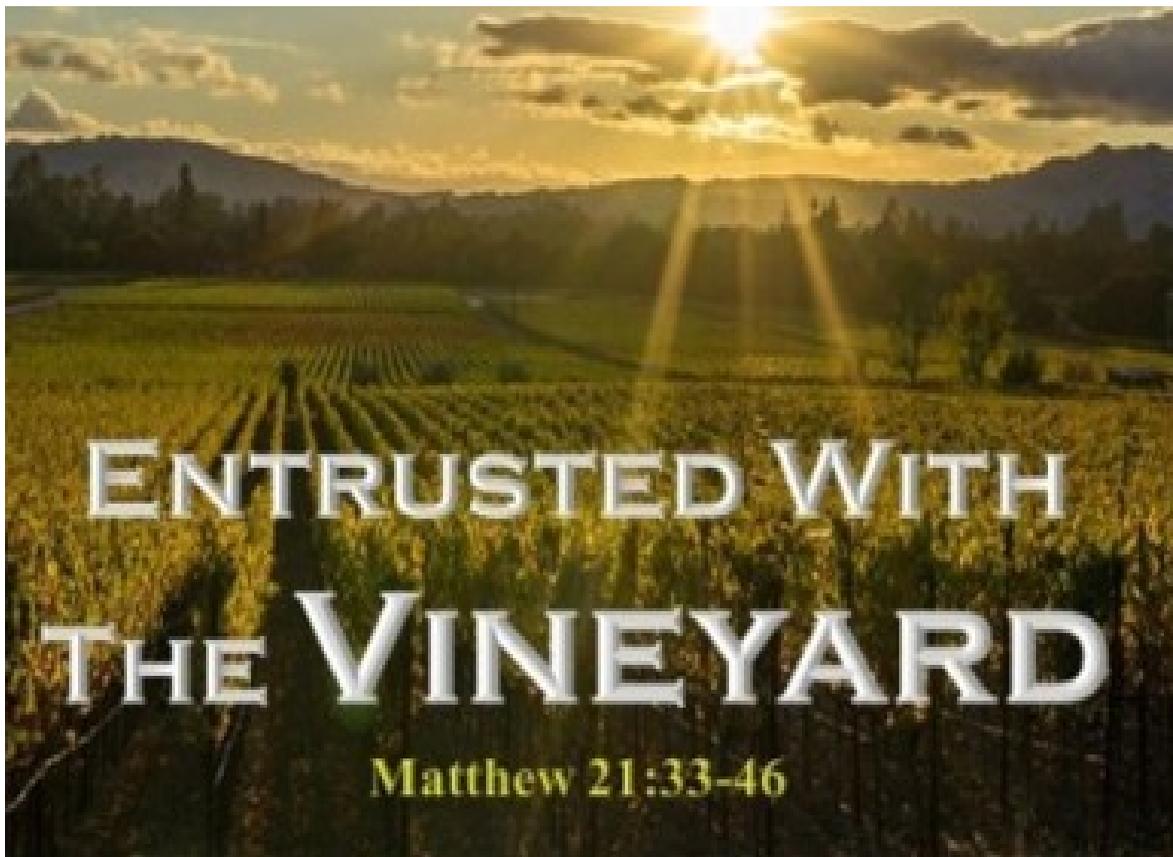


St. John's Episcopal Church

8 Sunnyside Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: PROPER 22

MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO 9:30AM

October 4th, 2020

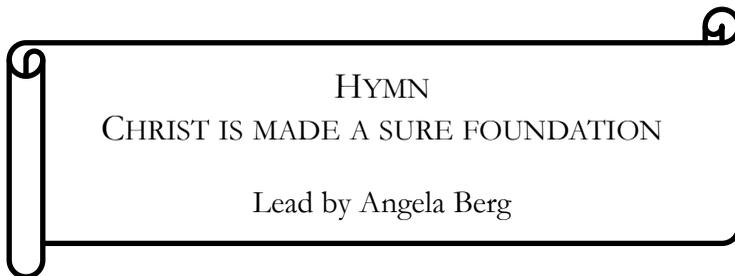
Our mission is to restore all people to unity with God and each other, in Christ. (BCP 855)

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

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Officiant: If we live, we live to the Lord and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then whether we live or die, we are the Lords. (Romans 14:12)



CONFESSION 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: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

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

Psalm 80 *Qui regis Israel*

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; * you cast out the nations and planted it.

9 You prepared the ground for it; * it took root and filled the land.

10 The mountains were covered by its shadow * and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

11 You stretched out its tendrils to the sea * and its branches to the river.

12 Why have you broken down its wall, * so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

14 Turn now, O God of hosts, * look down from heaven;

A READING FROM THE EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

Read by: Rosemary Carlough

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the

power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 11 The Third Song of Isaiah

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.

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.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 21:33-46

Reader: The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes?"

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Deacon: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

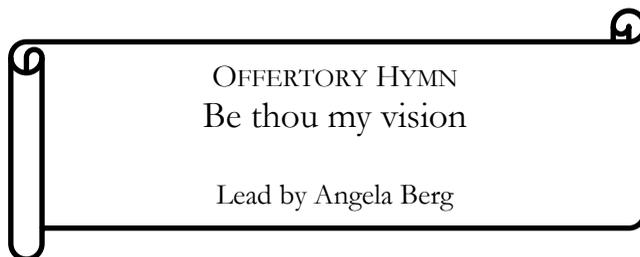
THE HOMILY

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius

The Peace

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Offertory: LET US WITH GLADNESS PRESENT THE OFFERINGS AND
OBLATIONS OF OUR LIFE AND LABOR TO THE LORD



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, especially **Maria Lamorgese-Gibbons** (from Holy Innocents), We pray for all those struggling to overcome violence in their community, for peacemakers, peacekeepers, and peace seekers. We pray for all Police Officers 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: **Laura O'Malley** (John & Clare McAndrew's niece), **Yumi, Linda Hill, Ronald Garvey, Max, Anne, Cathy, Barbara, Ellie Ruvo, Steven Schubert, and Shlomo Teladano.** We pray for those who are homebound: **Esmerilda Hastings, Margaret Vaccaro, John & Lee Williams, Dorothy Dushin, Ronald Acheson, Jim, Marge, Joe Smith, Carolyn Damiano, Deanna Ammirato and Bill & Dorothy D'Amato.** We pray for those struggling with chronic illness, especially: **Liz & Jeff Daniele, Andrew Tom, Rena Kaplan, Rebecca, Vince Servio, Sarah Paruolo, Annaliese Haag, Martha, Gerald, Marilyn Griffin, Joyce, 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 who have died, especially, the over 200,000 in this country who have died from COVID-19. We pray for those in our hearts whom we now name, either silently or aloud.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Heavenly Father, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our public and private wealth that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment, and receive just payment for their labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Vestry Moment on Stewardship by: Ken Foley Announcements

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

FOOD INSECURITY AWARENESS CHALLENGE

THE GOAL: cook for your family from the food provided in a typical Pantry distribution

THE PROCESS: Shop from the list below, this is for a family of four, adjust according to you situation.

Cereal, oatmeal packets, milk, granola bars, 2 cans of beans and 1 bag of beans, 1 baking item (cake mix/pancake mix), canned or dried fruit (this week it is a 6 pack of Sunmaid raisins), peanut butter, jelly, 2-3 soup, 2-3 pasta, canned tomatoes, jarred spaghetti sauce, fresh veggies (if we don't have then we give canned veggies), cookies, 2 lb. bag of rice, and 1 can of coffee. We also include a bonus item - last time it was juice, this week it is salad dressing. We always include a small package of meat-chicken thighs/drumsticks or ground beef 2 lb. bags of shredded cheese.

Please note the items this distribution does not include: soap of any kind, TP, toothpaste for example.

Please share, via video you experience as a family and share your recipes. What did you learn, how does this exercise inform your understanding of the challenge facing many of our neighbors? Does this exercise change your perceptions of gratitude, humility and repentance as a Christian practice? How might this exercise have planted seeds of blessing and grace in your life?

Sign up with Mother Mary+. Challenge will be completed on Consecration Sunday, which is All Saints Day, November 1st, 2020

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✦ Please join Deacon Lynn and Mother Mary+ for St. John's virtual **Coffee Hour** today at 10:30am!

- ✦ **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 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,

- ✦ **St. John's Thrift Shop** is closed for both shopping and donations during this pandemic. We hope to open in October and will need many new volunteers to make this safely possible. Please contact Linda Spione to sign up; spionelinda@gmail.com .

✦ **Tuesday Noon Zoom Prayers:** We will be reading the Psalm for the day, keep an eye on your inbox, the Zoom link will be emailed Tuesday morning at 11AM.

✦ **Wednesday Bible Study Group Discussion at 11am:** We have just begun The Letter of James who has a lot to say about faith and good works. 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](#)

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius mothermarystjohns@gmail.com

The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal lynn.werdal@gmail.com

Parish Administrator stjohnspleasantville@gmail.com

Megan Whalen, Parish Bookkeeper bookkeeper@stjohnspleasantville.com

Cindy Sullivan, Warden csullivan914@gmail.com

Matt Ruvo, Junior Warden mattsrusnet@yahoo.com

Ken Foley, Treasurer foleyken6@gmail.com

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