



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 6, 2026

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Cherie Kittle
in celebration of Cherie and John's 45th wedding anniversary.*

ST. JOHN'S CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Ripp Hardaway, Rector
The Rev. Matthew Bloss, Associate Priest
The Rev. Dr. Riva Heron, Deacon and Curate
Jenny Montgomery, Executive Assistant to the Rector
Desiree Moultrie, Director of Finance & Operations
Valerie Thompson, Director of Music & Organist
Kelly Jackson, Director of Family Ministry & Parish Life
Emily Lehmuth, Director of Children's & Nursery Ministries

Grace Symmons, Director of Communications
Lauren Koops, Assistant Youth Minister
Laura Shaver, Publications Assistant
Brandi Raschke, Media & Storytelling Assistant
Cade Norman, Youth Ministry Intern
Isabella Escamilla, Children's Ministry Intern
Ben Sykora, AV Tech Lead
Art Gonzales, Sexton

WORSHIP MINISTERS

8:45 a.m. Service

Acolytes: John Michael & Mary Elizabeth Douglas, Elijah Jackson
Altar Guild: Andrea Brotze, Karen Shumway
Greeters: Betsy Payson, Sydney Sharp
Eucharistic Ministers: Clark Hendley, Lynn Campaigne
Ushers: Sandy Payson, Will Brown
Flower Guild: Sherri Lowe

11:00 a.m. Service

Acolytes: Ainsley Englefield, Colton Shaver, Lyra Mason
Altar Guild: Andrea Brotze, Marjaana Cich
Greeters: Torrey Hunter, Pam Reitz
Eucharistic Ministers: Matthew Eckman, David Simmons
Ushers: Jeffrey Bloss, Ram Meredith
Flower Guild: Sherri Lowe
Children's Chapel: Emily Lehmuth, Volunteer Crucifer

Welcome! We're so glad you're here. This leaflet and the blue hymnal contain everything you need for this worship service. If you've never been to an Episcopal service before, follow along in this leaflet or watch the Priest. When they sit, you sit; when they rise, you rise. We promise in time you'll get the hang of it. And please scan the QR code found on the back of the pew in front of you, and let us know how we might contact you and thank you for the visit.

PRELUDE | In God, My Faithful God / We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit / Jig Fugue - Dietrich Buxtehude

Wherever you see † you may see people making the sign of the cross. Join in, if you would like. Many people will also bow as the cross passes by during the opening procession to the altar. This is a physical sign of respect for the symbol of Christ's sacrifice and redemption.

OPENING HYMN | O Day of Radiant Gladness

Hymn 48

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 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 355

The Collect for Purity has been used in Christian worship for over 1,000 years and is a distinctive part of Episcopal worship.

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 (11 a.m. service)

Preschool - 3rd graders are invited to follow the Child Crucifer to Children's Chapel during the Song of Praise.

SONG OF PRAISE | Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above (v 1-2)

Hymn 408

This song before the prayer of the day helps us set our intentions and remind us why we gather: to give thanks to God.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 233

A prayer appointed for each Sunday gathers the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It is often connected to the themes in the scriptures for the day.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Everyone is seated to listen to the scripture readings.

FIRST LESSON | Ezekiel 33:7-11

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and that cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another.

The psalm of the week usually expands on the meaning of the First Reading.

33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.

34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your
law; * I shall keep it with all my heart.

35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
for that is my desire.

36 Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.

37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.

38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.

39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.

40 Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.

SECOND LESSON | Romans 13:8-14

This reading comes from a letter to the first groups of Christians (often from the apostle Paul) or from the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN | Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace (v 1-3)

Hymn 593

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

This reading is taken from one of the four books (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) which depict the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. †

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ. †

GOSPEL HYMN | Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace (v 4-5)

Hymn 593

THE SERMON

The Rev. Matthew Bloss

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scripture readings and relates them to daily life.

The word “creed” comes from the Latin credo, meaning “I believe.” Christians have used the Nicene Creed in worship for nearly 1,700 years. It reflects what Christians believe about the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: the Holy Trinity. Everyone rises as they are able.

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

Having been reminded of God’s action in history, we pray for God to continue acting now. We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church—the Body of Christ.

We would be empty without God’s gifts, and we would be selfish if we kept them to ourselves. Let us pray in thankfulness for God’s generosity.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Good Samaritan Community Services and the Mental Health Commission. Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the faithful St. John’s ministries of Acolytes, Altar Guild, and Children’s Chapel. Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the universal church, many members but one body, that God may gather it together from the ends of the earth, safeguard its unity, and perfect it in love, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who control the wealth and resources of our nation, that our provident God may give them loving and generous hearts, so that there may be bread for all the children of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Thankful for our world which you made through Christ, and renewed in the power of his resurrection, that we may be wise and careful stewards of creation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all mothers and fathers who awaken today without food for their children, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That the bread of life may be shared one day by all Christians at a common table of praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all of us that gather at this eucharistic table, weak in faith, faltering in our response to God, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Hear our prayers for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed. Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or conceive, by the power which is at work among us, be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all ages. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 359

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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.**

Everyone exchanges greetings with those around them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP 377

Celebrant But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.
Hebrews 13:15-16

OFFERTORY SOLO | Here I Am, Lord - Dan Schutte

Kathy James

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?*

*Chorus: Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send? (Chorus)
I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send? (Chorus)*

DOXOLOGY | Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (*Morning Hymn*)

Hymn 11 v 4

*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.*

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, in the money we give, and in the offering of our selves: our time, talents, souls and bodies.

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 | Holy, Holy, Holy Lord - David Hurd

Hymn S 124

**Hymn numbers beginning with an S indicate Service Music, found at the front of The Hymnal 1982*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow-er and might,
Hea-ven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

*Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. †
Hosanna in the highest.*

(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 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.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre; venga tu reino; hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en la tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Priest breaks the consecrated Bread.

FRACTION ANTHEM | Christ Our Passover - David Hurd

Hymn S 154

**Hymn numbers beginning with an S indicate Service Music, found at the front of The Hymnal 1982*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

therefore let us keep the feast.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

BCP 365

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. If you prefer a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest. To receive communion from your seat please notify an usher, if you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know during communion.

Prayer ministers are available to the left and right of the altar rail for those who would like additional prayer after communion.

COMMUNION MUSIC | They Will Know We Are Christians

Kathy James

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail) - Houston, Crocker, Lighthelm (CLCI Song #6428767)

Take My Life

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP 365

After communion, everyone kneels or rises as they are able.

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.**

SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITOR(S)

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that [N. and] all those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

All **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

THE BLESSING

Modified Blessing, *Black Rock Prayer Book*

Our world is too broken and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone. Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor. May your hands, so that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love. May your feet so that you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so full of Christ's love and grace, that it changes everything. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. †
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN | Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

Hymn 610

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE | Toccata in F Major - Dietrich Buxtehude

Valerie Thompson, Organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS



- Welcome & Newcomers Registry
- Prayer Requests
- Latest eNews
- Worship Bulletins
- St. John's Resources

Register Now for St. John's Parish Retreat | November 20–22 at Camp Capers

Join your St. John's family for a weekend of worship, fellowship, activities, and rest.

Register on the Church Center app or contact Kelly Jackson at kelly@stjohnsnb.com with questions.

Children & Youth Choir | Each Wednesday from 4:30–5 p.m. | Please note new time.

All children and youth in grades K–8 are invited to sing and make music with friends.

Games for His Glory | TODAY, 1 - 3 p.m. | The Board Game Vault, 2064 Central Plaza

Join us after the 11 a.m. service for two hours of board games. Admission is \$9 per person, and childcare will be available at the church until 3:30 p.m. Throughout September, portions of eligible game and table fees each Sunday will be donated to the St. John's Outreach Fund. Visit bgvsilos.com to learn more.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day.

Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, September 9 at 11 a.m. | Las Fontanas

Join the Lunch Bunch for food and fellowship at Las Fontanas. The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Contact Sarah Hawkins (sdf4angels@gmail.com) for information or to RSVP.

St. John's Day | Sunday, September 13

Over the past few weeks, we have learned about the many ways God is at work through the ministries of St. John's. Next Sunday, we will celebrate St. John's Day and commit or recommit our time and talents by submitting your ministry commitments on Church Center.

Newcomers' Dinner | Sunday, September 13, 4:30 - 7 p.m. | Geisler Home

New or feeling new to St. John's? Join us for dinner and fellowship with other newcomers, parishioners, and clergy. The whole family is welcome. Register in the Church Center app. Contact Cherie Kittle at ckittle54@gmail.com or 830-832-7910 for more information.

New Member Liturgy | Sunday, September 20 at both services

We invite all new members to participate in a NewMember Liturgy, where those new to St. John's are invited to come forward and express their desire to be part of this community of faith. The congregation will also affirm its commitment to welcome and embrace the gifts these new members bring to our parish. RSVP in Church Center.

Fall Fair Committee Meeting | Sunday, September 20 at 10 a.m.

Join us to learn how you can help put on the Fall Fair at St. John's this year!

Family Ministry Workshop | Sunday, September 20, 12:45–2:45 p.m. | 508 Rusk St.

Parents of children and youth ages 0–18 are invited to share feedback, offer ideas, and help shape the future of Family Ministry at St. John's. Lunch will be provided, with childcare and a youth hangout available at the church from 12:30–3 p.m. Please register yourself and each child attending in Church Center so we can plan accordingly.

The Deacon's Brew | Tuesday, September 22, 1–2:30 p.m. | Conference Room

Bring your beverage of choice and join the Rev. Riva for casual conversation. Come talk about religion, gardening, family, favorite board games, or whatever is on your mind!

St. John's Welcome Tour | September 27 at 10 a.m.

New to St. John's or looking to get connected? Meet us in the Hospitality Area to learn about our church, explore ways to get involved, and take a brief campus tour.

Yoga for the Women of St. John's | Saturday, October 3, 9:00 a.m. | Parish Hall

Women of all ages and experience levels are invited to slow down and recenter with a gentle yoga session. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one; a limited number of extras will be available. Please RSVP in Church Center. Reach out to Kat DeGrasse (kihoste9263@gmail.com) with any questions.

Save the Date for St. John's Parish Meeting | Sunday, October 4, 10:00 a.m. | Parish Hall