



St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

October 31, 2021

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The flowers on the altar are arranged by Carol & Carrie Martin and given to the glory of God.

ST. JOHN'S CLERGY & STAFF

Fr. Ripp Hardaway, Rector
Rev. Lucy Strandlund, Curate
Tish Sutton, Director of Music
Ian Flores, Musician & A/V Technician

Cheryl Smith, Director of Children & Family Ministries
Jenny Montgomery, Administrative Assistant to the Rector
Desiree Moultrie, Director of Finance and Operations
Grace Symmons, Director of Communications

Hannah Hoffmann, Youth Leader
Kyle Smith, Assistant Youth Leader
Arturo Gonzalez, Sexton
Rufus Hudgins, Sexton

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP p. 355

Together 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.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL (11am only) | *Children, preschool age through 3rd grade, are invited to follow the Child Crucifer to Children's Chapel during the Gloria. Please follow physical distancing and wear your mask!*

GLORIA | A Song of Praise

Hymn S-236

*Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
 you are worthy of praise; glory to you.*

*Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
 on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.*

*Glory to you, beholding the depths;
 in the high vault of heaven,
 glory to you.*

*Glory to you for the
 radiance of your holy Name;
 we will praise you and
 highly exalt you for ever.*

*Glory to you, seated between the cherubim;
 we will praise you and
 highly exalt you for ever.*

*Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
 we will praise you and
 highly exalt you for ever.*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP p. 235

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON | Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you

lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die—there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!” When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146

BCP p. 803

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul! *

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECOND LESSON | Hebrews 9:11-14

When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN | Just As I Am (v. 1, 2)

Hymn 693

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 12:28-34

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

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

One of the scribes came near and heard the Saducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’ —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

GOSPEL HYMN | Just As I Am (v. 5)

Hymn 693

THE SERMON

The Rev. Ripp Hardaway

A period of silence for reflection will follow.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form IV, BCP p. 388

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People That we all may be one.

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People That our works may find favor in your sight.

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People That they may be delivered from their distress.

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest.

People Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Celebrant adds Concluding Collect

Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity, until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP p. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Most merciful God, 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 truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC | Wait for the Lord

Don and Carol Roberts

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 B; BCP p. 367

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 It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Hymn S-125

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

(The people stand or kneel.)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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

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.**

Celebrant 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.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (For 8:45 a.m. live stream participants)

Faithful God, **in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I be renewed to love and to serve; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

BCP p. 365

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. To receive the bread, place one hand over the other with palms facing upward. To indicate that you would like to receive a blessing instead, cross arms over chest. Please let Fr. Ripp or Rev. Lucy know if you would like to receive a gluten free wafer.

COMMUNION MUSIC | "The Stand" (4705248) Joel Houston

You stood before creation

So what can I say?

So I'll stand

Eternity in your hand

And what can I do?

With arms high and heart abandoned

You spoke the earth into motion

But offer this heart, Oh God

In awe of the One who gave it all

My soul now to stand

Completely to you

So I'll stand

You stood before my failure

So I'll walk upon salvation

My soul Lord to You surrendered

And carried the cross for my shame

Your spirit alive in me

All I am is Yours

My sin weighed upon your shoulders

This life to declare your promise

My soul now to stand

My soul now to stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP p 365

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May you be instruments of God's peace in this world: where there is hatred, sow love. Where there is discord, union. Where there is despair, hope. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN | Rise Up, Ye Saints of God!

Hymn 551

THE DISMISSAL

BCP p 366

<i>Celebrant</i>	Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.



If you are a visitor or guest, we would love to connect with you! Please visit www.stjohnsnb.com/welcome to fill out a visitor card or email office@stjohnsnb.com and Fr. Ripp or Rev. Lucy will contact you.

Updated Procedures for Worship & Gathering

- Following current CDC guidance (as of July 27, 2021), all people, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask while indoors.

- Communion in both kinds, bread and wine, is now being offered. In order to partake, please sanitize your hands before approaching stations at the front, especially if you intend to receive the wine by intinction. We are offering the wine by intinction only at this time: after receiving the bread, step to the side to the minister with the chalice and dip your wafer in the wine, avoiding touching the wine with your fingers. If you do not wish to receive the wine, please know that our tradition teaches that Christ cannot be divided and all of the spiritual benefits of Communion are present in the bread alone.

- If you test positive for Covid-19 after being on campus at St. John's, we ask that you notify our rector Ripp Hardaway or senior warden Ann Amoroso so that we may take the appropriate steps to notify those potentially affected, while respecting your privacy.

- If you are having any symptoms, please help safeguard our shared community by staying home and participating online.

- We will not request to see proof of vaccination nor will we have a designated space for non-vaccinated people to sit. We trust that you will follow CDC recommendations and Diocesan guidelines to best honor yourself and your St. John's family, especially children under 12 and others who are unable to be vaccinated.

Trunk or Treat Thank You! Thank you to all who made St. John's Trunk or Treat a great afternoon! The donations of candy and pumpkins, the planning committee's dedication and organization, the "trunks" who provided treats and game activities, the youth and adult volunteers, the grill master (Blake Hartman under the disguise), and all the super kids who came made it a fun afternoon. - Ms. Cheryl

Children's Christmas Pageant | December 5 at 11 a.m. (Rehearsal on December 4)

This year we have a new script, some new costumes and are excited about bringing the story of "The Mysterious Animal" alive. This Sunday and next, we will be visiting with children during Sunday school to see how they can be a part. We are also looking for volunteers to update some costumes, create backdrops, build scenery, etc. Email cheryl@stjohnsnb.com if you would like to share your talent!

Sunday School & Adult Christian Education on Sundays | Continues at 10 a.m.

Children's Sunday School Pre School - 1st Graders meet in the Children's Gathering Space,
2nd - 5th Graders go straight to your classrooms.

Youth Sunday School with Hannah and Kyle will meet in the Youth Room

St. John's 101 with Father Ripp will meet in the Music/Multipurpose Room

Bible in 90 Days with Adrian & Jim will meet in the Parish Hall

Establishing Family Rhythms & Routines with Rev. Lucy will meet on Parish Hall Patio

SOS Work Day | November 3 from 1 - 4 p.m.

St. John's scheduled work day at the SOS Food Bank is the first Wednesday of each month. We are meeting there on Wednesday November 3rd. The address is: 248 W Merriweather Street. Please reach out to Bob Wells at 713-822-6151 and/or email at blabwells@gmail.com with any questions on this ministry.

All Saints' Day | November 7

This is a day set aside to honor loved ones who have gone before us. Please take a Remembrance Card from the Narthex and write down the names of all those loved and gone before us. If a loved one has been lost in the past year and a candle on the altar in their memory is requested, contact the church office by Wednesday, November 3. You can submit names using the form at stjohnsnb.com/allsaintsday

Newcomers Luncheon | November 7 at 12:15 p.m. | Parish Hall & Patio

An opportunity to welcome newcomers to St. John's, this luncheon is open to anyone who has not yet attended a newcomers welcome event. Please direct questions and/or RSVP to heidiforgione@gmail.com.

Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, November 10 at 11am at Pat's Place

Lunch Bunch meets on the second Wednesday of each month and welcomes members and newcomers for food, fun, and fellowship! Contact Pam Bennett for more information at (830) 730-0421

Men of St. John's to attend Wurstfest | November 10 | Arrive early for show at 5:30 p.m. | Grosse Zelt

The Men of St. John's will meet for fellowship, food, drink, and entertainment by the Alex Meixner Band. Come early to help reserve a table. Contact John Howe for more information at jvwh@jhowe.com.

November Sunset Service | November 14 at 5 p.m.

Our last Sunset Service of 2021 will be held on November 14th at 5 p.m. Bring your own chair or blanket for this casual, outdoor Eucharist. Contact Rev. Lucy with any questions at lucy@stjohnsnb.com

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service | Thursday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Save the date: St. John's will host our annual Community Thanksgiving service with Peace Lutheran. Stay tuned for more details!

Volunteers Needed to Host Hakuna Matata Children's Choir members

There is a need for four more houses to host a couple of children and/or adults for the week of January 18-24. Hosts provide housing and two meals a day but the group will spend daytime hours at the church for school work and rehearsals. If you are interested in hosting or have any questions, please email tish@stjohnsnb.com.

Forward Day by Day (Nov, Dec, Jan) daily devotional books are available in the Narthex.