

# Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 18

September 5, 2021

Holy Eucharist 9:30<sup>AM</sup>



## St. John's Episcopal Church

8 Sunnyside Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570  
(914) 769-0053 [www.stjohnspleasantville.org](http://www.stjohnspleasantville.org)

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector

*Jesus Heals—Arthur Robbins Fine Art America*

## AN INVITATION TO THIS SERVICE

This service is taken from the *1979 Book of Common Prayer*. **Words printed in bold are spoken by the congregation.** All are welcome at Christ's table. We welcome baptized

Christians of any tradition to share in the bread and wine. If you have not yet been baptized, or would prefer to receive a blessing from the Priest, indicate this by crossing your arms over your heart.

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

### *PRELUDE*

### THE WORD OF GOD

✠ *Please stand as you are able and join in singing:*

### OPENING HYMN #8

“Morning has broken”

*Unison or harmony*



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. \_\_\_\_\_  
like the first dew - fall like on the first grass. \_\_\_\_\_  
born of the one light E - den saw play! \_\_\_\_\_

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word! \_\_\_\_\_  
sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass. \_\_\_\_\_  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day! \_\_\_\_\_

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

**People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## COLLECT FOR PURITY

**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.**

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

**Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

✠ *Please be seated for The Lessons.*

### A READING FROM THE HEBREW TESTAMENT

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 125

- 1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, \*  
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.**
- 2 The hills stand about Jerusalem; \*  
so does the Lord stand round about this people,  
from this time forth for evermore.**
- 3 The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway  
over the land allotted to the just, \*  
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.**
- 4 Show your goodness, O Lord, to those who are good \*  
and to those who are true of heart.**
- 5 As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,  
the Lord will lead them away with the evildoers; \*  
but peace be upon Israel. .**

### A READING FROM THE LETTER TO JAMES 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the

one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.[ For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

✱ *Please stand as you are able and join in singing:*

**SEQUENCE HYMN MHSO #20**

*Celtic Alleluia*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! \_\_\_\_\_

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

Mark 7: 24-37

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

Deacon:       The Gospel of our Lord.

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

✠ *Please be seated for:*

THE SERMON

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius

✠ *Please stand as you are able and say:*

## 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 (FORM III)

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

### *Silence*

We pray for all those suffering with COVID-19.

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, Linda Hill, Cathy, Barbara, Howard Flemming, Hudson Beauregard; Ellie Ruvo, Joyce Makimi, Rosemary Recine, Robert Lynch, and Angela Carrozzo**

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, Carol White, Steven Schubert, 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 celebrate the marriage of Laura & Joseph Baiocco, which took place yesterday here at St. John's. Congratulations and may God bless this new family.**

We pray for those who have died, especially **Edwina** and the over 630,000 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.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*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**

✠ *Please greet one another with:*

## THE PEACE

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

## THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us; an offering and a sacrifice to God

## OFFERTORY HYMN #711

“Seek ye first the kingdom of God”

**Seek ye first**  
Scriptures for Singing

The musical score is written for two staves in a 2/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the notes to indicate accompaniment. The first line of music covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second line of music covers the last two lines of lyrics. The score ends with a double bar line.

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God And His righ - teous - ness; And all these  
things shall be add - ed un - to you. Hal - le - lu, Hal - le - lu - jah!

2. Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
Seek and ye shall find.  
Knock and it shall be opened unto you.  
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

## DOXOLOGY

*Old Hundredth*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, you heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

*In this prayer, the lines in bold are spoken by the People.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Priest inserts Proper Preface*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant Continues*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant Continues*

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 Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**All: 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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

✱ *Please join in singing:*

## THE COMMUNION HYMN #602 VS 2&4

“Jesu, Jesu fill us with your love”

*Chorus*

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
 2 Neigh - bors are rich and poor, neigh-bors are black and  
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should  
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we were

*Repeat Chorus*

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 white, neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.  
 love. All are neigh-bors to us and you.  
 slaves; this is the way we should live with you.

Words: Ghanaian; tr. Thomas Stevenson Colvin (b. 1925), alt. Music: *Chereponi, [Jesu, Jesu]*, Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Thomas Stevenson Colvin (b. 1925)  
 Words, Music: Copyright ©1969, Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

✠ *Please stand as you are able*

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**All:** Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** 2 Corinthians 13:14

✦ Please join in singing:

## THE CLOSING HYMN #488

“Be thou my vision”



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,  
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Copyright © by permission of the Estate of Eleanor Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

### STEWARDSHIP

Ah James, do not mince words with us, tell us plainly what ought to be done. “What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.” (James 2:16-17) What more is there to be said, these words catch us unaware, make our faces flush with embarrassment. Try as we might to make them say something, anything that will get off the hook of feeding, clothing& sheltering others, Jesus will have none of our side stepping. There is no argument for incentive to work, no discussion on tax burdens, no escape from our call by Christ to loving kindness.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Thrift Shop:** The thrift shop is open Saturdays from 10-2. We are seeking volunteers for 2 hour shifts to help out our regular staff. 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](#).

**General Volunteers:** Are you an organizer? Perhaps you are a gardener? A techie who likes filming/videography? A knack for marketing/communications? 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 or The Rev Mary B. Gregorius, mothermarystjohns@gmail.com to sign up to volunteer

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME BACK SUNDAY: SEPT. 12 9:30AM—SAVE THE DATE—**There will be blessings, there will be baptisms, there will be joy! Please mark your calendar for this first Sunday of the program year so we can welcome each other back after a fun summer of travel, adventures and rest!”

**BAPTISM:** The beginning of our new life in Christ will be celebrated at St. John's Episcopal Church on Sunday September 12th, 2021. Please contact Mother Mary +for information

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

**TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER 8:00AM** As we begin to pick up our in office work schedules, please consider beginning your day in prayer together. ZOOM link in TW@SJ or [click here](#). Meeting ID 847 0590 3160

**THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY: Return to the Old Time 11:00AM;** ZOOM link in This Week @ St. John’s. Please join us in discussing First Kings.

### **ST. JOHN’S STAFF:**

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