

# St. John's Episcopal Church

8 Sunnyside Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector



Parable of the Weeds among the Wheat, attributed  
to Isaac Claesz. van Swanenburg, 1590 - 1610

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: PROPER 11**

**MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO 9:30AM**

July 19, 2020

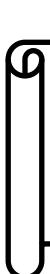
Our mission is to restore all people to unity with God and each other, in Christ. (BCP 855)

This morning we celebrate with an abridged service of Morning Prayer. This service is taken from the *1979 Book of Common Prayer*. **Words printed in bold are spoken by the congregation.**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

*Warren Blyden*



HYMN  
We are climbing Jacob's ladder

Lead by Angela Berg & Charlotte Berg

### THE OPENING SENTENCE

*Officiant:* Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. *Psalm 43:3*

### CONFESSON OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

*Officiant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All:* 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.

*Officiant:* 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 INVITATORY AND PSALTER

*Officiant:*      Lord, open our lips.

*People:*        **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Officiant:*      The earth is the Lord's for the Lord God made it:

*People:*        **Come let us adore our God.**

### **PSALM 139:1-11, 22-23**

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; \* you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places \* and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \* but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before \* and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \* it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? \* where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; \* if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning \* and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me \* and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, \* and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; \* darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 12 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; \* try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 13 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me \* and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

## A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOK OF GENESIS 28:10-19a

Reader: Brian McPhee

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*A portion of CANTICLE 10 The Second Song of Isaiah*

**Seek the Lord who wills to be found; \* call upon God when he draws near.**

## A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

Reader: *The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal*

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came

and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

*Deacon:*            The Word of the Lord.

*People:*            **Thanks be to God.**

## THE HOMILY

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius



### HYMN

Open your ears, O faithful people

Lead by Angela Berg & Charlotte Berg

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;**

**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.

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. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS

*Officiant:*      The Lord be with you.

*People:*        **And also with you.**

*Officiant:*      Let us pray.

*Officiant and 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.**

## SUFFRAGES: SET A

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**And grant us your salvation.**

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**Let your people sing with joy.**

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**For only in you can we live in safety.**

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Let your way be known upon earth;

**Your saving health among all nations.**

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
**And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## PRAYER LIST

We pray for all those suffering with COVID-19, those who are quarantined and those anxious in the uncertainty of this constantly evolving pandemic. We pray for all those struggling to overcome violence in their community, for peacemakers, peacekeepers, and peace seekers. We pray for all Police Officers who would never abuse their authority, may they be filled with hope and be kept safely in God's care. We pray for all those who have suffered, been injured or died from the violence overwhelming our Nation. We pray for peace and unity among us as we seek a new way forward as people of faith. We pray for those who are in the hospital or home recuperating, especially: **Yumi, Esmerilda, Ronald Garvey, Max, Anne, Cathy, Barbara, Ellie Ruvo, Steven Schubert, and Shlomo Teladano.** We pray for those who are homebound: **Margaret Vaccaro, John & Lee Williams, Dorothy Dushin, Ronald Acheson, Jim, Marge, and Bill & Dorothy D'amato.** We pray for those struggling with chronic illness, especially: **Liz Daniele, Andrew Tom, Rena Kaplan, Rebecca, Vince Servio, Sarah Paruolo, Annaliese Haag, Martha, Gerald, Marilyn Griffin, Joyce, Jeff Daniele, Paul Ruvo, Helene, Jason, and Jeff.** We pray for **Edwin Sanchez and the students at El Hogar School, and the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.** We pray for those in our hearts whom we now name, either silently or aloud.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

**Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## A PRAYER FOR MISSION

**Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we**

offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### A PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

#### THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

*Deacon:*            Let us bless the Lord!

*People:*          **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

*Warren Blyden*

## **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ❖ Please join Deacon Lynn and Mother Mary+ for St. John's virtual **Coffee Hour** today at 10:15am!
  
- ❖ **Offering:** During this time when we are not meeting together the church still incurs expenses. Please continue to support the church. You can mail your offering to the church office. If you would like to make an online pledge you can do so by going to our website [stjohnspleasantville.org](http://stjohnspleasantville.org) and clicking on the “Donate” button. Thank you for your continued generosity during this anxious time. You may also support the church by shopping with AmazonSmile, the link is also found on our website.
  
- ❖ **Lawn Care at St. John's:** Thank you to all who have sponsored a week or more of lawn care for St. John's, we now have approximately 14 weeks of care ready to go! We would still happily accept your donation of time and talent for hedge clipping, and pruning. Come at your convenience and remember physical distancing, no more than 5 people, wear masks and gloves! Great way to see one another and stay safely apart at the same time! Let Mother Mary+ know when you are coming!  
[mothermarystjohns@gmail.com](mailto:mothermarystjohns@gmail.com) Thank you in advance!
  
- ❖ **St. John's Thrift Shop** is closed during this pandemic.
  
- ❖ **Tuesday Noon Zoom Prayers & Chat:** We will be reading the Psalm for the day, talking about our concerns, people we want to pray for especially, a little catch-up chat and a prayer to close our gathering. Keep an eye on your inbox, the Zoom link will be emailed Tuesday morning at 11AM.
  
- ❖ **Wednesday Bible Study Group Discussion at 11am:** The Epistle to the Ephesians has a lot to say about unity. We, too, are in a time that requires coming together to wrestle with what it means to be free and living in Truth. Keep an eye on your inbox, the Zoom link will be emailed Wednesday morning at 10AM.

**♦ The Pleasantville Interfaith Emergency Food Pantry NEEDS YOUR HELP**

Please donate food: Cases of sterilized milk, soups, tuna, chicken, beans, peanut butter, coffee, etc. can be drop shipped to St. John's if that is easiest for you.

OR

Pick up ShopRite Gift Cards for distribution

OR

[Make a monetary donation through the Pantry's website](#)

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**Vestry:** Ken Foley, Laura Simpson, Jim Dirlam, Sarah Hoadley, Lynn Russell, Joan Scire-Vitkevich, Philippa Seltzer-Muschko

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