ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL & AFRICAN PALMS USA

THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 16

Sunday, August 24, 2025 8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832 Phone: (301) 774-6999 | Website: <u>www.stjec.org</u>

~ CALLED BY CHRIST IN LOVE, TO LIVE IN TRUTH AND ACTION ~

Welcome to St. John's Church

We are a diverse faith community committed to carrying out Christ's mission in the world around us. We love the beauty of worship, and live into the faithful and constant commitment towards seeking social and economic justice and reconciliation among all peoples. We come from across the globe, with varied family configurations, educational backgrounds, occupations, interests, and talents and invite you to join us.

If you are visiting our church for the first time, please introduce yourself to an usher or a member of the Clergy. We have a small gift for you from the parish.

If you are seeking a spiritual home, please speak with the Clergy.

Please join us for Coffee and fellowship following the worship service

If you are a guest with us today, please know that you are welcome to enjoy fellowship, coffee, and tea with us in the Parish Hall following the service.

Children are welcome at all services

If you have little worshipers with you today who might enjoy coloring, Play-Doh, or a Rubik's cube, these can be found at either entrance.

The Nursery is open from 8am to 12pm for children age 5 and under.

SUNDAY @ ST. JOHN'S	ò
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8am	Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary
9am	Adult Forum in the Parish Hall
9:45am	Holy Household Half-Hour, Intergenerational "Sunday school"
	in the Parish Hall
10:30am	Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary

COME JOIN US

TODAY

• Blessing of the Backpacks @ 8am & 10:30am

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

• Choir Rehearsal Resumes @ 6:30pm

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

Youth Group Meeting

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

• Guppy Gulch @ 9:30am

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

• Parish Picnic

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- Episcopal School Sunday
- Neuro-Spicy @ 1:30pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- Bishop James Visits
- Casserole Club Meeting @ 12pm

HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30AM Prelude

The people stand.





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

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

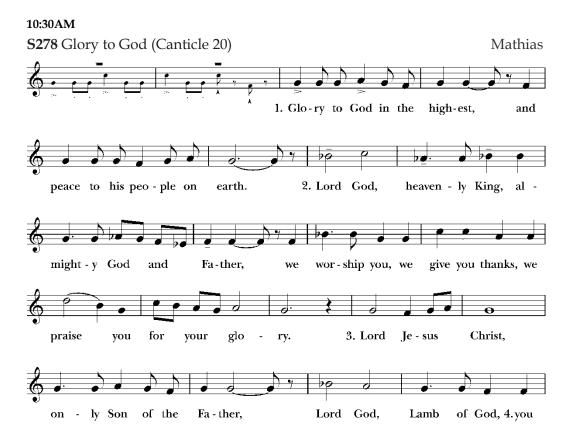
THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

8AM Gloria

BCP pg. 356

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.





Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory 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 people are seated.

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Lector A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The word of the Lord came to me saying,

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you, Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me,

"Now I have put my words in your mouth.
See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 71:1-6

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; * let me never be ashamed.
- 2 In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free; * incline your ear to me and save me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; * you are my crag and my stronghold.
- 4 Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, * from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.
- 5 For you are my hope, O Lord GOD, * my confidence since I was young.
- 6 I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have been my strength; * my praise shall be always of you.

Hebrews 12:18-29

Lector A reading from a letter written to the Hebrews.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken-- that is, created things-- so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn #304

I come with joy to meet my Lord



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The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (13:10-17)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

THE SERMON

The Rev. Shivaun Wilkinson

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon With the Lord's encouraging words resounding in our hearts, let us

frame again the prayers which linger in all human hearts, saying:

Hear us, O Lord.

We are weary of war and threats of war. Let us pray for peace in our

world, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

We fear for our children. Let us pray for all children, their health

and well-being, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord

We are anxious about our security. Let us pray for an end to hunger

and want, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord

We yearn for faith in an uncertain world. Let us pray for all who

preach the gospel, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord

We tremble at our own vulnerability. Let us pray for the victims of

illness, accident, and disaster, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

We mourn for those who have died. Let us pray for those who are

now in the nearer presence of our Lord, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

We carry worry in our hearts. Let us pray for the needs we can

hardly bear to name, saying,

People Hear us, O Lord.

We pray especially for **Bob**, **Carol**, **David**, **Kim**, **Christina**, **Alan**, **Etta**, **Phillip**, **Ivy**, **Mary Faith**, **Steve**, **Celeste**, **and Mary**, and those who are on our hearts and minds, saying,

People

Hear us, O Lord.

Officiant

Loving God, our Father, you fashioned the human heart; you know the needs that make it ache. Hear us, your children, praying as your Son taught us. His is the name we invoke; his is the kingdom we await: Jesus Christ, the Lord. **Amen.**

Deacon

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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 of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.



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Anthem

The people stand.

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy

God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

The Celebrant continues.

8AM

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

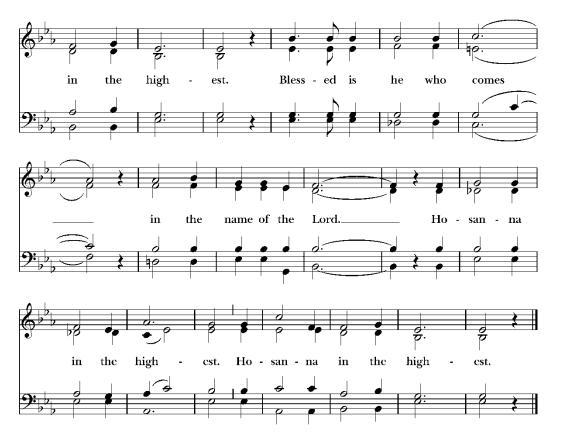
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Sanctus 130 Holy, holy, holy Lord

Richard Proulx





Music: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, dishonored one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with beloved John and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, in the language closest to our hearts, we are bold to say,

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.

Vater unser im Himmel,
Geheiligt werde dein Name.
Dein Reich komme.
Dein Wille geschehe,
Wie im Himmel so auf Erden.
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute,
Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,
Wie auch wir vergeben unsern
Schuldigern.
Und führe uns nicht in
Versuchung,
Sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen.
Denn dein ist das Reich und die
Kraft und die Herrlichkeit in
Ewigkeit. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

10:30AM

Fraction Anthem: S156



The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The people are seated.

Communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. You can receive in both hands, bread and wine or in just one. To receive communion, or a blessing, please come forward to the priest at the front of the altar. To receive bread, put your hands out, to receive wine, please drink from the chalice. For health reasons, we do not instinct (dip) the bread. To receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest. Gluten-free host is available. Please make your needs known to the priest.

Sending Prayers for Eucharistic Visitors

Deacon In the name of God and this congregation, I send you forth bearing

these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the

communion of Christ's body and blood.

People We who are many are one body because we all share one bread

and one cup.

Post Communion Prayer

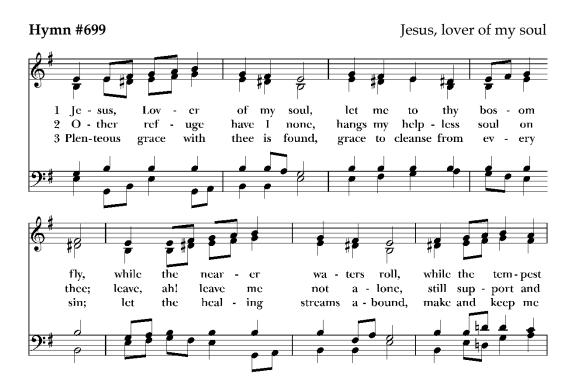
Celebrant Let us pray.

The people stand.

Celebrant and People

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





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1783), alt. Music: Aberystwyth, Joseph Parry (1841-1903).

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Use this list to pray and to show your love and concern for the sick, shut-in, bereaved, or those merely in need of prayer. If you wish to submit a name please contact the office at accounting@stjec.org.

In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email <u>pastoralcare@stjec.org</u>

Bob Brekke
Carol Adoum
David Hull
Kim Irish
Alan Soukup
Etta MacKay
Phillip White
Ivy Choe-Branstetter
Mary Faith Almasi
Steve Ruff
Celeste McGee
Mary Persinger

If you are ill for an extended period, are hospitalized, need a visit or Eucharist brought to you, want your home blessed, are celebrating a birth, adoption, or want specific prayers for any number of celebrations or sorrows, please email: pastoralcare@stjec.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUPPY GULCH

Come Splash with us at Guppy Gulch and spend a fun-soaked day on the water on Monday, September 1st (Labor Day) 9:30am to 4:45pm. Guppy Gulch is a 5-acre Freshwater Reservoir with inflatable slides, zipline, climbing walls, paddleboards, and jungle-gym for all ages. Bring your lunch and join the fun. Cost is \$27 per person / \$10 for non-swimmer. See Friday's Bell Tower to sign-up.

PARISH PICNIC

Join us on September 7th for our annual Parish Picnic. The picnic is being catered by Origins BBQ. The menu will consist of brisket, pulled pork, chicken legs/thighs, and Mac-n-Cheese along with an array of sauces. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Drinks will be provided by St. John's. It costs nothing to attend and everyone, family and friends are welcome to join the fun!

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL SUNDAY

Please join us on Sunday, September 14th at the 10:30am service for a morning of celebration of St. John's Episcopal School, the parish's largest outreach ministry; our church; and our community.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Join our music minister, Cambria Van de Vaarst, as she guides us through activities and information about children's choirs, youth bells, and opportunities for instrumental musicians to use their talents to glorify God in worship at THIS Sunday at 9:45am in the Parish Hall.

HOLY HOUSEHOLD

Holy Household officially begins on Sunday, September 14th in the Parish Hall.

NEURO-SPICY GROUP

The term "neurodivergent" describes people whose brain differences affect how their brain works. That means they have different strengths and challenges from people whose brains don't have those differences.

Parishioners, friends or family members who share lives with a neurodivergent person has the opportunity to discuss resources, struggles, and successes and our Neuro-Spicy group meeting on Sunday, September 14th at 1:30pm in the Parish Hall. Drop-ins are welcome!

BISHOP JAMES ALMASI VISITS ST. JOHN'S

Through our African Palms ministry, St. John's has enjoyed a relationship with the Diocese of Masasi in southern Tanzania since the 1970's. For the past 10 years, Bishop James Almasi, friend of many in this congregation, has served as bishop of the Diocese of Masasi. Bishop James will be visiting with us, and preaching, on Sunday, 21 September. Please join us in welcoming Bishop James.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Individual Milk | Taco Kits Canned Chicken (or foiled packed) | Spaghetti Sauce | Meal Helpers Snacks | Canned Vegetables | White Beans | Manwich | Canned Chili Pasta | Chef Boyardee | Fresh Stack Crackers.

Please leave donations on the bench outside the Rector's office; we are happy to stock them.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group resumes with its first meeting on Sunday, August 31st from 12 to 1:30pm. Youth 6th -12th grade are invited to the first "hang out" session with games and summer recaps.

SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL & AFRICAN PALMS USA

Diocese of Washington

The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop* The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop*

STAFF

The Reverend Henry P. McQueen, Rector rector@stjec.org

The Reverend Shivaun Wilkinson, Associate Rector associate@stjec.org

The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon* deacon@stjec.org

Tammy Turner, Parish Administrator accounting@stjec.org

Cambria Van de Vaarst, Minister of Music music@stjec.org

Africanpalms@stjec.org

Joe Powers, Interim Head of School Joe.Powers@stjes.org

Eoin Benson, Sexton

Selva Selvarajah, Verger

VESTRY

Will Lederer, 2026 - Formation Bill Fleming, 2026 - Sr. Warden Mary Kerr, 2026 - Pastoral Care Andrew Hamill - Treasurer Aparna Williams - Asst. Treasurer Julie Metcalf - Registrar Vicki Hudson, 2027 – Stewardship Carmen Jones, 2027 – Evangelism Becca Roberson, 2027 – Jr. Warden, Outreach Becky Hast, 2028 - STJES Mary Lou McMaster, 2028 - Worship Rob Schellhase, 2028 – Parish Life

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832 (301) 774-6999 - Welcome@stjec.org

~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~