

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 25

October 24, 2021

Holy Eucharist 9:30^{AM}



St. John's Episcopal Church

8 Sunnyside Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570
(914) 769-0053 www.stjohnspleasantville.org

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector

Jesus Healing a Man Born Blind—Frans Martin Claerhout (South African 1919 - 2006)

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 #460 vs. 1, 4, & 5

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”



1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

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 God's 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

**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**

✠ *Please be seated for The Lessons.*

A READING FROM THE HEBREW TESTAMENT

Jeremiah 31: 7-9

Read by: Laura Simpson

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come,

and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 126

Led by: Laura Simpson

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."

3 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

4 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

5 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

6 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

A READING FROM HEBREWS

Hebrews 7:23-28

Read by: Laura Simpson

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but Jesus holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

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 10: 46-52

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

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaueus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

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 IV)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for peace and unity among us as we seek a new way forward as people of faith.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for **Edwin Sanchez and the students at El Hogar School, and the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem**. We offer prayers of thanksgiving for all those who celebrate birthdays this week

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for all those suffering with COVID-19.

We pray for those who are in the hospital or home recuperating, especially: **Frederic, Peter, Bob** Gowen, **Yumi, Ronald** Garvey, **Ed** Meddaugh, **Max, Anne, 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 for whom our prayers are asked, especially: **Liz & Jeff Daniele, Andrew Tom, Rebecca, Vince Servio, Sarah Paruolo, Annaliese Haag, Gerald, Marilyn Griffin, Joyce, Paul Ruvo, Helene, Jason, Joe Smith, Peter, Hannelore, Marina Brandt, Linda Hill, Carol White, Steven Schubert, Paul Seltzer, Jeff and The Rt. Rev Andrew St. John**
Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Gen. Colin Powell and the over 725,000 in this country who have died from COVID-19 that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Storyteller this week

**Mother Mary Gregorius telling the story of
Esau and Jacob**



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.

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.**

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you.

In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory again.**

Celebrant Continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, 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 #671 VS 1,3, & 5

Amazing Grace



1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
*5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

✠ *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.

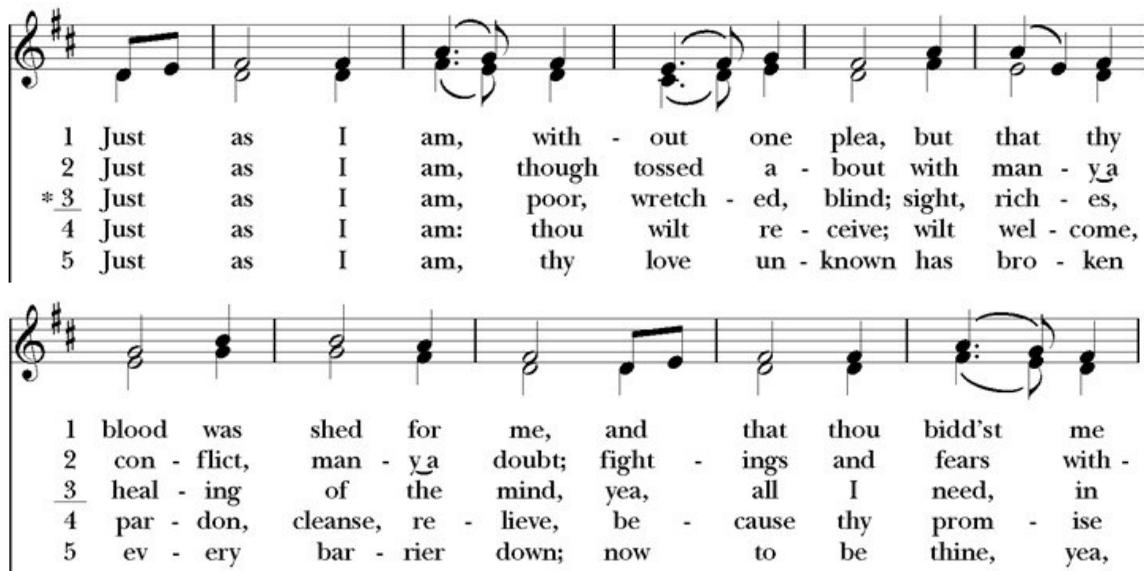
THE BLESSING

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 #693 VS 1, 4 & 5

“Just as I am”



The image shows the musical notation for the closing hymn 'Just as I am'. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the first five verses of the hymn, and the second staff contains the remaining five verses. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - ya
* 3 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,
4 Just as I am: thou wilt re - ceive; wilt wel - come,
5 Just as I am, thy love un - known has bro - ken
1 blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me
2 con - flict, man - ya doubt; fight - ings and fears with -
3 heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in
4 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve, be - cause thy prom - ise
5 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

1 come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 2 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 3 thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 4 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 5 thine a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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:

Is it only other people who need comfort, not you? The supportive presence of others who love us strengthens us all. Bartimaeus called out, was told by the onlookers to hush; his heart said cry louder, he listened to his heart. Jesus heard his cry and called him near, what do you want me to do for you? I want to see again.

Yes, Jesus, I too want to see again. I want to see the wonder, the promise, the hope of God's great goodness. I want to see kindness, generosity and hospitality. I want to join with Jeremiah in seeing the faithful sing aloud with gladness; raise shouts; proclaim, give praise, and say, Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of the faithful. Bring us from the north, and gather us from the farthest parts of the earth. With weeping we will come, yearning for consolation you will gather us.

Stewardship is about our care of one another, our gathering and offering of consolation. When a Stewardship team member contacts you to get together to talk about St. John's, please welcome them, add your voice of joy to theirs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY OCTOBER 24TH 4:00PM-6:00PM Please join us for a celebration to thank Cindy Sullivan and Bob Rollmann for all they have done and wish them well! RSVP to Sharon Foley (sharonfoley202@msn.com OR 914 649-1157) or Lynn Russell (lynnbrussely7@gmail.com OR 914 769-5889)

CONFIRMATION: Confirmation Classes are up and running for those in 7th grade and above. Classes are held the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month; from 5:45PM-7:45PM. Our next class meets on Oct 26th. Please contact Mother Mary+ for more information

ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL IS READY: Be sure to see St. John's NEW On-line Sunday School lessons every week located at our [website](#) They include videos from the Sparkhouse Curriculum, activities kids can do at home, and a video of a bible story read by one of St. John's wonderful Volunteers. Contact Mother Mary+ if you are interested in being a Bible Story Reader—we would love to have you!

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: St. John's needs your help! Contact Warden Matt Ruvo; mattsunset@yahoo.com or The Rev Mary B. Gregorius, mothermarystjohns@gmail.com to volunteer

TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER 8:00AM Please consider beginning your day in prayer together. ZOOM link in TW@SJ or [click here](#). Meeting ID 847 0590 3160

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY: 11:00AM; meet us in the Pleasantville Diner. We have started 1 Samuel.

ST. JOHN'S STAFF:

Rector: The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius mothermarystjohns@gmail.com
Deacon Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal lynn.werdal@gmail.com
Organist: Warren Blyden quintiton@gmail.com
Parish Administrator: stjohspleasantville@gmail.com
Parish Bookkeeper: Megan Whalen bookkeeper@stjohnspleasantville.com
Administrative Warden: Debbie Paruolo dparuolo@aol.com
Property Warden: Matt Ruvo mattsunset@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Ken Foley foleyken6@gmail.com
Videographer Hal Gregorius
Video Editor Raphael Wong
Cantor Angela Berg
Web Master Jonathan Pytell
Vestry: Ken Foley, Laura Simpson, Jim Dirlam, Sarah Hoadley, Lynn Russell, Joan Scire-Vitkevich, Philippa Seltzer-Muschko