



**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 25th, 2024 ~ 10am**

**Prelude**

**Entrance Hymn**                    #47 ~ *On this Day* (verses 1-3)

On this day, the first of days,  
God the Father's Name we praise,  
who, creation's Lord and spring,  
did the world from darkness bring.

On this day the eternal Son  
over death his triumph won;  
on this day the Spirit came  
with his gifts of living flame.

Maker, who didst fashion me  
image of thyself to be,  
fill me with thy love divine,  
let my every thought be thine.

**Opening Words**

The living God has sent the living bread from heaven to fill our hearts with strength! In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## The Gloria

1982 Hymnal S 280

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.

## The Collect

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Old Testament

[1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43](#)

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

“Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

Leader        The Word of the Lord.  
People        **Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm**    *(Let us say it responsively)*  
**Psalm 84**

- 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.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 **Behold our defender, O God; \***  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 **For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \***  
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.

12 O LORD of hosts, \*  
happy are they who put their trust in you!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia (3x)

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia (3x)

**The Gospel**  
**John 6:56-69**

Jesus said, “Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

**The Sermon**

The Rev. John Beach

**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.

### Prayers of the People

Let us pray to the Lord saying, O God, keep your promise. You have the words of life.

Faithful God, there is no one like you in heaven or on earth. The highest heaven cannot contain you, yet you dwell in our midst and regard our prayers with favor. So we lift our hearts in your house, praying by the power of your Spirit and preserving in supplication for the church, the creation, and those in need.

O God, keep your promise. **You have the words of life.**

Let your church stand firm in the strength of your power, overcoming evil and proclaiming the gospel of peace.

O God, keep your promise. **You have the words of life.**

Bless us to care for your creation, the sanctuary you have provided to nourish, sustain, and shelter humankind and all living things.

O God, keep your promise. **You have the words of life.**

May rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this present darkness yield to your reign of love, peace, justice, and goodness for all.

O God, keep your promise. **You have the words of life.**

Protect and comfort the weak, the young; Hear the cry of the stranger, the forgotten.

O God, keep your promise. **You have the words of life.**

Strengthen our faith, deepen our love, empower our witness.

O God, keep your promise. **You have the words of life.**

May those we remember now find refuge in the midst of your mercy. We speak of all in need of inner and outer strength, particularly Elin Babin, Ron, Paul Brophy, Maureen Burke, Norma Cahill, Marie Connors, Barbara Cox, Sue Croft, Don DiGiacomo, Beth (Manoogian) DuPlessie, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Joanne Felci, Paul Felci, Ruth Garrett, Peggy Gibbs, Allison Gray, Patti Greene-Botticeli, Jerica Hamre, Will Hare, Carolyn Hashem, Tom Hashem, Bruce Higgins, Louis Hoelzl, Larry Kamp & Family, Doris Kelly, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Dennis Lancaster, Janet Lancaster, Rachel Lesch, Richard Lucia, Melissa McSheffery, Matt, Lori, Mary & Dante, Bobby Miller, Harriet Miraglia, Erica Moore, Gisela Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Kathy Pothier, Keelan Pothier, Shirley Raithel, Sandy St. Clair, David St. Clair, Nancy Scarry, Terrie Sevier, Ray Shaw, Malcolm Silva, Gail Smith, Dom Tello, Joanie Tello, Jill Vaccaro & Family, Viviana, Kathy Webber, Nancy White, Walter, Lizzi, and Rachel;  
O God, keep your promise. **You have the words of life.**

Happy are those who have passed into your presence in hope of the resurrection. We remember especially Florence & Robert Fenna; Norman, Adeline, and John Monroe; and Carl Sangster; we pray for their salvation and eternal rest.  
O God, keep your promise. **You have the words of life.**

Lord God, you are our sun and shield; our strength and hope. With joy, we entrust our prayers to you through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Concluding prayer*

Invitation to Confession

Let us confess our sins to the One whose eyes are open day and night to heed our cry and our prayer.

**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 upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

The Peace

*Officiant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## The Holy Communion

Christ, our living bread, has given his flesh for the life of the world. Filled with the Spirit, let us offer our gifts of thanksgiving to God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Offertory Hymn

#445 ~ *Praise to the Holiest in the Height*

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise;  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways!

O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame,  
a second Adam to the fight  
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,  
which did in Adam fail,  
should strive afresh against the foe,  
should strive, and should prevail;

And that the highest gift of grace  
Should flesh and blood refine;  
God's presence and his very self,  
and essence all divine.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
and in the depth be praise;  
in all his words most wonderful,  
most sure in all his ways!

### Doxology

1982 Hymnal #380 (vs. 3 only)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.**

God of glory, receive all we offer this day as a symbol of our love, and increase in us that true and perfect gift. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 him 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:

*Minister and People*

**Sanctus**

*#S130 ~ Holy, holy, holy Lord*

**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.**

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

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar; Isaac and Rebekah; and Jacob, Rachel and Leah; 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.

*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.

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

### The Lord's Prayer

**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

#### Fraction Anthem

1982 Hymnal #S155 ~ *Christ, our Passover*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## The Invitation to Holy Communion

*The Officiant invites the following prayer to be said by all.*

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

*Officiant*        The Gifts of God for the People of God. This is God's table, and everyone is welcome here.

## Distribution of Communion

Living God, increase in us the healing power of your love. Guide and direct us that we may please you in all things, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

**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.**

## Blessing

May God, the source of life, energize you with the Spirit, the power of life, and fill you with Christ, the bread of life, that you may receive eternal life.

**Closing Hymn**                    #376 ~ *Joyful, joyful, We adore Thee*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Loving Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

### Dismissal

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power. Put on the whole armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm as you boldly proclaim the gospel of peace in word and deed.

*People*      **We go in Jesus name.**

### Postlude

#### Participants in this Service:

The Rev. John Beach, Priest-in-Charge  
Stephen Sikorski, Music Director  
Sandy Mears, Worship Leader ~ Colleen Marcotte, L.E.M.

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