

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector



## The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 4, 2021

Morning Prayer: Rite Two 9:30<sup>AM</sup>

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

ROMARE BEARDEN (1911-1988) Christ Healing the Sick

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

OPENING HYMN: #657, vs 1&3

Love divine all love excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887)

## THE OPENING SENTENCE

*Officiant:* The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. *John 4:23*

## CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

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

*Silence*

*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. Alleluia**

### **PSALM 48**

- 1 Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; \*  
in whose city is the holy hill of God.
- 2 Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, \*  
the very center of the world and the city of the great sovereign.
- 3 God is in its citadels \*  
and is known to be its sure refuge.
- 4 Behold, the rulers of the earth assembled \*  
and marched forward together.
- 5 They looked and were astounded; \*  
they retreated and fled in terror.
- 6 Trembling seized them there; \*  
they writhed like a woman in childbirth,
- 7 like ships of the sea \*  
when the east wind shatters them.
- 8 As we have heard, so have we seen,  
in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God; \*  
God has established it for ever.
- 9 We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, \*  
in the midst of your temple.
- 10 Your praise, like your name, O God, reaches to the world's end; \*  
your hand is full of justice.
- 11 Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*

- because of your judgements.  
12 Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about it; \*  
count the number of its towers.  
13 Consider well its bulwarks; examine its strongholds; \*  
that you may tell those who come after.  
14 This God is our God for ever and ever, \*  
who shall be our guide for evermore.

## ANTIPHON

*Officiant:* The earth is the Lord's for he made it:  
*People:* **Come let us adore him.**

## CANTICLE 10 THE SECOND SONG OF ISAIAH

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*  
call upon him when he draws near.  
Let the wicked forsake their ways \*  
and the evil ones their thoughts  
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, \*  
and to our God, for he will richly pardon  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*  
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \*  
so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
For as rain and snow fall from the heavens \*  
and return not again, but water the earth  
Bringing forth life and giving growth, \*  
seed for sowing and bread for eating,  
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \*  
it will not return to me empty;  
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \*  
and prosper in that for which I sent it.  
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 BOOK OF EZEKIEL 2:1-5

The Lord said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord God." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

### CANTICLE 14: Song of Penitence

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, \*  
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,  
and of all their righteous offspring:  
You made the heavens and the earth, \*  
with all their vast array. .  
All things quake with fear at your presence; \*  
they tremble because of your power.  
But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; \*  
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.  
O Lord, you are full of compassion, \*  
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.  
You hold back your hand; \*  
you do not punish as we deserve.  
In your great goodness, Lord,  
you have promised forgiveness to sinners, \*  
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.  
And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, \*  
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness  
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, \*  
and I know my wickedness only too well.  
Therefore I make this prayer to you: \*  
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.  
Do not let me perish in my sin, \*

nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.  
For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, \*  
and in me you will show forth your goodness.  
Unworthy as I am, you will save me,  
in accordance with your great mercy, \*  
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life  
For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, \*  
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

### **A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS 12:2-10**

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

### **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK 6:1-13**

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their

hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them..

*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**

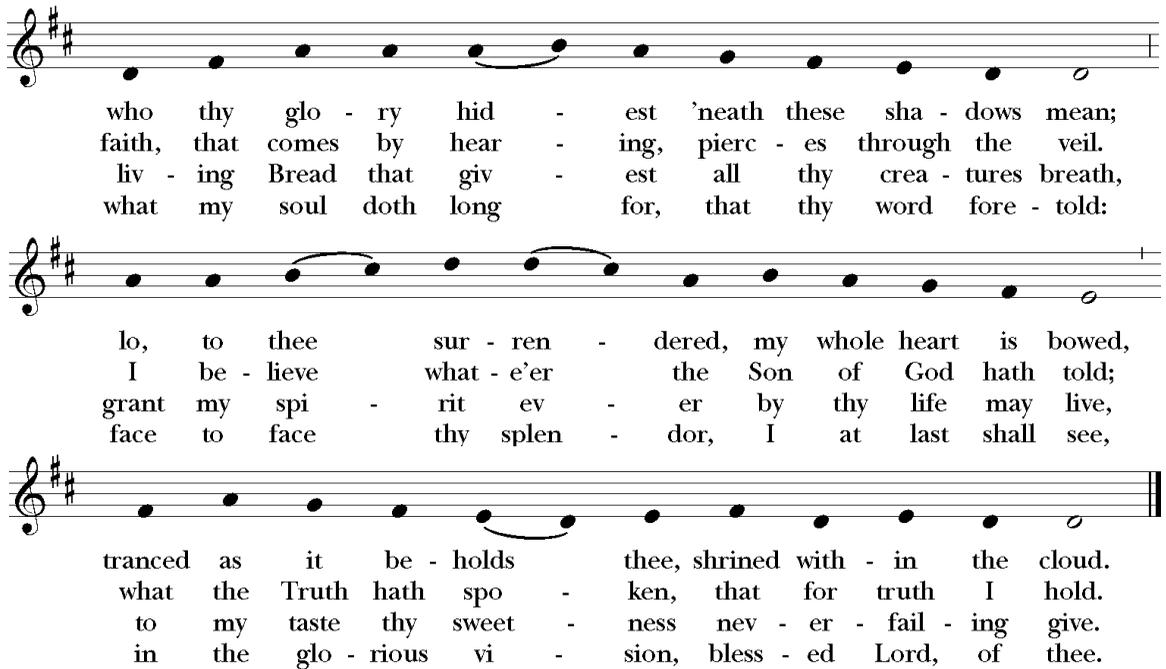
**THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE:** Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself; an offering and a sacrifice to God

## Offertory Hymn #314 vs 1,2 & 4

*Humbly I adore thee*



1 Hum - bly I a - dore           thee, Ver - i - ty un - seen,  
2 Taste and touch and vi - sion to dis - cern thee fail;  
3 O me - mo - rial won - drous of the Lord's own death;  
4 Je - sus, whom now hid - den, I by faith be - hold,



who thy glo - ry hid - est 'neath these sha - dows mean;  
 faith, that comes by hear - ing, pierc - es through the veil.  
 liv - ing Bread that giv - est all thy crea - tures breath,  
 what my soul doth long for, that thy word fore - told:

lo, to thee sur - ren - dered, my whole heart is bowed,  
 I be - lieve what - e'er the Son of God hath told;  
 grant my spi - rit ev - er by thy life may live,  
 face to face thy splen - dor, I at last shall see,

tranced as it be - holds thee, shrined with - in the cloud.  
 what the Truth hath spo - ken, that for truth I hold.  
 to my taste thy sweet - ness nev - er - fail - ing give.  
 in the glo - rious vi - sion, bless - ed Lord, of thee.

Words: Att. Thomas Aquinas (1225?-1274); sts. 1-3, tr. *Hymnal 1940*; Copyright © The Church Pension Fund; st. 4, tr. *Hymnal 1982* Music: *Adoro devote*, French church melody, Mode 5, *Processionale*, 1697; acc. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## 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.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **SUFFRAGES: SET A**

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
**R. And grant us your salvation.**
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
**R. Let your people sing with joy.**
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
**R. Your saving health among all nations.**
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## **PRAYER LIST**

We pray for all those suffering with COVID-19.

We pray for all those struggling to find the light of Christ in this skeptical world

We pray for peace and unity among us as we seek a new way forward as people of faith.

We pray for our Nation may we work to build harmony.

We pray for those who are in the hospital or home recuperating, especially: **Bob** Gowen, **Yumi, Ronald** Garvey, **Max, Anne, Cathy, Barbara, Hudson** Beaugard; **Ellie** Ruvo, **Steven** Schubert, **Martha** Thornley and **Shlomo** Teladano

We pray for those who are homebound: **Esmerilda** Hastings, **Margaret** Vaccaro, **John & Lee** Williams, **Dorothy** Dushin, **Roberta** Darrigrand; **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, **Rebecca**, **Vince** Servio, **Sarah** Paruolo, **Annaliese** Haag, **Gerald**, **Marilyn** Griffin, **Joyce**, **Paul** Ruvo, **Helene**, **Jason**, **Peter**, **Hannelore**, **Linda** Hill, 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 600,000 in this country who have died from COVID-19

*Officiant:* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:  
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **A COLLECT FOR THE 4TH OF JULY**

**Holy God, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us. Hear our prayers as we lift our voices in honor of those who fought and died to preserve this fragile experiment we call Democracy from tyranny and oppression. May we remember their names, their stories, and their loves this day and everyday with gratitude for their sacrifice of a future lived out by us. We are blessed by their strength and courage, may we have the courage in our time to wrestle against those who would threaten our Nation's goal to build justice for all. May we work in good faith to build up our nation as one people. All this we ask in the Name of the One True and Living God. Amen.**

## **CLOSING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*Officiant and People*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our**

Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE BLESSING

### CLOSING HYMN #720

*National Anthem*



1 O say can you see, by the dawn's ear - ly light,  
2 O thus be it ev - er, when free - men shall stand



what so proud - ly we hailed at the twi - light's last gleam - ing,  
be - tween their loved homes and the war's des - o - la - tion!



whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the per - il - ous fight,  
Blest with vic - tory and peace, may the heaven-re - scued land



o'er the ram - parts we watched, were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing?  
praise the Power that hath made and pre - served us a na - tion!



And the rock - ets' red glare, the bombs burst - ing in air,  
Then— con - quer we must, when our cause it is just,

gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
 and this be our mot - to, "In God is our trust."

O — say does that star-span-gled ban - ner yet wave  
 And the star-span-gled ban - ner in tri - umph shall wave

o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?  
 o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Words: Francis Scott Key (1779-1843) Music: *National Anthem*, source unknown, ca. 18th cent.

**DISMISSAL**

*Deacon:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord!

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

**POSTLUDE**



## **STEWARDSHIP**

Our readings today make very clear that sometimes, oftentimes, living our lives by God's Holy Word is not a popular choice. Prophets are sent to speak repentance, reconciliation, and restoration, only to be thrown over the cliff or under the bus.

Still, we know that ultimately God's way of love is the only way for us to come together in peace and harmony. The world struggles for answers, for guidance, and we are called to be the beacon, shining God's light on the dark and dangerous path.

Come, join us in the work of bringing light to the darkness, bring your friends who are seeking a new way forward.

Thank you for your continuing financial support of St. John's work.

## **Volunteers needed!**

**How are you with a paint brush?**

**Are you an organizer?**

**Perhaps you are a gardener?**

**A techie perhaps, who likes filming/videography?**

**A knack for marketing/communications?**

**Can manage a copier?**

**Would your Spanish get you more than a cup of coffee?**

**A numbers person, you say?**

**Accounting whiz?**

**Enjoy getting to know new folks?**

## **Then St. John's needs your help!**

**Please contact Warden Matt Ruvo; [mattsunset@yahoo.com](mailto:mattsunset@yahoo.com) or  
The Rev Mary B. Gregorius, [mothermarystjohns@gmail.com](mailto:mothermarystjohns@gmail.com)  
for more information and to sign up to volunteer**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BAPTISM:** The beginning of our new life in Christ will be celebrated at St. John's Episcopal Church on Sunday September 12th, 2021. If you or your children are contemplating Baptism in the Episcopal Church, please contact Mother Mary +for more information

**CONFIRMATION:** Confirmation is a moment in time when we celebrate the beginning of our adult journey with Jesus Christ. The Church takes preparation for this transition in our lives seriously, requiring a lengthy period of study, discussion and action. Classes will begin September 14th, 2021 and are open to anyone 7th grade and above. Please contact Mother Mary+ for more information

**THRIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—**Hello all. The thrift shop is open Saturdays from 10-2. We are seeking volunteers for 2 hour shifts to help out our regular staff. Please consider helping out. We have had staff changes since Covid-19 and have a smaller pool to draw from. Here is a link to our updated [Sign Up Genius](#). Thank you, Linda Spione on behalf of the executive committee

**TUESDAY NOON ZOOM PRAYERS & CHAT:** Join us via ZOOM for a brief moment of calm in your all to hectic day.

**THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY:** at 11am; ZOOM link sent out in This Week @ St. John's. We have completed Paul's Letter to the Romans, Please join us as we begin Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

## **ST. JOHN'S STAFF:**

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Videographer Hal Gregorius  
Video Editor Raphael Wong  
Cantor Angela Berg  
Web Master Jonathan Pytell  
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