

THE FOURTEENTH
SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST
SEPT. 14, 2025
10:00 AM



A warm welcome to all who come to worship at St. John's this beautiful day. **We are glad you are here as we celebrate the baptism of Caroline Sofia Togna.** If you are visiting with us, we would like to get to know you better, so please fill out a visitor's card found in the pew and place in the offering plate.

There is no wrong way to worship. The people's responses are in bold and instructions for sitting, standing, and kneeling are in italics. We invite you to participate in the way that feels most comfortable and authentic to you.

Prelude

Peace

Sigurd M. Ogaard

Welcome

The Word of God

Hymn 408

Sing praise to God who reigns above

Sung by all.

Mit Frieden zart

Celebrant	Alleluia! Christ is Risen.
People	The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Celebrant	There is one Body and one Spirit;
People	There is one hope in God's call to us;
Celebrant	One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People	One God and Father of all.

Hymn S280

Gloria

Sung by all.

Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

¹¹At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse—¹²a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.

²²“For my people are foolish,
they do not know me;
they are stupid children,
they have no understanding.
They are skilled in doing evil,
but do not know how to do good.”

²³I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void;
and to the heavens, and they had no light.

²⁴I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking,
and all the hills moved to and fro.

²⁵I looked, and lo, there was no one at all,
and all the birds of the air had fled.

²⁶I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert,
and all its cities were laid in ruins
before the LORD, before his fierce anger.

²⁷For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.

²⁸Because of this the earth shall mourn,
and the heavens above grow black;
for I have spoken, I have purposed;
I have not relented nor will I turn back.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 14:1-7

Antiphon will be sung by all.



¹The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” *
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;
there is none who does any good.

²The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, *

to see if there is any who is wise,
if there is one who seeks after God.

³Everyone has proved faithless;
all alike have turned bad; *

there is none who does good; no, not one.

Antiphon

⁴Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers *
who eat up my people like bread
and do not call upon the LORD?

⁵See how they tremble with fear, *
because God is in the company of the righteous.

Antiphon

⁶Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, *
but the LORD is their refuge.

⁷Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! *
when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

Antiphon

The Second Lesson

Timothy 1:12-17

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able.

Sequence Hymn 645, verses 1 & 2

The King of love, my shepherd

Sung by all.

St. Columba

The Gospel

Luke 15:1-10

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

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

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ⁴“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn 645, verses 5 & 6

The King of love, my shepherd

Sung by all.

St. Columba

The people stand as able.

The Homily

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.
Parents and I present Caroline Sofia to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
Godparents

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the
Christian faith and life?

Parents and I will, with God’s help.
Godparents

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help Caroline to grow into the full stature
of Christ?

Parents and I will, with God’s help.
Godparents

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
(God)Parents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the
creatures of God?

(God)Parents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
(God)Parents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
(God)Parents I do.

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
(God)Parents I do.

Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
(God)Parents I do.

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Caroline in her life in Christ?

People We will!

Celebrant Let us join with Caroline those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

Celebrant Let us now pray for Caroline who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Lector Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Lector Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Lector Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Lector Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Lector Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
 Lector Send her into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
 Lector Bring her into the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
 Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
 Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
 Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.
 We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water
 Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Celebrant Caroline, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
 Caroline, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**
 Celebrant Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain Caroline, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**
 Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.
People **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 People And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are seated.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, and shared in the peace, we now prepare ourselves for the gift of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, both in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. Here at St. John's, it is tradition that people stand as the elements are brought forward and are seated once the bread and wine are on the altar.

Offertory Anthem

If you love me

Thomas Tallis
(C.1505-1585)

Doxology

Hymn 380 (verse 3)

Sung by all.

Old 100th

**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.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our 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 by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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:

Together

Sanctus

Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, _____
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, _____
Hea - ven and earth are full _____ full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes _____ in the name of the Lord. _____ Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people kneel or stand as able.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Together **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all our saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 forever.

People **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

People **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.**

The Fraction Anthem

I am the bread of life; they who come to me shall not hun - ger; they who be -
lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me un - less the Fa - ther draw them.
And I will raise ___ them up, and I will raise ___ them up, and I will
raise ___ them up ___ on the last ___ day.

Invitation to Communion

The people are seated.

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. While we believe that it is most meaningful when done as a baptized Christian, no one will ever be turned away from God's table.

Please move at the direction of the ushers. You may receive the bread in open and outstretched hands. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the priest. Receiving the bread only is full participation in the Eucharist. Wine is also available. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate your choice by crossing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Holy Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 people stand as able.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 708

Savior like a shepherds lead us

Sung by all.

Sicilians Mariners

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit; Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God; Alleluia, alleluia!

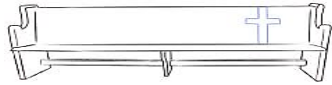
The Postlude

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*St. John's Episcopal Church
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Chester, Virginia 23831
stjohnscheester.com
804-748-2182*

NEWS FOR THE PEWS

September 14, 2025



Welcome!

We are thrilled to have you celebrating the joy of the resurrection with us today and every day. We strive to be an open community and safe place where YOU can receive God's grace, grow in faith, experience fellowship, and serve our world. Whether it is your first service with us or you have been attending your whole life, we hope you know how beloved you are in this family.

THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S		
Sunday, September 14	8 & 10 AM 9 AM 11:00 AM	Holy Eucharist No Adult Forum Fellowship Coffee Hour
Monday, September 15	12 PM 7 PM	Kiwanis Meeting Boy and Cub Scouts
Tuesday, September 16	7 PM	AA/Al-Anon
Wednesday, September 17	8 - 1:00 PM 7:30 PM	Chester Garden Club Choir Practice
Thursday, September 18	6:30 PM	Vestry Meeting
Saturday, September 20	10 AM	Altar Guild Meeting
Sunday, September 21	8 & 10 AM 9 AM 11:00 AM	Holy Eucharist Adult Forum Fellowship Coffee Hour

ALTAR GUILD

The flowers on the retable are to the Glory of God in memory of Paul Keavy, Jan Keavy's son.

BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER

- 2 Jody Mountfort 5 Gayle Murman and
Sandy Weilbacher 8 Carol Williams
- 10 Don Gardner
- 18 Kim Courington, Warrie McBrearty
- 22 Michael Gardner
- 25 Elaine Gardner, Samantha Keophila
- 26 Tasha Fideli, Don Raybould
- 28 Terry Fields
- 29 Joshua Johnson

If our name should be included here, please call the Church office so your record can be updated.

PARISH LIFE

Please join us after the 10 AM service as we resume Fellowship Coffee Hour this Sunday. See you there!

THE SHEPHERD CENTER

The 21st Annual Free Ice Cream Social will be held on September 10 from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm at Chester Baptist Church. Come join in the thrilling prelude to our Fall 2025 Adventures in Learning Program.

On October 18th we will have our 14th Annual Afternoon Tea Fundraiser. We will again be at Chester Baptist Church. Tickets are on sale now for \$30 and they sell out quick. The ticket price includes tea, delicious savory and sweet treats, door prizes, and chance to purchase raffle tickets for fabulous items. Please call 804-706-6689. RSVP by September 30.

OUTREACH

The Outreach Committee will be collecting hygiene supplies for our CCPS school aged children. Mardi Bras has notified us that there is a great need. There will be an empty bin in the church lobby. Items to include are: Shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sanitary products, etc. Thank you to all for your continued support.

INSTRUCTED EUCHARIST PART 2

The second half of our Instructed Eucharist will take place on Sunday, September 21st at both services.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

We will celebrate the Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 4 at 4:30 pm. It will be held in the courtyard. In case of rain we will move to the Colonnade. We welcome everybody from the community with all kinds of pets to this service. Light refreshments for humans and animals will be served following the service.

FAMILY TIME

Our second Family Time service will be held on October 4 at 4:30 PM.

LAMB ARTS FEST

Saturday, October 4th 1-4 PM in Downtown Hopewell. See art! Make art! Free activities and exhibits, local artists, live music, food, kids play zone. This is a great way to support a community organization founded and run by parishioners!

HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

Once again, St. Paul's Episcopal Church has invited St. John's to attend their annual Trunk or Treat on October 25th from 1:30 PM until 4:00 PM. More information can be found on the church office bulletin board. Please register on <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-pauls-trunk-or-treat-2025-tickets-1660955906829>. Cost is free, no rain date.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

David Martin, The Germiller Family, Britt Young and Family, Marguerite Alley, Herb Marsh, Donald H. Farr, Marianne Branigan, Gene Thompson, Rita & Billy Johnson, Melissa Fields, Jim Krech, Una Harrison, Linda Blake, Dr. Joe Hillier, Thomas Gardner, Webster and Joy Maughan, Vienna Grace Cale, The Cale Family, The Macri Family

Those Who Serve

Col. Ernesto M. DiVittorio,
Rear Admiral Brett W. Mietus,
Colonel Amalia DiVittorio, Major Jeffrey Shields,
Staff Sergeant Reade Whitner Enochs,
Staff Sergeant Ryan Steidel and
Petty Officer 3rd Class Damien Carter,
Deputy Sheriff Donald H. Farr

In God's Eternal Keeping

Betty Germiller
(The Germiller Family)
Carolyn Williams

Parishioners @ Home

Maggi Twilley, Betty Ann Messerly, Julie Johnson, Sandy Weilbacher, and Millie Johnson

Participating in Today's Liturgy September 14, 2025

Ministers: The People of St. John's
Rev. Mary Margaret Winn, Rector
Aubrey Lindsey, Organist and Choir Director
Cantor – Max Goldsmith
Bryant Watson—Violinist
Carlton Smith – Live Streaming
John Maxwell, Security
(Lay Eucharist Ministers) LEMs
8:00 am – Pat Robinson
10:00 am – Don Raybould
Lectors: 8:00 am
1st Lesson – Paula Saddler
2nd Lesson – Andy McCauley
Lectors: 10:00 am
1st Lesson – Lin Corbin-Howerton
2nd Lesson – Sadie Morgan
A. Heggie - Acolyte
Ruby DiVittorio & Alan Thibault - Ushers
Guy Smith & Joe Blankenship - Tellers
Mary Smith & Rusty Phoenix – Altar Guild
Donna Lee - Flowers

St. John's Vestry

Kathy Ellington, Senior Warden
Larry Maher, Junior Warden (Property)
John Maxwell, Junior Warden (Strategy)
Kim Courington, Stewardship & Finance
Guy Smith, Health & Safety
Jody Mountfort, Parish Life
Tanya Scott, Christian Formation

Hazel Sloane, Register
Lalin Peiris, Treasurer

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Left your contribution at home? Scan this QR code with your smartphone to make a donation to St. John's.