



**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 8th, 2024~10am**

**Prelude**

**Entrance Hymn**

**#494 ~ *Crown Him with many Crowns* (verses 1-3 &5)**

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own;  
awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Son of God before the worlds began,  
and ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man;  
who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast,  
and takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;  
his glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,  
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of heaven, enthroned in worlds above;  
crown him the King, to whom is given, the wondrous name of Love.  
Crown him with many crowns, as thrones before him fall,  
crown him, ye kings, with many crowns, for he is King of all.

## Opening Words

Here at the feast of God's holy word and holy meal, eyes and ears are opened so that we may all be made glad and filled with hope.

## 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 us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## The Old Testament

[Isaiah 35:4-7a](#)

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
    'Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
    He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
    He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
    and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
    and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
    and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
    and the thirsty ground springs of water;

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

The Psalm  
**Psalm 146**

**Refrain: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

The God of Jacob keeps faith forever, Secures justice for the oppressed,  
The Lord loves the just; The Lord sets captives free.

**Refrain: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

The Lord gives sight to the blind; The Lord raises up those who were bowed down.  
The Lord loves the just; The Lord protects strangers.

**Refrain: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

The fatherless and widow the Lord sustains, But the way of the wicked he thwarts.  
The Lord shall reign forever; Your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia

**Refrain: Praise the Lord, my soul!**

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia (3x)**

**Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.**

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia (3x)**

The Gospel  
**Mark 7:24-37**

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be

opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

### 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

Confident that God hears us and knows our needs, let us pray for all creation saying, Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Gracious healer, you visit us when we are in pain and worry. You spread your hands on our wounds. You bring peace and freedom. Visit your churches and synagogues, mosques and ashrams, monastic cells, and places of prayer in every land for the well being of all people of faith. Make us one.

Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

Creator of beauty and surprising complexity, we long for the wisdom we need in order to cherish this earth. Give us the vision to see what you have made; vast expanses of prairie, forests dark and thick, oceans full of wondrous creatures, and the heavens bigger than our imaginations. Show us how to keep your gifts as good stewards.

Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

Liberator of the captive, you know the failings of the nations when we turn our friends and neighbors into enemies. Free our lands from despotic rulers, tricksters, people who lie for personal gain, and those who wield hate speech. Give courage and perseverance to those who are weary of the struggles for justice so that new life and strength will infuse their tired bones. Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

Savior, we see the desperation of our sisters and brothers as well as ourselves, and knowing your love for what you have made, we beg your promises to be fulfilled: water in the desert, healing even in the time of death, protection from whatever is frightening, salvation for those who are without help. Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

Holy God, we pray for those who grow our food and keep our water clean, for politicians who make good laws and judges who rule with compassion, for children, elders, parents, and grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends, and strangers. Give to your world the means to live in harmony. Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

Almighty One, you heard the cry of the Syrophenician woman and you answered her distress with a word. Say the word again today and relieve the suffering of your people. We pray especially for Elin Babin, Ron, Paul Brophy, Maureen Burke, Norma Cahill, Marie Connors, Barbara Cox, Sue Croft, Don DiGiacomo, Laura DiTrapano, Kelley Dodge, 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, Anthony J., Larry Kamp & Family, Doris Kelly, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Janet Lancaster, Rachel Lesch, 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. Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

For those who have helped us know you, we give thanks. Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

#### *Concluding prayer*

Into your hands we place the welfare of all creation, in the name of the one whose life, death, resurrection, and ascension is our own life, Christ Jesus, Amen.

### Invitation to Confession

Many people brought their greatest needs to Jesus, certain that he would help them. With that same confidence, let us confess our failings and seek forgiveness.

**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

For the healing of this world, let us now bring forth our tithes and offerings.

### 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.**

Great and holy God, accept our offering of labor and love. May we bring you true and spiritual worship and be one with you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the 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

Father, your word and sacrament give us food and life. May we who have shared in holy things bear fruit to your honor and glory, in the name of Jesus Christ the 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

Be strong and do not fear! Trust in the Lord's blessings of answered prayer and healing. Listen to the wisdom around you. Speak well of your neighbors. Teach peace. May the God who made you, loved you, and lives with you, bring you to a faith that cannot be weighted down and a courage that knows no bounds.

Closing Hymn                    #390 ~ *Praise be to the Lord*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:  
join the great throng, psaltery, organ, and song,  
sounding in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord; over all things he gloriously reigneth:  
borne as on eagle-wings, safely his saints he sustaineth.  
Hast thou not seen how all thou needest hath been  
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy way and defend thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall ever attend thee;  
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
who with his love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again,  
gladly forever adore him.

### Dismissal

Let us depart in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### Postlude

Announcements/Reminders

Founders Day Sign-up

Founders Day is next week – **Sept. 14th!** If you can lend a hand that day, please see Jeanne Seaboyer or T.J. Martin for details. We greatly appreciate everyone’s support.

Weekly Prayer List

Help us to keep our prayer list current – kindly contact the parish office with any additions or changes.

Reminder – Church School

We will be starting our church school next **Sunday, September 15th.** If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Cox or the church office.

Guest Clergy – Sept. 15th

Rev. John is on vacation from Sept. 13th until the 20th - The Rev. Bob Davidson returns as our guest celebrant. Be sure to say hello!

Bible Study – Tuesday, Sept. 10th

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for our continued Bible Study on the book of Revelation - Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Participants in this Service:

The Rev. John Beach, Priest-in-Charge  
Stephen Sikorski, Music Director  
Sandy St. Clair, Worship Leader ~Joanne Lancaster, L.E.M.

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