

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: PROPER 24

OCTOBER 18, 2020 | LIVESTREAM 8:45 A.M. |



St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

Congregational participation in bold *Service from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)*

OPENING HYMN

HYMN 690 v. 1, 2, 3

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.*

*Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer, strong deliverer.
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.*

*When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.*

ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP p. 355

*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.*

GLORIA

First Song of Isaiah

Solo, Bill Reeves

*Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in Him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and He will be my Savior.*

*Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted,
sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world. (Chorus)*

Composer: Jack Noble White

COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP p. 235

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

THE FIRST LESSON: A READING FROM ISAIAH 45:1-7

Reader: Andie Leonie

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 96:1-13 (in unison)

BCP p. 725

1 *Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.*

2 *Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.*

3 *Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.*

4 *For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.*

5 *As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the LORD who made the heavens.*

6 *Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!*

7 *Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the LORD honor and power.*

8 *Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.*

9 *Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.*

- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."**
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.**

THE SECOND LESSON: A READING FROM 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL HYMN

HYMN 664 v. 1

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

My Shepherd will supply my need:

Jehovah is His Name;

in pastures fresh he makes me feed,

beside the living stream.

He brings my wandering spirit back

when I forsake his ways,

and leads me, for his mercy's sake,

in paths of truth and grace.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

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

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

A READING FROM MATTHEW 22:15-22

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

GOSPEL HYMN

HYMN 664 v. 3

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

*The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;*

*O may thy house be mine abode,
and all my work be praise.*

*There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;*

*no more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home.*

THE SERMON

Steve Always

A period of silence for reflection will follow.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP p. 358

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.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

[Silence]

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for David, our bishop; for Ripp, our Rector, and Lucy, our Curate; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

[Silence. The People may add their own petitions.]

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

[Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.]

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name forever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

[Silence. The People may add their own petitions.]

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

[Silence may be kept.]

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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. ***Amen.***

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

SHARING LIFE TOGETHER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

The Stand

*You stood before creation,
eternity in your hand.*

*You spoke the earth into motion,
my soul now to stand.*

*You stood before my failure,
and carried the cross for my shame.
My sin weighed upon your shoulders,
my soul now to stand.*

*So what can I say?
And what can I do?
But offer this heart, Oh God,
completely to you*

*So I'll walk upon salvation,
Your spirit alive in me.
This life to declare your promise,
my soul now to stand.*

*So what can I say?
And what can I do?
But offer this heart, Oh God,
completely to you.*

*I'll stand
With arms high and heart abandoned,
In awe of the one who gave it all.*

*I'll stand
My soul Lord to you surrendered
All I am is yours.
Joel Houston 4705248*

THE DOXOLOGY

HYMN 380 v. 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. Amen.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP p. 369

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

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

People: *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

Celebrant: God of power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: *Glory to you forever and ever.*

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People: *By your will they were created and have their being.*

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People: *Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

Celebrant: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People: *By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.*

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

The Holy Eucharist

Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*

S 125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Celebrant continues: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People: *We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.*

Celebrant: Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: *Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.*

Celebrant: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 364

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 forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: *Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

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.

ACT OF RECEPTION PRAYER

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

BCP p. 365

COMMUNION MUSIC

How Deep the Father's Love

How deep the Father's love for us

How vast beyond all measure

That He should give His only Son

To make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss

The Father turns His face away

As wounds which mar the Chosen

One bring many sons to glory

Behold the man upon a cross

My sin upon His shoulders

Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice

Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there

Until it was accomplished

His dying breath has brought me life

I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything

No gifts, no power, no wisdom

But I will boast in Jesus Christ

His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward?

I cannot give an answer

But this I know with all my heart

His wounds have paid my ransom

Stuart Townend 1558110

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP p. 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the love of God set your hearts free to live a life abundant in joy and compassion. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

HYMN 680 v. 1, 2, 5

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

*O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:*

*Under the shadow of thy throne,
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.*

*Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly, forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.*

THE DISMISSAL

BCP p. 366

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, filthy rich or dirt poor. And to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail, or who could afford to lose a few pounds. We welcome you if you can sing like Beyoncé or Adele or you can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing', just woke up, or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope, or haven't been to church since little Joey's Baptism. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, and junk-food eaters. We offer a special welcome to those who think the world is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because Grandma is in town and she wanted to go to church today. We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid, or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts... and **YOU!** -*borrowed from Coventry Cathedral, England & adapted for St. John's*

In your prayer time, we give thanks for St. Luke's, Cypress Mill and All Saints', Pleasanton.

The pink flowers today are given to the glory of God and for breast cancer awareness month.

Need an urgent prayer? Call for a prayer request at (830) 625-2532 during office hours, M-Th, 9-3 p.m. If your request is after church office hours, please call Pat Jefferson at (713) 899-1566 or email patjeff@gmail.com. Either way will reach the Prayer Warriors of St. John's.

Announcements for October 18, 2020

Welcome to all, especially if you are a guest. Please go to our website, www.stjohnsnb.com. Email us at office@stjohnsnb.com and either Rev. Ripp, or Rev. Lucy will contact you.

SIGN UP FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP!

Sign up via the link in the eNews each week.

The deadline to sign up for in-person worship each Sunday is the preceding Monday.

Sign-ups enable us to maximize limited seating and to maintain records of where people sit should contact tracing be necessary. Please contact office@stjohnsnb.com if you need assistance.

- Unfortunately we will **not** be able to accommodate anyone who walks up on a Sunday morning without pre-registering.
- We ask that each person, couple, or family only attend once a month in order to ensure all have ample opportunity to attend a service.
- If there are more requests than we can accommodate, we will consider adding a second service.

On your Sunday, please arrive **by 8:30** to be shown your seat and to learn how to move about during communion before filming begins at 8:40 a.m. **Please do not be late.**

THE REV. RIPP HARDAWAY, RECTOR AND THE REV. LUCY STRANGLUND, CURATE
ST. JOHN'S 2020 VESTRY: Linda Lund, Sr. Warden; Don Greer, Jr. Warden; Jim Whitcomb, Treasurer;
Janet Guillen, Bruce Howard, Carol Lenker, Adrian Quintanilla, and Tori Smith

Office hours: M-Th 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | office@stjohnsnb.com | (830) 625-2532
Sign up for the eNewsletter at www.stjohnsnb.com

ADMINISTRATIVE

St. John's welcomes our new Director of Communications, Grace Symmons.



My name is Grace Symmons and I am looking forward to serving St. John's as the Director of Communications. I grew up in Dripping Springs, and have been involved in various DWTX ministries and events for as long as I can remember. I graduated from Texas State University in 2016 with degrees in Communication Design and Art & Design. During my time as a youth leader at St. John's from 2012-2018, I was acquainted with the good work and good people that make up the church. I look forward to meeting new faces and reintroducing myself to familiar ones. I have spent the last two years living in Orlando, FL with my husband, Timothy, and as of February, working at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke as their Communications Director. Combining my education in Communication Design with my lifelong participation in the life of the Episcopal church has made for truly fulfilling work. When I am not working, I enjoy painting and spending time outside. Being back in Texas will afford Timothy and me more opportunities to spend time with our families, which we look forward to!

St. John's Yard Signs Available for Contact-Free Pickup

To arrange a contact-free pickup with the office Monday-Thursday, email office@stjohnsnb.com or call (830) 625-2532.

Birthdays | October 18– October 25

John K. (10/17)
Cole F. (10/19)
Sue M.. (10/19)

Jay O. (10/19)
Timmie G. (10/20)

Ashley J. (10/20)
Cheryl S. (10/23)
Kay K. (10/24)

Anniversaries | October 18– October 25

Rev. Lucy & Rev. Daniel (10/9)

Sidney & Paula S. (10/22)

WORSHIP *Loving God*

Livestream: Sunday Worship & Class Schedules

Holy Eucharist Rite II Service | 8:45 a.m

Children's Chapel Lesson with Ms. Cheryl | 1:00 p.m

Youth Zoom | Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

Noonday Prayers on Facebook Live, Monday-Saturday | 12:00 p.m.

Today is St. John's Fall Parish Meeting | Zoom meeting opens at 10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744448652?pwd=cktNaGVLeVRiVTNSQjFWREZoOXNjQT09>

Meeting ID: 817 4444 8652 | Passcode: 058040 | Dialing in (346) 248-7799

Healing Service, Facebook Live, Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

We want to include you and/or your loved one's name as Fr Ripp and Rev Lucy pray for those in need. If you or someone you know would appreciate their names being added to our prayer list, please email Rob Soeldner at rmsoldner@gmail.com . We will only use first names in the service, and we will only use names if given permission to do so.

November 1st is All Saints' Day Sunday at St. John's. This is a day set aside to honor loved ones who have gone before us. All beloved saints will be honored during the service by lifting them up in prayer and listing their names. Loved ones lost to us in the past year will be specifically honored with a candle on the altar. The Holy Celebrations team has prepared and delivered All Saints Sunday bags for each household in St. Johns, which contain prayer cards, a candle to light at home, and instructions on how to participate in All Saints Sunday. If you have NOT received a bag, please call the office and we will deliver it to you. **IN ORDER TO HAVE YOUR LOVED ONES HONORED IN THE SERVICE, PLEASE SEND THEIR NAMES TO THE OFFICE BEFORE OCTOBER 26, 2020.**

NURTURE *Making Disciples*

New Forward Day by Day: November, December, January 2021

Now available for pick up or by mail. To receive a Forward Day by Day devotional booklet, email office@stjohnsnb.com to arrange a contact-free pick-up or to request a booklet by mail.

Request a Prayer Shawl

St. John's Prayer Shawl Ministry offers hand-knitted and crocheted shawls for anyone in need of healing and comfort. To request a shawl, please notify Carol Lenker at cjlenker@yahoo.com or Janet Moody at janmoody@satx.rr.com. You may pick up a shawl from the office.

Adult Christian Education

Our new Weekly Bible Study will meet on Wednesdays on Zoom from 10-11 a.m.

Each week we will study the readings for the upcoming Sunday, so feel free to attend week to week as able. We will not only study the texts and their background and discuss what they mean for us today but also practice some contemplative styles of reading scripture from time to time.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82969503160?pwd=eUhSRkJUdVRISXhGOFhNQUI5eTF5UT09>

Meeting ID: 829 6950 3160 | Passcode: 207974 | Call in (audio only): (346) 248-7799

On Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. *I Think You're Wrong (But I'm Listening)* Book Study Through Oct 21. Led by Bethany Green and Sing Yue via Zoom.

Join Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88187185648?pwd=ZW5VN1FOUVISZUxSd0d2ekdEaXE3UT09#success>

Meeting ID: 881 8718 5648 | Passcode: 829832 | Call in (audio only): (346) 248-7799

- Each week we will explore how our political views are formed and learn concrete steps we can take to have more productive and grace filled conversations.
- The book can be purchased through Amazon or other retailers. If you have the Kindle App you can also download the book for free. However, you do not have to purchase the book to participate in the class!

On Sundays, 10:15 a.m. *The Way of Love Series.* Through November 22.

Join Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81942447688?pwd=UTdGa2ZudklHM0VIUFhoajZReXhSdz09#success>

Meeting ID: 819 4244 7688 | Passcode: 007660 | Call in (audio only): (346) 248-7799

We are returning to Bishop Curry's *Way of Love* series this fall with a focus on the seven topics that are included in that series: Turn, Pray, Worship, Go, Learn, Bless and Rest. Our own members will be telling their journey of love and how their lives have been impacted by the focus topic. We are returning to this curriculum because in this time of the pandemic, election, and civil unrest, we each need to focus on the journey of faith and our call to love as Christ loves us.

The class schedule is as follows:

October 18	[No Class]
October 25	Kyle and Caitrin A. on Turn
November 1	Karen F. on Worship
November 8	Shelley and Bruce H. on Rest
November 15	Heidi F. on Learn
November 22	Wrap Up with a roundtable

Becoming Beloved Community: Continuing the Conversation

Every 2nd and 4th Monday evening at 7:00 pm.

Please join Renee Wendel and Heidi Forgione to continue the discussion on racism in our community and country that was started during our Adult Formation class on Becoming Beloved Community. Even if you were not able to participate in those initial discussions, we invite you to join us now or at any point in the future. Our goal is to provide a community that supports each other and shares resources as we learn, discuss, and take action in our day-to-day lives.

Join Zoom meeting <https://txstate.zoom.us/j/5056888393#success>

Meeting ID: 505 688 8393. Call in (audio only): (346) 248-7799.

CHILDREN, FAMILIES, and YOUTH MINISTRIES

Sunday School Save the Dates!

Zoom Gatherings: November 1 at 1 p.m.

Pick up Sunday School Supplies: Sunday, November 8.

Pre-recorded videos: October 25, November 15 and 22.

Hello Children and Families,

This time of year, many families search and find perfect pumpkins for either carving and/or fall displays. Maybe you even like to bake a pumpkin pie from scratch using a pumpkin designed just for cooking. What could you also do with your pumpkins? I found this article timely and another way to teach ourselves and children to love like Jesus loves us.

<https://www.growchristians.org/2020/10/02/prayer-pumpkins-and-praying-for-your-enemies/>

Sunday school continues even in this Covid time. This month we will be “traveling” to Kurdistan. Pre-recorded videos including projects post on **Sunday, October 18** and **Sunday, October 25**. If you didn't come last Sunday to pick up supplies, please reach out to me so your child/children can continue to participate. If you haven't registered, and would like to join us, it is not too late. Contact cheryl@stjohnsnb.com. *If you like to shop for a cause, handmade soaps are available for purchase online-even Horned Frogs for all you TCU fans!* www.shimaofnavajoland.com

Trunk or Treat returns to St. John's!

Register below and join the fun on Sunday, October 25th, from 4-6 pm. There will be trunks, games and a NAME the PUMPKIN Contest! This year we will follow the Candy Corn Trail to lots of outdoor fun! Wear your costume and your mask for some SPOOOOOKTACULAR surprises! If you bring friends, family, please also register them. A few slots (very few) are left for a trunk so let me know if your family wants to create a “trunk” or you have youth that want to help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094BAFA82EA2FB6-trunk1>

Sunday, December 13th at 6 p.m. for “Light the Way to Bethlehem”

Our journey will begin with Mary, Joseph, and the donkey leaving for the census and traveling to Bethlehem. Families will be asked to portray different characters from the story and will join Mary and Joseph as they head to the stable. Musicians will travel with the group and narration/song will happen at each station- all taking place outside. (Rain date is Wednesday, Dec. 16th). We hope to conclude with some Christmas caroling in the parking lot. We hope your family will join us in celebration of our Savior’s birth and to create a wonderful church memory. Please let me know if you would like to help in the planning of this coming event and/or if you know that your family wants to be a part of this special evening at cheryl@stjohnsnb.com and tish@stjohnsnb.com. We need everyone’s creative input and talents to honor Jesus’ birth.

Remember our lessons from Bishop Curry...*Turn* to God, *Learn* the Word, *Pray*, *Worship*, *Bless* others, *Go* out in the world to share love, and *Rest* knowing God is in charge and loves you. *Hope and love in Christ*, Mrs. Cheryl

Youth Updates for the Fall

Youth Group Zoom on Monday nights at 7:30 p.m will meet again on October 26. Every last Monday of the month will be Zoom movie night, and every last Saturday of the month will feature an Outreach project. **Zoom links are listed in weekly emails from Emma and the Monday Night reminders.** If you're not on the list, email emma@stjohnsnb.com to change that!

Youth Group will be sponsoring no-contact games during Trunk or Treat this year and participation is needed! Trunk or Treat is October 25th.

The Outreach Project for October/November will be an Advent Art Project! Paint day will be Sunday, November 1. Contact Emma for details.

PROCEDURES IN WORSHIP

- An Usher will lead you to Communion.
- You may drop your offering in the plate then or after worship.
- Exit the sanctuary by guidance from the Usher, starting from the back.
- Please observe a 6-foot space between you and anyone not in your household.
- After worship in the courtyard, please observe distance.
- If you discover that you have been infected with COVID-19 in the week after worship service, please let us know by calling the church office as soon as possible.