



THE THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST  
JUNE 29, 2025  
10:00 AM

*A warm welcome to all who come to worship at St. John's this beautiful day. 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

# The Word of God

## Hymn 388

*O worship the King, all glorious above*

*Sung by all.*

*Hanover*

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

**People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant 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.**

## Hymn S280

*Gloria*

*Sung by all.*

*Powell*

## The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; 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.*

## The First Lesson

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

<sup>15</sup>The LORD said to Elijah, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

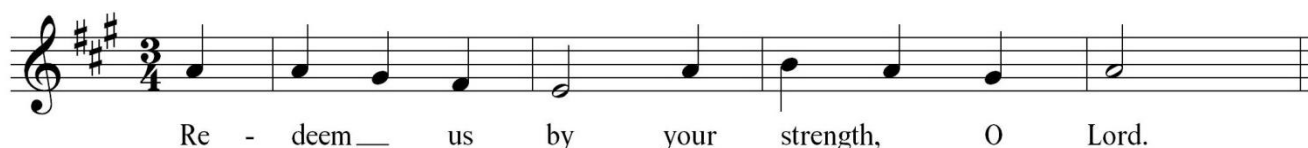
<sup>19</sup>So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. <sup>20</sup>He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” Then Elijah said to him, “Go back again; for what have I done to you?” <sup>21</sup>He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

Lector            The Word of the Lord.

People            Thanks be to God.

## Psalms 77:1-2, 11-20

*Antiphon will be sung by all.*



<sup>1</sup>I will cry aloud to God; \*

I will cry aloud, and he will hear me.

<sup>2</sup>In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; \*

my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;

I refused to be comforted.

**Antiphon**

<sup>11</sup>I will remember the works of the LORD, \*

and call to mind your wonders of old time.

<sup>12</sup>I will meditate on all your acts \*

and ponder your mighty deeds.

**Antiphon**

<sup>13</sup>Your way, O God, is holy; \*

who is so great a god as our God?

<sup>14</sup>You are the God who works wonders \*

and have declared your power among the peoples.

<sup>15</sup>By your strength you have redeemed your people, \*

the children of Jacob and Joseph.

**Antiphon**

<sup>16</sup>The waters saw you, O God;

the waters saw you and trembled; \*

the very depths were shaken.

<sup>17</sup>The clouds poured out water;

the skies thundered; \*

your arrows flashed to and fro;

<sup>18</sup>The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;

your lightnings lit up the world; \*

the earth trembled and shook.

**Antiphon**

<sup>19</sup>Your way was in the sea,

and your paths in the great waters, \*

yet your footsteps were not seen.

<sup>20</sup>You led your people like a flock \*

by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

**Antiphon**

## The Second Lesson

*Galatians 5:1, 13-25*

<sup>1</sup>For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

<sup>13</sup>For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. <sup>14</sup>For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>15</sup>If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup>Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup>Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup>envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup>By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup>And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Lector            The Word of the Lord.

People            Thanks be to God.

*The people stand as able.*

## Sequence Hymn 711, verse 1

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God*

*Sung by all.*

*Dona nobis pacem*

## The Gospel

*Luke 9:51-62*

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

People            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>51</sup>When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup>And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; <sup>53</sup>but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup>When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” <sup>55</sup>But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup>Then they went on to another village.

<sup>57</sup>As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” <sup>58</sup>And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” <sup>59</sup>To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” <sup>60</sup>But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” <sup>61</sup>Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” <sup>62</sup>Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Celebrant        The Gospel of the Lord.

People            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## Sequence Hymn 711, verse 2

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God*

*Sung by all.*

*Dona nobis pacem*

## The Sermon

*The people stand as able.*

## 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

Celebrant If we live by the Spirit, brothers and sisters, let us also be guided by the Spirit. And, guided by the Spirit, let us lift our prayers to the Lord, saying, “We cry aloud to you; *O God, hear us.*”

Lector We give you thanks, O God, that for freedom Christ has set us free. Though at times it challenges our patience, we also give you thanks for the freedom, through love, to become servants of one another. *Silence* We cry aloud to you;

**People** **O God, hear us.**

Lector Gracious God, give us the will and the strength to prepare the way for your Kingdom to come. May love heal our factions and peace overcome strife. *Silence* We cry aloud to you;

**People** **O God, hear us.**

Lector Your paths are in the great waters, mighty Redeemer. We thank you that by the waters of baptism you have made us members of your household. We thank you for the many blessings of this life, especially our LGBTQ+ siblings and their witness to the expanse of God’s love, and for those blessings that we now name silently or aloud. *Pause* We cry aloud to you;

**People** **O God, hear us.**

Lector Lord Jesus, you rebuked your disciples James and John when they desired the destruction of others. Instill in us gentleness and self-control that we might learn to love even those with whom we strongly disagree. *Silence* We cry aloud to you;

**People** **O God, hear us.**

Lector You are the God who works wonders. We offer to you our sincere prayers for our hurting loved ones. Work wonders in their hearts and lives. We pray especially for those who are persecuted for living into the people God made them to be, for those on our prayer list, and for those we now name silently or aloud. *Pause* We cry aloud to you;

**People** **O God, hear us.**

Lector By your strength, O God, you redeem your people. Lead us by your Spirit and make us fit for your heavenly Kingdom. *Silence* We cry aloud to you;

**People** **O God, hear us.**

*The celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

*The people kneel as able. Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Together** 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.

*The people greet each other 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

### Doxology

*Hymn 380 (verse 3)*

*Sung by all.*

*Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

**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 God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
**People Glory to you for ever and ever.**  
 Celebrant At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
**People By your will they were created and have their being.**  
 Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. Be we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned again one another.  
**People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**  
 Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.  
**People By his blood, he reconciled us.**  
**By his wounds, we are healed.**  
 Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked at you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

## 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 Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."  
 After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

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

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

**Celebrant** Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior. Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

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

**Celebrant** God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal. Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**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

Lindsey



## 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.*

## **Saying Goodbye**

**Celebrant** Dear Friends in Christ, we have been in companionship with Allison on our journey in faith. Now her time with us is drawing to a close, and so we send her forth to continue her journey.  
**Together** **O Lord, we give thanks for Allison's time among us and for her contribution to our common life. Bless her as she goes forth; be with those who leave and with us who stay; and grant that all of us, by drawing ever nearer to you, may always be close to each other in the communion of your saints. All this we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

### **Closing Hymn 410**

*Praise my soul, the King of heaven*

*Sung by all.*

*Lauda anima*

## **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**

*All liturgical materials printed in this bulletin are printed under  
license from either Rite Planning or CCLI #1994456.*

*St. John's Episcopal Church  
12201 Richmond Street  
Chester, Virginia 23831  
(804) 748-2182 | stjohnschester.com*