

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 26

October 31, 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

*The Good Samaritan—Vincent Van Gogh*

## 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*

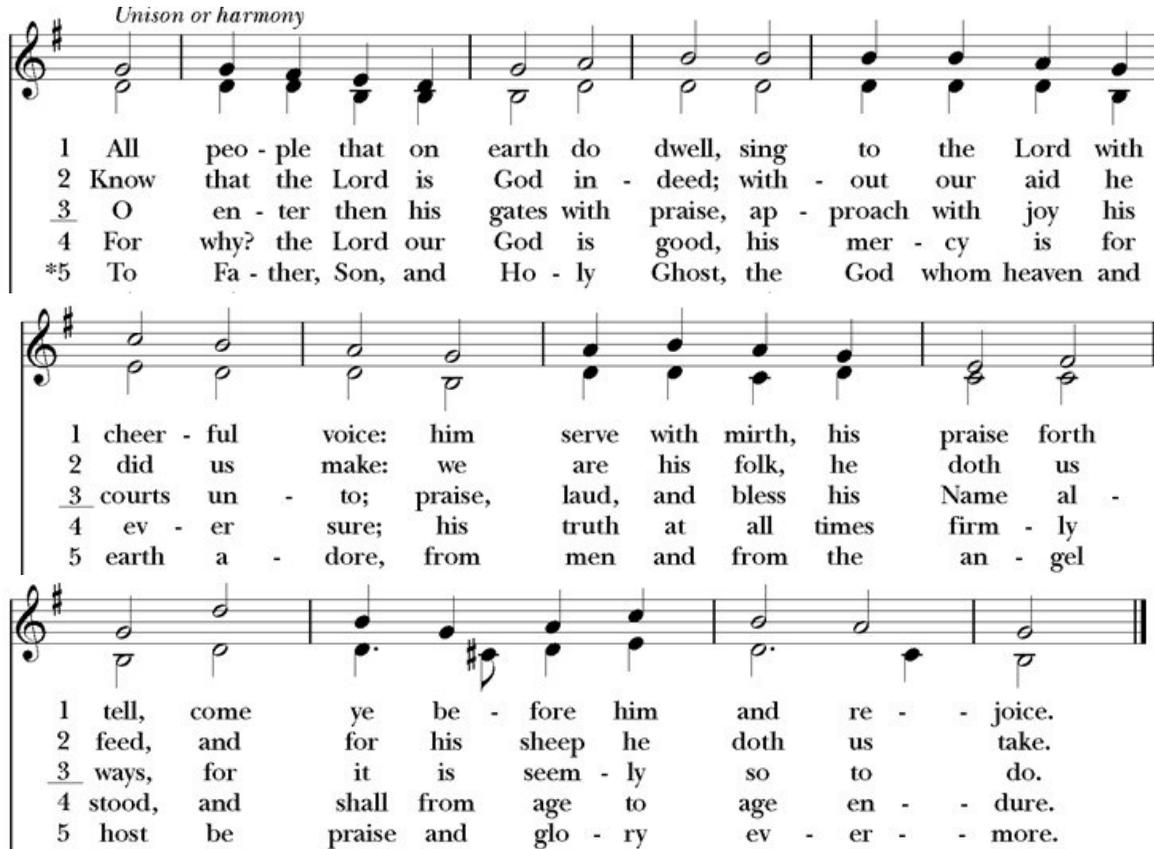
### THE WORD OF GOD

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

### OPENING HYMN #377

“All people that on earth do dwell”

*Unison or harmony*



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with  
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our aid he  
3 O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap - proach with joy his  
4 For why? the Lord our God is good, his mer - cy is for  
\*5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom heaven and

1 cheer - ful voice: him serve with mirth, his praise forth  
2 did us make: we are his folk, he doth us  
3 courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his Name al -  
4 ev - er sure; his truth at all times firm - ly  
5 earth a - dore, from men and from the an - gel

1 tell, come ye be - fore him and re - - jice.  
2 feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.  
3 ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.  
4 stood, and shall from age to age en - - dure.  
5 host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - - more.

## 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 merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; 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

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

*Read by: Elaina Vietz*

Moses said: Now this is the commandment--the statutes and the ordinances--that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children's children, may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 146

*Led by: Elaina Vietz*

**1 Hallelujah! \***

**Praise the Lord, O my soul!**

**2 I will praise the Lord as long as I live;**

**I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.**

**3 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \***

**for there is no help in them.**

4 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.  
5 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
For their hope is in the Lord their God,  
6 who made heaven and earth, the seas,  
and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps promises for ever;  
7 who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
food to those who hunger  
and sets the prisoners free.  
8 The Lord opens the eyes of the blind! \*  
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down  
and loves the righteous.  
9 The Lord cares for the stranger \*  
and sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.  
10 The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah! \*

A READING FROM HEBREWS

Hebrews 9:11-14

*Read by: Elaina Vets*

When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

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 12: 28-34

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

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

One of the scribes came near and heard the Sadducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question..

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 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 **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

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**

We pray for those who have died, especially the over 725,000 in this country who have died from COVID-19

***Silence***

*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:* God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. *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

**Riley Vavolizza**

telling the story of

Joseph and His Dream Coat



## 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.**

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

*In this prayer, the lines in bold italics 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.***

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

***By your will they were created and have their being.***

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*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*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*Celebrant and People*

**We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming**

*Celebrant Continues*

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, Leah and Rachael; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*Celebrant and People*

***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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;

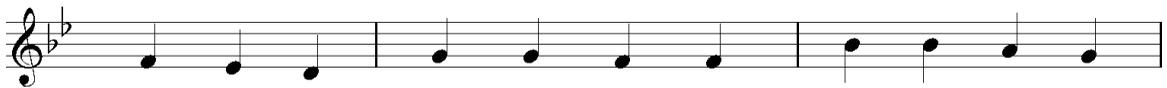
**People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

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 #312

Strengthen for service Lord



1 Strength - en for ser - vice, Lord, the hands that ho - ly  
2 Lord, may the tongues which "Ho - ly" sang, keep free from  
3 The feet that tread thy hal - lowed courts from light do



things have tak - en; let ears that now have  
all de - ceiv - ing; the eyes which saw thy  
thou not ban - ish; the bo - dies by thy



heard thy songs to clam - or nev - er wak - en.  
love be bright, thy bless - ed hope per - ceiv - ing.  
Bo - dy fed with thy new life re - ple - nish.

✠ *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 #379

“God is Love”

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let  
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in  
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all  
earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him  
one em - brace; with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,  
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind-ness  
and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-  
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are  
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through  
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that  
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.  
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.  
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

## 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:

Everywhere we turn, we are hearing that church attendance may not recover, after COVID, that all churches will suffer a decrease in financial support. This is attributed to the convenience of Livestream from our sofa's. But, I find this hard to believe actually, it would seem to me that the uncertainty and isolation we are living through would encourage people to seek out the community, kindness and hospitality of church.

The fact is faith practice is not a spectator sport, rather requires our active participation. As today's Gospel reading from Mark and the reading from Deuteronomy remind us; first we love and honor God and from that flows the heartfelt love of our neighbor. Livestreaming is great but it doesn't replace the warmth of human companionship.

Be a good steward of your heart and mind and soul, gather to Worship, build your relationship with the God who stands beside you in these times of trouble, reach out in kindness and comfort to those around you and please support the efforts of St. John's to do the same.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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.

***Rain date for the Oct 26th class is this Tuesday Nov 2nd.*** 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](mailto:mattsunset@yahoo.com) or The Rev Mary B. Gregorius, [mothermarystjohns@gmail.com](mailto: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:**

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Cantor Angela Berg  
Web Master Jonathan Pytell  
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