

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2026
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, including sitting and taking it all in.

Prelude *Adagio (Sonata 1)* Mendelssohn

The Word of God

Hymn 450, verses 1-3,6
All hail the power of Jesus' name! *Sung by all.* *Coronation*
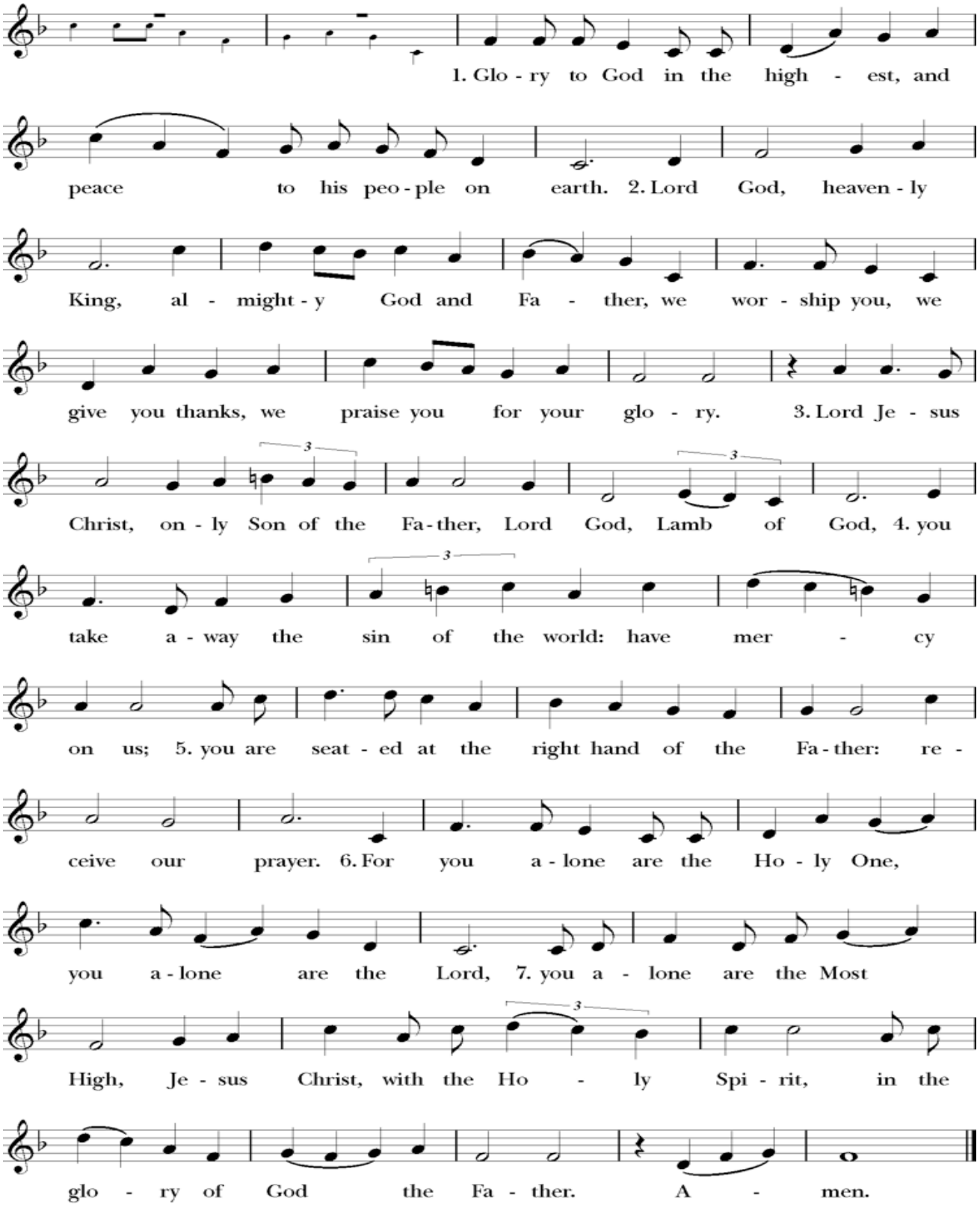
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.
Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn S280 *(next page)*
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 and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever**. Amen.**

Hymn S280

Gloria *Sung by all.* *Powell*



The people are seated.

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

[1]Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho,
and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, [2]all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and
Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, [3]the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of
Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. [4]The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to
Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your
eyes, but you shall not cross over there." [5]Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of
Moab, at the Lord's command. [6]He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no
one knows his burial place to this day. [7]Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight
was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. [8]The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty
days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

[9]Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the
Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

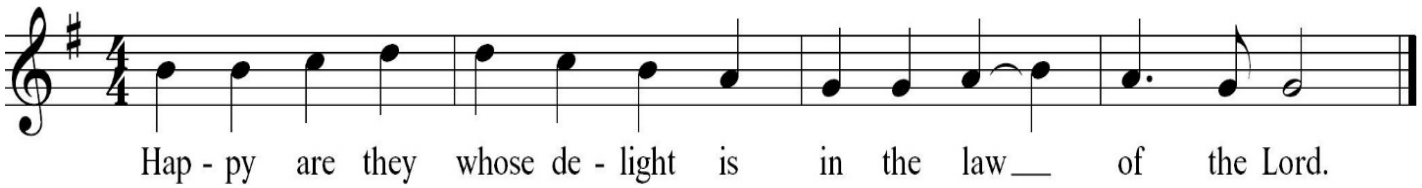
[10]Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. [11]He was
unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against
Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, [12]and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays
of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

Antiphon sung by all.



1Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
2Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night. **Antiphon**
3They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
4It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away. **Antiphon**
5Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
6For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed. **Antiphon**

The Second Lesson *1 Thessalonians 2:1-8*

1You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, 2but though we had
already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to
declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. 3For our appeal does not spring from deceit
or impure motives or trickery, 4but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message
of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. 5As you know
and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; 6nor did we
seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, 7though we might have made demands as
apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. 8So
deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our
own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand as able.

Sequence Hymn 609

Where cross the crowded ways of life *Sung by all.* *Gardiner*

The Gospel *Matthew 22:34-46*

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

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

34When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35and one of
them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the
greatest?" 37He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your mind.' 38This is the greatest and first commandment. 39And a second is like it: 'You
shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

41Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 42"What do you
think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." 43He said to them, "How
is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

44'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet"'?

45If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" 46No one was able to give him an answer, nor
from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people are seated.

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 O Lord, who is our refuge from age to age, hear our prayers.

Intercessor For those preparing for Holy Baptism; for Sean Rowe our Presiding Bishop, for Susan Haynes, our bishop, for our parish clergy, Mary Margaret Winn; for this holy gathering and for the people of God in every place.

People **O God, hear us.**

Intercessor For Donald Trump, our President, Abigail Spanberger, our Governor, and our Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors; for our courts and legislatures; for mercy, justice, and peace among all peoples.

People **O God, hear us.**

Intercessor For good weather, abundant fruits of the earth, and peaceful times.

People **O God, hear us.**

Intercessor For our communities and our neighbors near and far; for our families, companions, and all those we love.

People **O God, hear us.**

Intercessor For orphans and widows, the sick and the suffering, for travelers, strangers, and all with heavy burdens.

People **O God, hear us.**

Intercessor For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need.

People **O God, hear us.**

Intercessor For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead, we pray.

People **O God, hear us.**

Intercessor Let us pray for our own needs and for those of others, silently or aloud. Silence

Celebrant Almighty God, whose gifts of blessing and grace have no end, write in our hearts your joy and zeal to tell the story of our faith by our words, by our deeds, and by offering all that you have given us: our lives, our gifts, our resources. Grant us also a portion of your never-ending generosity, that we may proclaim your love and mercy to the world around us through our parish community; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

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.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

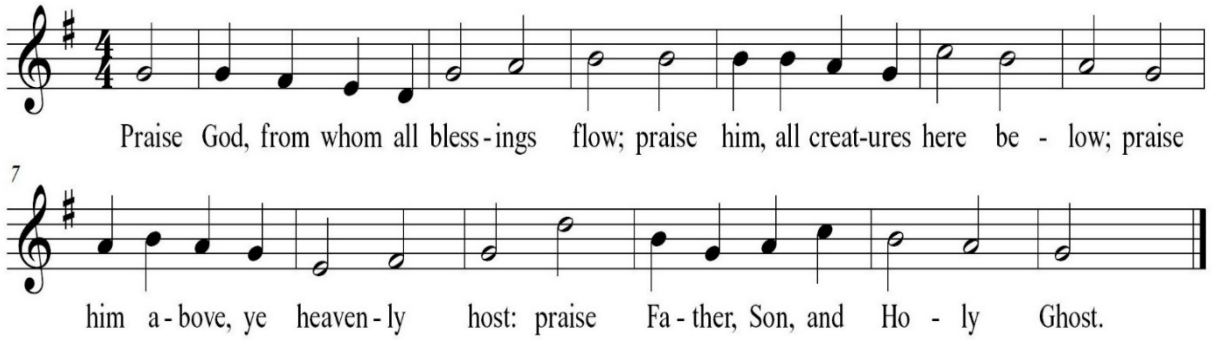
The Offertory

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sin, and shared in the peace, we now prepare ourselves for the gift of Holy Communion. At the offertory, we humbly offer back to God some of what God has given us, both in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. Money is just one way people choose to share what they have—financial gifts are gratefully received but never required. 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 100th



The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Life up your hearts.

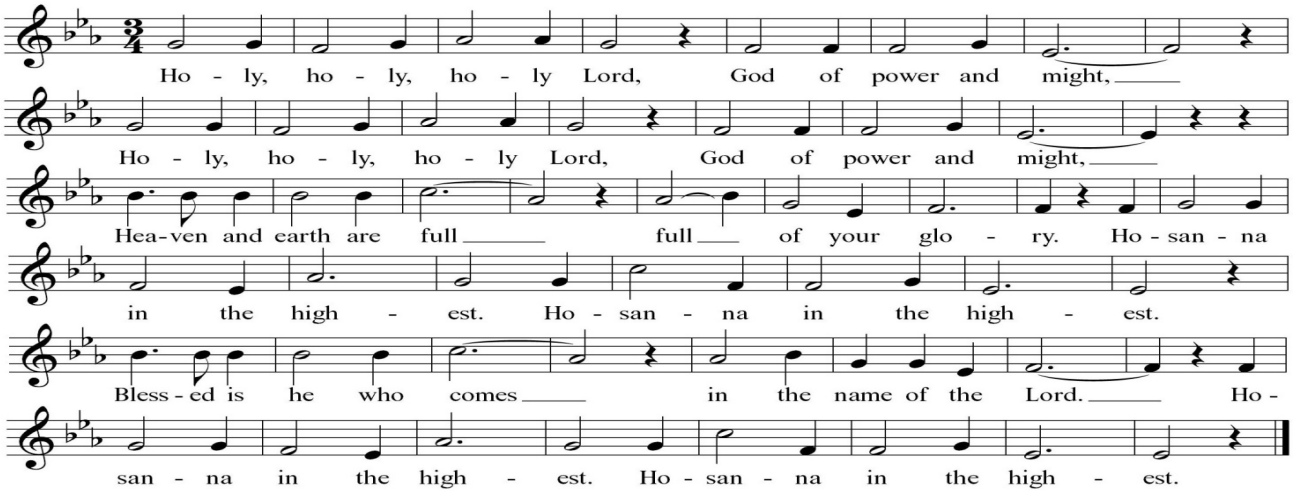
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him 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:

Together *Sung by all.* Schubert



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:

People **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 your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is your, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People **AMEN**.

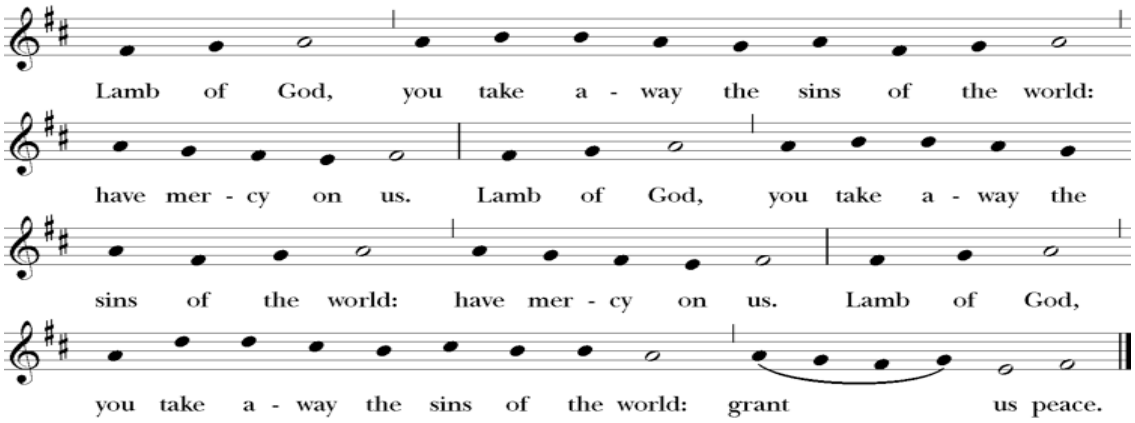
The Lord's Prayer

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

Together **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

Sung by all.



Invitation to Communion

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.

If you would like to come to the altar for communion:
Ushers will let you know when it is your turn to come forward. When you get to the altar, you may stand or kneel. If you would like to receive the bread (we use wafers), you may extend your hands and eat what is given to you. If you would like to drink the wine, the server will bring the chalice (silver cup) to your lips. Please help guide the cup and take a sip. The server then wipes the rim and rotates the cup. Wine is not required--receiving the bread only is full participation in the Eucharist.

To decrease the spread of germs, the priest is the only person who dips the wafer into the wine. If this is how you would like to receive communion, please tell the priest.

Gluten-free wafers are available; please tell the priest at the altar.
If for any reason you prefer to receive a blessing instead of receiving the bread and wine, please cross your arms across your chest. The priest will ask if she can touch your forehead with her thumb for the blessing. Touching the forehead is not required you can say no!

We are delighted to bring Holy Communion or a blessing to folks in the pews—please tell an usher, and they will make sure the priest comes to you.

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 680

O God, our help in ages past *Sung by all.* *St. Anne*

The Dismissal

The celebrant dismisses the people who respond,

People Thanks be to God!

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St. John's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 3886 ● Chester, Virginia 23831-8471 ● 804.748.2182

October 23, 2026

STEWARDSHIP

Biblical and theological stewardship means viewing ourselves as caretakers rather than owners of the life, time, talents, and financial blessings God has entrusted to us. We are called to use these gifts to serve others and honor God according to His teachings.

What an exciting year it has been in the life of St. John's! Together, we have accomplished much. We rebuilt our beautiful organ, expanded our pastoral care ministry with the addition of Father Eric, and strengthened our partnerships with local organizations that serve those in need. In addition, the Vestry has completed a Strategic Plan that will guide our parish over the next five years as we continue to grow in faith and service.

As the year begins to draw to a close, it is time to prayerfully consider your pledge for the coming year. We all recognize that the cost of living has increased, and our church faces many of the same challenges. The Vestry continues to seek responsible ways to reduce the day-to-day costs of operating the church. We have implemented several changes that will take effect at the beginning of the new year, and while they will help, they will not fully offset rising expenses.

One of my goals has always been to be transparent about the financial needs of our parish. Your faithful generosity makes possible everything we do, from worship and pastoral care to outreach and community partnerships. Every pledge represents an investment in the ministry and mission of St. John's and helps ensure that we can continue serving our congregation and our community.

As you prayerfully consider your commitment to St. John's, I ask that you to think about increasing your pledge by 10% to help offset the rising cost, so we can continue our good works. Please submit your pledge card by **November 22, 2026**. Receiving pledges by this date will help the Vestry finalize the 2027 budget and faithfully plan for the ministries, outreach, and pastoral care that support our parish and community.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness, generosity, and commitment to St. John's.

God’s Peace,

Kim Courington

Senior Warden

NEWS FOR THE PEWS

Events, Announcements, Calendar, and Prayers for St. John's and Beyond

October 25, 2026

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, you are beloved in this family. Take a look at all the ways the Spirit is moving at St. John's!

SAVE THE DATES!
Sunday, November 1 – All Saints Day, Baptism and Holy Eucharist @ 10:00 am
Evensong @ 5:00 pm
Saturday, November 7 - Family Times Worship @ 4:30 pm
Saturday, November 14 – Annual Oyster Roast @ 4:00 pm

OYSTER ROAST TICKETS ARE HERE!

The date for the **Annual Oyster Roast is November 14th** from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm. **Tickets have arrived and are available for purchase.** Be sure to stop by the church office to pick up your bundle of ten to sell. They are $40/per person, Children under the age of twelve are free. We will again have outside activities, weather permitting: Corn Hole, Connect Four, etc. Door prizes will be awarded so be sure to retain your ticket stub in order to be eligible.

PARISH LIFE

Dear Parishioners,
Would you like to be part of our Parish Life Oyster Roast volunteer team? We have opportunities to help decorate and set up on Friday, November 13th, as well as serve 1-hour shifts during the event on Saturday, November 14th. This year, we are also seeking door prize donations (under $10).

Please see the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for details and to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Val Paredes at 314-941-2750. Thank you so much!

ONGOING OUTREACH

The Outreach Committee is starting a new season. We would love to have more participants, male, and female. All are welcome.

Current requests for unhoused Chesterfield school children to be distributed by local school nurses: deodorant and black leggings, but all donations are welcomed.

Bring in your **label-free, rinsed Rx bottles** to be reused by doctors in underserved areas and countries via Matthew 25 Ministry.

Pop-tops for the Ronald McDonald House!

The Animal Shelter is always in need of food and treats!

Bring in **2027 calendars for our veterans.**

All above donations accepted in the church office lobby. Thanks to those who made this most recent donation possible!

ALTAR GUILD

The flower arrangement on the retable today is to the Glory of God in memory of Mary Smith's family who tragically lost their battle with ALS; Mary Eugenia B. Graham, mother, Kathryn Crayton, sister and brother Tip Graham.

ONLINE DIRECTORY

For those new to St. John's, we have an online directory for parishioners. It has pictures (if desired by parishioners). Addresses and phone numbers. If you would like to join the directory, please contact Chris Day at chday73@gmail.com. Access to the directory is granted when you request to join.

THANKSGIVING MEAL PACKAGE

The 2026 Meal Package Contents are listed below. Please **bring your donations to the church office beginning October 18th through November 15th**. Please bring items in brown grocery bags as in years past. Thank you for your continued support of this initiative. Please contact Tamara Evans if you have any questions. Thank you.

2025 Meal Gift Package Contents



1 – 40 oz. can of yams/sweet potatoes
1 – 13 oz. box of mashed potatoes
1 – 14 oz. can of cranberry sauce
2 – 15 oz. cans of corn
2 – 15 oz. cans of green vegetables
2 - boxes of Stove Top – no bags
2 – cans/packages of gravy – no glass jars
1 – box of hot chocolate
1 – box of regular flavor tea bags
1 – large box or box of cookies
1 - $20 Grocery Gift Card

The Outreach Committee continues to support our local schools. We recently dropped these contributions to Communities in Schools.



Thanks to St. John's for your continued support for this project for our community.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please call the church office with any changes or additions for the prayer list.

October Birthdays

1 Claire Marsh
3 Kent Horner, Jr.
4 Gene Thompson
9 Rixey Elizabeth Sheridan
6 Jim Kalanges
13 Hunter Johnson
14 Pat Dvorak, Charles Daugharthy
15 Rev. Mary Margaret Winn
18 Kitty Wells
19 Mary Smith
20 Jacob Courington
28 Ken Lewis
29 Beth Gibbons
31 Katherine Heath, Tilden Mueller

Those in Need of Healing

Jerry Harwell, Pat Dvorak, Ruby DiVittorio, Fr. Keith & Carlene Gentry, Dick Pitman, Linda DeBell, Tim Pahlick, Annette Blankenship, James Robinson, Arlene Lotti, George Starke, Terry & Bill Fields, Jim Colonna, Jaydon Robinson, Jordyn Prophett, Cathy Frazer, Marguerite Alley, Britt Young & Family, Marianne Branigan, Gene Thompson, Rita Johnson, Melissa Fields, Jim Krech, Una Harrison, Joy Maughan, The Macri Family, Martha & Joe Sheridan, The Sweeney Family, Maria & Family

Those Who Serve

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

Those Who Have Recently Died

Billy Johnson
John Paul Macri

Parishioners @ Home

Maggi Twilley, Julie Johnson, Sandy Weilbacher, and Millie Johnson

St. John's Vestry

Kim Courington, Senior Warden
Larry Maher, Junior Warden (Property)
John Maxwell, Junior Warden (Strategy)
Catherine Mueller, Congregational Vitality
Don Raybould, Liaison for Parish Life

Hazel Sloane, Register
Lalin Peiris, Treasurer

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR OCTOBER 25, 2026

The People of St. John's
Aubrey Lindsey, Organist and Choirmaster
Bryant Watson, Violinist
Donna Thibault & Chris Day, Live Streaming
John Maxwell, 8 AM Security
Hank Dvorak,10 AM Inside Security
John Maxwell, 10 AM Outside Security
Kim Courington, 8 AM LEM
Don Raybould, 10 AM LEM
Kim Courington & Liz Pectal, 8 AM Readers
Donna Thibault & Jodi Mountfort, 10 AM Readers
Ruby DiVittorio & Alan Thibault, Ushers
Ted Krafft & Dick Pitman, Tellers
Sally Maxwell, Valerie P. and Donna Horner-Altar Guild
Donna Lee, Flowers

CONTACT US

The church office is open Tuesday—Friday, 9:15 AM to 3:15 PM. Reach out to Rev. Mary Margaret directly for an appointment. Call: 804-748-2182.

Rev. Mary Margaret Winn, Rector
rector@stjohnschester.com

Aubrey Lindsey, Organist and Choirmaster
office@stjohnschester.com

Donna C. Thibault, Parish Office Administrator
office@stjohnschester.com

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun., Oct. 25	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:15 AM	Holy Eucharist Choir Rehearsal Adult Forum Holy Eucharist Fellowship Coffee Hour
Mon., Oct. 26	7:00 PM	Boy and Cub Scouts
Tues., Oct. 27	2:00 pm 7:00 PM	Outreach Committee – AR AA/Al-Anon-PH
Thurs., Oct. 29	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal-AR
Sun., Nov. 1	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:15 AM	Holy Eucharist Choir Rehearsal Adult Forum Baptism & Holy Eucharist Fellowship Coffee Hour

We cannot do this without your help! Scan this QR code with your smartphone to make a donation to St. John's.