us like a strong, gentle father, helping us stand tall to be your free, mature, and joyful children. We turn to you because we know life's challenges can not be faced alone, and we need your Holy Spirit to meet each other's needs.

Spirit, gift of Christ, fill us with God's love.

We come to you with the resurrected Christ, who asks for all your suffering children. We join our prayers with Christ's prayers for those we know who struggle with addictions, are ill, or are troubled, especially: Amy, Alex and Heather, Betsy, Greg, Nancy, Jean.

Are there others we'd like to mention, either quietly or out loud?

Heal us and help us; comfort and strengthen us. Let our love show your tenderness and serve your healing presence.

Spirit, gift of Christ, fill us with God's love.

Today, we pray for our spiritual leaders: for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Julia, Ian, and Mary, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers.

We pray for the Churches of the North Shore Deanery, St. Michael's Church Marblehead; St. Mary's Church, Rockport; Grace Church, Salem; St. Peter' Church/Iglesia de San Pedro, Salem; and Congregations: Secretaries and Administrators.

Spirit, gift of Christ, fill us with God's love.

Rest on all who have died, knowing they have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Are there any to be mentioned, either silently or out loud?

Fill our lives with your presence so that more and more each day, we may join with the communion of saints who have gone before us, to the glory of your name.

Spirit, gift of Christ, fill us with God's love.

Living God, let praise begin, here and now, from our hearts, rising towards the skies, as you delight in us and we delight in you, forevermore.

Offer a thanksgiving or observe a moment of silence.

We thank you for all the blessings of this life.

Spirit, gift of Christ, fill us with God's love. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

God is love and we are God's children. There is no room for fear in love. We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

CONFESSION

(Common Worship, Church of England)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, O God of our salvation. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

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. Amen.

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

OFFERTORY

INTERMEZZO

Arthur Wills (1926-2020)

MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FROM THE NEW ZEALAND PRAYER BOOK

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is the joy of our salvation, God of the universe, to give you thanks through Jesus Christ. You said, 'Let there be light'; there was light. Your light shines on in our darkness. For you, the earth has brought forth life in all its forms. You have created us to hear your Word, to do your will and to be fulfilled in your love. It is right to thank you.

You sent your Son to be for us the way we need to follow and the truth we need to know. You send your Holy Spirit to strengthen and to guide, to warn and to revive your Church. Therefore, with all your witnesses who surround us on every side, countless as heaven's stars, we praise you for our creation and our calling, with loving and joyful hearts:

The Holy Eucharist II

S 128

Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)

On that night before he died, he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me." After supper, he took the cup and gave you thanks. He gave it to them and said: "Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you, shed for all, to forgive sin; do this to remember me."

Therefore with this bread and wine we recall your goodness to us. God of the past and present, we your people remember your Son. We thank you for his cross and rising again, we take courage from his ascension; we look for his coming in glory and in him we give ourselves to you. Send your Holy Spirit, that we who receive Christ's body may indeed be the body of Christ and we who share his cup, draw strength from the one true vine. Called to follow Christ, help us to reconcile and unite. Give us hope in our calling, for you, the heavenly one, make all things new; you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first. Praise, glory and love be yours, this and every day, from us and all people, here and everywhere. **Amen.**

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

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

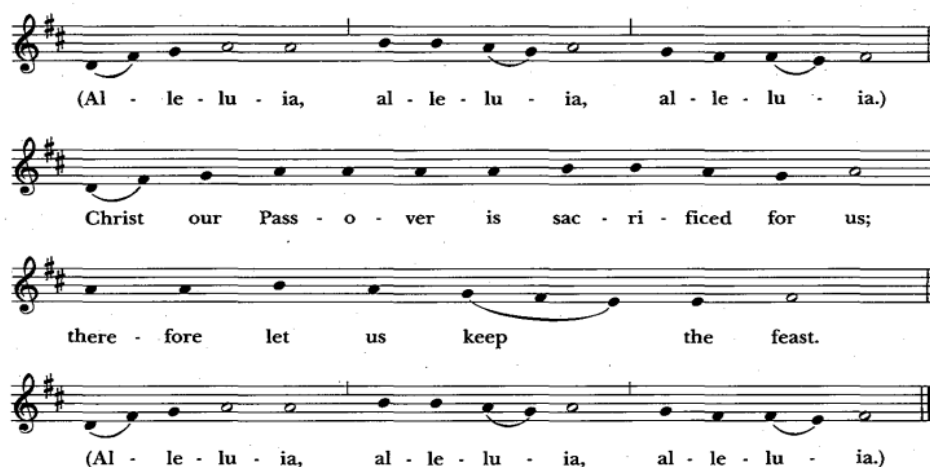
BREAKING OF THE BREAD

(the Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread)

S 154

The Holy Eucharist

Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover



Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

COMMUNION MUSIC

Organ: Andantino

Robin Milford (1903-1959)

Hymn #325

Let us break bread together on our knees
Afro-American Spiritual

LET US BREAK BREAD
arr. David Hurd (b.1950)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Form B, Enriching our Worship

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Announcements

THE BLESSING

Go in peace, stand strong, and hold onto what is good. Do not repay evil for evil. Help the weak, honor all people, and serve God with joy; and may God's grace and love remain with you always. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Christ is made the sure foundation
Latin, ca. 7th century

Blue Hymnal #518

WESTMINSTER ABBEY
Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

RATHER THAN APPLAUSE, A VERBAL AMEN, OR PERHAPS A KIND WORD DURING COFFEE HOUR, IS THE BEST WAY TO LET OUR MUSICIANS KNOW HOW MUCH YOU APPRECIATE THE MUSIC!!

SAVE THE DATE

Every Wednesday: Men's Bible Study (Thompson Room)(7am-8:30am)

Every Wednesday: Unpacking the Gospel (Bible Study)(12-1:30)

October 03: Blessing of the Animals (11:00am-12:30pm)

October 11: Indigenous People's Sunday (10:00am)

October 25, Nov. 1,8,15: Teaching Series: Still Trinitarian After All These Years (11:45am)

November 01: All Saints Sunday & Baptism (10:00am)

November 21: Village Fair (9:00am-2:00pm)

December 12: Middle Street Walk (10:00am-3:00pm)

December 24: Christmas Eve Service (5:00pm)

Former Parishioner in Hospice

Nancy Harrison, a dearly loved former parishioner, is now in hospice care in New Jersey, near her son Dean Harrison Jr. He says she would welcome cards and notes from her St. John's friends. As Nancy's poor eyesight and frailty prohibit her from reading, please send mail to Dean's home and he will read them to her.

Address: 11 Orchard Ave., Pennington, NJ 08534