



## The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 29th, 2021

10am

*Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.*

James: 1:27

### Prelude

### Entrance Hymn

#372 ~ Praise to the Living God!

Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name  
who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.  
The one eternal God ere aught that now appears:  
the first, the last, beyond all thought his timeless years!

Formless, all lovely forms declare his loveliness;  
holy, no holiness of earth can his express.  
Lo, he is Lord of all. Creation speaks his praise,  
and everywhere above, below, his will obeys.

His Spirit floweth free, high surging where it will:  
in prophet's word he spoke of old: he speaketh still.  
Established is his law, and changeless it shall stand,  
deep writ upon the human heart, on sea, on land.

Eternal life hath he implanted in the soul;  
his love shall be our strength and stay while ages roll.  
Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name  
who was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same.

**Leader:** The Lord has dominion from sea to sea, from here to the ends of the earth  
**People:** A scepter of equity is in the Lord's hand,  
**Leader:** As the Lord rides forth to defend the truth and to destroy all falsehood.  
**People:** The hand of the Lord reaches out to lift up the needy and feed the hungry  
**Leader:** Therefore, with joy and gladness let us come into the presence of the Lord our God-  
**All:** And praise the name of the Lord with the words of lips and deeds of our lives!

### Opening Sentences

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.**

### 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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### Old Testament

#### Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved!  
Look, he comes,  
leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
My beloved is like a gazelle  
or a young stag.  
Look, there he stands  
behind our wall,

gazing in at the windows,  
    looking through the lattice.  
My beloved speaks and says to me:  
"Arise, my love, my fair one,  
    and come away;  
for now the winter is past,  
    the rain is over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth;  
    the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
    is heard in our land.  
The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
    and the vines are in blossom;  
    they give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my fair one,  
    and come away."

### The Psalm

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10

*Eructavit cor meum*

- 1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;  
    let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; \*  
    my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
- 2 **You are the fairest of men; \***  
    **grace flows from your lips,**  
    because God has blessed you for ever.
- 7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, \*  
    a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;  
    you love righteousness and hate iniquity.
- 8 **Therefore God, your God, has anointed you \***  
    **with the oil of gladness above your fellows.**
- 9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, \*  
    and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.
- 10 **Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; \***  
    **on your right hand is the queen,**  
    **adorned with the gold of Ophir.**

### The Epistle

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose

he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

### Gospel Hymn

#314 ~ *Humbly, I Adore Thee*

Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen,  
who thy glory hidest, 'neath these shadows mean;  
lo, to thee surrendered, my whole heart is bowed,  
tranced as it beholds thee, shrined within the cloud.

Taste and touch and vision to discern thee fail;  
faith, that comes by hearing, pierces through the veil.  
I believe whatever the Son of God hath told;  
what the Truth hath spoken, that for truth i hold.

O memorial wondrous of the Lord's own death;  
living Bread that givest all they creatures breath,  
grant my spirit ever by thy life may live,  
to my taste thy sweetness never failing give.

Jesus, whom now hidden, I by faith behold,  
what my soul doth long for, that thy word foretold:  
face to face thy splendor, I at last shall see,  
in the glorious vision, blessed Lord, of thee.

### The Gospel

[Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23](#)

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they

wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

“You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

### 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 bring our prayers of intercession to God, saying, Arose, God of Love. Come to our aid.

Beloved One, you have called us to your embrace and our hearts overflow with your goodness. Your power endures forever. You reign with justice and love righteousness. Let the fragrance of your love and the grace of your lips anoint us now as we pray for the church, the creation, and all those in need. Arise, God of Love. **Come to our aid.**

Unshackle your church from bondage to human tradition that we may worship you freely and serve others with a pure heart.

Arise, God of Love. **Come to our aid.**

Redeem and renew your creation to bud, blossom, and bring forth fruit as we care for the land and love one another.

Arise, God of Love. **Come to our aid.**

Extend your reign of compassionate justice in our nations and neighborhoods as we unite with people of goodwill to do right for those in need.

Arise, God of Love. **Come to our aid.**

Let us embrace the distressed, the diseased, the devalued, the denied. Cause us to care for the abandoned, the bereaved, the weak and the weary. We remember particularly...

Arise, God of Love. **Come to our aid.**

Make us be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger. Let us persevere in your perfect law of liberty and bless us to do your Word.

Arise, God of Love. **Come to our aid.**

Blessed forever are those who have answered your invitation: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away." They now rest in your embrace, and most recently among them, Susan Webb. Bless us know to follow in their footsteps of faith.

Arise, God of Love. **Come to our aid.**

Let us confess our sins to the One who hears our voice and is deeply moved by our distress.

*Silence*

*Minister and People*

**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.**

*The Priest, stands and says*

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.*

### The Peace

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

### The Holy Communion

#### Offertory Anthem

#### 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.**

*In this prayer, the lines in 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 him thanks and praise.*  
*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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:

*Officiant 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.

*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: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
*People* Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### The Invitation to Holy Communion

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving 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.

### Fraction Anthem

1982 Hymnal #S 155 ~ *Christ, our Passover*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

### Distribution of Communion

### Communion Anthem

### Post-communion Prayer

Eternal God, we have received a token of your promise. May we who have been nourished by holy things live as faithful heirs of your promised kingdom, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*People* 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

#### Recessional Hymn      #397 ~ *Now Thank we All our God*

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us!  
with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,  
eternal, Triune God, whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, evermore.

### Dismissal

*Officiant*      Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

### Postlude

#### Weekly Prayer List

The Peoples of Afghanistan and Haiti, Kent Aston, Maureen Burke, Barbara Cox, Don DiGiacomo, Oriol Pi-Sunyer, Jim Dockery, Janet Dunton, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Jim Errico, Joanne Felci, Paul Felci, Scott French, Ruth Garrett, Peggy Gibbs, Estelle Heath, Bruce Higgins, Sandy Hoelzl, Janet Horrigan, Jean Kelly-Smith, Jerry Smith, (Baby) Autumn Ladder-Bush, Dennis Lancaster, Janet Lancaster, Lisa Lancaster, Matt, Lori M., Mary & Dante, Harriet Miraglia, Erica Moore, Gisela Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Gordon Noseworthy, Bill St. Clair, David St. Clair, Nancy Scarry, Terrie Sevier, Bo Shaw, Ray Shaw, Malcolm Silva, Gail Smith, Victoria Smith, Meghan Tapley, Walter, and Rachel.

## Prayers from Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry

### *For Haiti*

*Eternal God, send forth your Spirit to encourage and strengthen the people of Haiti in these difficult times. We pray especially for those impacted by the recent earthquake. Encourage and strengthen those who help and support others. In your mercy, receive the souls of those who have died; comfort their families and loved ones. Surround with your presence the sick and suffering. Aid the work of those who still search and rescue. Empower the medical and aid workers and all who labor to heal.*

### *For the people of Afghanistan*

*Eternal God, hear our prayer for the peoples of Afghanistan. There is a profound humanitarian crisis. Countless people, mostly women and children, are now fleeing and vulnerable. The lives of many are now endangered. The hopes of many are forgone. Send your Spirit, Lord, to rally the resolve of the nations of the earth to find pathways to save human lives, protect human rights and to resolve the hardships of those seeking refuge, asylum and safety. Hear our prayer for the peoples of Afghanistan. This we pray as followers of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.*

### Participants in this Service:

The Rev. John Beach, Priest-in-Charge ~ Stephen Sikorski, Music Director  
John Rogalski, Worship Leader

St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Prospect Street, Saugus, MA 01906  
Website: [www.StJohnsSaugus.org](http://www.StJohnsSaugus.org) Tel: 781-233-1242 Email: [StJohnsSaugus@Gmail.com](mailto:StJohnsSaugus@Gmail.com)