



St. John's Episcopal Church

1623 Carmel Road * Charlotte, NC 28226

StJE.org * 704-366-3034

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

(Proper 25 C)

8:00 & 10:15 a.m.

October 26, A.D. 2025

Welcome to worship! We pray that our time of worship will express praise and thanks to God for the gift of Christ, and help you live a more faithful and abundant life.

If you are a visitor, please know that we are delighted that you are here. We know that following the beautiful and ancient worship of the Episcopal Church is not always easy for those unfamiliar with the Anglican tradition. Please do not feel obligated to do anything but to enjoy the service reverently and expectantly.

We invite newcomers to fill out a visitor's card, found in the pew rack, and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of our ushers or clergy.

If you have young children, please know they are more than welcome at St. John's. Changing stations are available in the bathrooms. A nursery for children ages 3 and younger is available every Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Room 126. Ask an usher to help you find the nursery.

Hearing assistance devices are currently out of order. We hope to have them repaired and operational soon.

Please be advised that the 10:15 Sunday Service is live-streamed to St. John's web site, Facebook and YouTube accounts.

8:00 & 10:15 a.m.—The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

Organ Voluntary
Hymn 517

Adagio
How lovely is thy dwelling place

Felix Mendelssohn
Brother James' Air

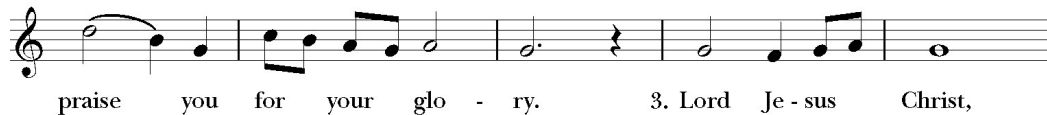
Acclamation and Collect for Purity Book of Common Prayer, Page 355

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant 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 Setting: William Mathias, Hymnal S-278 (spoken at 8:00) Page 356



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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The Collect of the Day

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. 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.**

Bell offering

Spirit of the living God
St. John's Ringers

Michael Helman

Lesson from the Apocrypha: Ecclesiasticus 35:12-17

NRSV

Give to the Most High as he has given to you, and as generously as you can afford. For the Lord is the one who repays, and he will repay you sevenfold. Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it; and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice; for the Lord is the judge, and with him there is no

partiality. He will not show partiality to the poor; but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged. He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan, or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Psalm 84:1-6 *Quam dilecta!*

(spoken at 8:00)

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1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of /hosts! *

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living /God.**

2 The sparrow has found her a house

**and the swallow a nest where she may lay her /young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my /God.**

3 Happy are they who dwell in your /house! *

they will always be /praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is /in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' /way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of /springs, *

for the early rains have covered it with pools of /water.

6 They will climb from height to /height, *

and the God of gods will reveal himself in /Zion.



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)

New Testament Lesson: II Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

NRSV

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. . . .

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

(8:00) Gospel Alleluia 

Sung by all

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia al - le - lu - ia.

(10:15) Hymn 555

Lead on, O King eternal

Lancashire

The Holy Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

NRSV

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

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

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Peter M. Floyd

The Nicene Creed

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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 II (*Respond in silent prayer*)

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I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops, Sam and Jennifer; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially _____. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially _____. Pray for those who have died. *Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence*

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect. . . . Amen.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

The people kneel

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.**

Absolution . . . **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

(All gathered may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.)

Birthday/Anniversary Prayer—**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as *they* celebrate(s) another year. Grant that *they* may continue to grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their lives*; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(10:15) Children's Sermon

The Holy Communion

(10:15) Offertory Anthem *How lovely is your dwelling-place* (2023)

Marty Wheeler Burnett

How lovely is your dwelling-place, O God of power and might! Within your courts my thirsting soul attains its true delight; my heart and flesh cry out for you, O living God, my light! Beside your altars, gracious God, the swallows find a nest. How blest are all who dwell with you and praise you without rest, and blest are those whose hearts are set upon the pilgrim's quest. Those passing through parched wilderness will find it filled with springs, and they shall climb from height to height till Zion's temple

rings with praise to you in glory throned beyond all earthly things. One day within your courts excels a thousand spent away; what joys are theirs who keep your laws nor wander from your way, for you will surely bless all those who live the words they pray.—*Paraphrase of Psalm 84:1-9 by The Rev. Carl P. Daw, Jr.*

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Hymn 380, st. 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Old Hundredth

Celebrant All things come of thee, O LORD.

People **And of thine own have we given thee** (*I Chronicles 29:14*).

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

The people stand.

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

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S-128

The people stand or kneel.

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:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

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 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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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.

The Breaking of the Bread

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Fraction anthem: My flesh is food indeed (Ray Urwin, Hymnal S-169)

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -

All

deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my

All

flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. My

Cantor or Choir

flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

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Invitation to Communion

All baptized Christians, including children, are invited to receive Communion. Please stand or kneel to receive Communion. The bread will be placed on your palm. Then you may depart or wait to receive the cup, grasping the base to guide it to your lips. If you want the minister to dip the wafer in the wine, please keep the bread in your hand, and s/he will dip the wafer and place it between your fingers or on your tongue. Those who do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. If you would like to receive gluten free bread, please tell the priest. If you need Communion brought to your seat, please tell an usher.

(10:15) Communion Hymns

Hymn 429	<i>I'll praise my Maker while I've breath</i>	Old 113th
Hymn 313	<i>Let thy Blood in mercy poured</i>	Jesus, meine Zuversicht
LEVAS 60	<i>How great thou art</i>	O store Gud
Hymn 307	<i>Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor</i>	Bryn Calfaria

Commissioning of Home Communion Visitors

When Communion is to be taken to homebound parishioners, Eucharistic ministers will be sent forth from our gathering with the consecrated bread using these words:

Deacon: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Body and Blood of Christ.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, and one cup.**

Postcommunion Prayer

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Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant may bless the people.

Hymn 536

Open your ears, O faithful people

Torah Song

The Dismissal: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

If thou but trust in God to guide thee (Hymn 635)

J. S. Bach

*The flowers at the Altar are given to the Glory of God by **Elizabeth & William Sigmon** in loving memory of her parents and sister, **Jack & Alice Kehoe** and **Allison Kehoe** and his father, **the Rev. Dr. Thomas Sigmon.***

Looking ahead to the Sunday after All Saints' Day, November 2 (Year C)

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31

PARISH LIFE at St. John's

News and Announcements

Priceless!

Each Sunday Breakfast is offered 8:45-9:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages is offered at 9:15 a.m.

Children (age 3 to first grade) are invited to meet in the Children's Chapel. **Explorers** (grades 1-5) meet in the Fellowship Room. Both groups meet at 10:10 a.m. and join the service in the church during the Peace each Sunday.

Vestry election November 9. Please nominate yourself or others by today. Contact the office for details.

Hagar's Basket served 291 families October 18! Please help by giving \$money\$ or donating personal hygiene items or cleaning products. Collection bins are near the door with the blue awning. Stocking day is Thursday, November 13; distribution day is Saturday, November 15. Contact Erin Richardson to volunteer. Spanish speakers needed for distribution days like November 15.

Nourish Up (Loaves & Fishes at Galilee Center) needs canned goods and volunteers. Contact Louise Palmer to join.

The Good Samaritan Fund provides financial assistance to members of the St. John's family. To make a donation to help others, note "Good

Samaritan Fund" on the memo line of a check to St. John's.

All Saints' Sunday (next Sunday, November 2) the choir will offer Mozart's *Missa Brevis in D* with instruments from the Charlotte Symphony at 10:15 a.m. Gifts in memory or thanksgiving for loved ones to pay the players are needed by Tuesday, October 28. Please contact Alan in the church office for details.

Wednesday Night Supper—October 29. Menu: Cuban sandwiches, salad, and dessert. Supper is served 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

New Class—*Faith in the Headlines—*Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m., led by Fr. Peter Floyd.

The Way Forward advocates for the people of St. John's to explore and live into their Baptismal Covenant. They meet in Room 208 6:30 p.m., Monday, November 10.

Lectio Divina Bible study meets via Zoom each Thursday, 9:00-10:00 a.m. The Zoom link is in the weekly announcements.

Lost and Found is located downstairs in front of the reception desk under the name tags.

Crisis Assistance Ministries – Volunteers needed the second Wednesday of each month, especially younger participants! Contact Kay Norwood to help.

Next volunteer day is November 12.

Remember to set your clocks back next Saturday, November 1, or you'll be an hour early to church!

All women are invited to play Bunco, Thursday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m. Contact Shirley de la Canal for details.

Episcopal Church Women need quart canning jars for their soup sale. Please leave jars at the reception desk by November 9.

Roof Above – St John's provides a meal at Roof Above each quarter. To learn more contact Tim Comin.

Centering Prayer meets in the chapel Mondays at 3:30 p.m. and Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.

Let Us Pray - The Intercessory Prayer Team would love to pray for you! Fill out a prayer card from the church pews or e-mail jpdigcharlotte@gmail.com All requests are confidential. New team members are welcome. Contact the e-mail address to join the team today!

In case of emergency Heart-start Defibrillators are available in the hallway between the Children's Chapel and the kitchen, near the entrance downstairs, and in the third floor hallway.

How to Receive Communion

To receive the bread alone.



To drink from the chalice, please help guide it to your lips.



To receive a blessing only (no bread or wine) or to decline the chalice.



For Intinction

Please leave the bread in your hands. The chalice bearer will take it from you dip it in the wine, and return it to you. Do not attempt to dip the bread in the chalice yourself.



To receive gluten free bread, just ask the priest.



Clerics

The Rev. Peter M. Floyd, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Brad Smith, Senior Associate Rector
The Rev. Wendy Merrill, Deacon

Musicians

Mr. Alan C. Reed, Organist and Choirmaster
Ms. Angela Swicegood, Assisting Organist
Ms. Tracy Reed, Assistant for Children's Choirs
Ms. Reem Nour, Soprano Choral Scholar
Mr. Greg McAbee, Master of the Choirs of Bell and Chime
Mr. Jamey Graves, Parish Administrator & Music Associate

If you would like to contribute digitally to the general offering, just scan the QR code below with your smart phone.



You may also pay from our web site or mail a check to the church office.

Vestry

Fred Alexander (Sr. Warden), Brian Emigh, Mary Jane Gommel, Bill Grant (Treasurer), Kathleen Harrington, Grant Hawgood, Suzy Johnson (Clerk), Greg McAbee (Endowment), Steve Nason, John Newton, Elizabeth Sigmon (Jr. Warden), Canon Cindy Winslow (Pre-school board)



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