

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 | 8:00 AM

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Presider says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

OPENING ANTHEM

The following is said, all standing

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 OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE | Genesis 50:15-21

The people sit.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

GRADUAL PSALM | Psalm 103: 1-13

Remain seated. The Psalm is read responsively, by whole verse.

- ¹Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- ²**Bless the LORD, O my soul, ***
and forget not all his benefits.
- ³He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- ⁴**He redeems your life from the grave ***
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- ⁵He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- ⁶**The LORD executes righteousness ***
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- ⁷He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- ⁸**The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, ***
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- ⁹He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- ¹⁰**He has not dealt with us according to our sins, ***
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- ¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- ¹²**As far as the east is from the west, ***
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- ¹³As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

THE EPISTLE | Romans 14:1-12

The people sit.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

THE HOLY GOSPEL | Matthew 18:21-35

All stand.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE CREED

All stand.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

All remain standing.

Rejoice in the waters of life, those who honor God in all things, and raise your voices in prayer, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

In thanksgiving for this holy day where we gather as a household of faith to hear the word of God with open minds and grateful hearts; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for the arms of forgiveness that embrace us in the midst of our sin, leading us to repentance, and filling us with the waters of mercy through which we will forgive others; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For honesty in government, and integrity in our dealings with one another, that trust may be restored between people and throughout the institutions of our society; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may commit ourselves to a life of simplicity, so that we may provide for the needs of the poor and hungry, as Jesus provided nourishment and hope to his followers; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may share our spiritual doubts with one another, convinced that in our mutual self-disclosure we will be strengthened in faith and grow in the conviction that God's love can forgive all things and transforms all life; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for those who are teachers and catechists in our Church; may they be given the blessing of knowledge and wisdom, as they bear the Christian message to those in their charge; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the dead may be redeemed from the grave, and wear the crown of eternal life; let us pray. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Miriam sang to the Lord for all the glorious gifts her people had received, and so we join with her in continuing our prayers. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray this week for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray this week for Community of the Paraclete, Little Sisters of St. Clare, and The Third Order Society of St. Francis. We pray for all those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name now, either silently or aloud.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**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 our Savior 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

All stand.

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

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The People remain standing.

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 our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Mary the God-bearer, [with _____,] with John, the patron of this house and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Holy Things for Holy People.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving 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 Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS See "The Messenger" in the back of the booklet

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, who respond, Amen.

DISMISSAL

The Minister dismisses the people, who respond

Thanks be to God.

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR • Dana • George Bray • Lisa Chappell • Patricia Facey • Christie & John Guydish • Marguerite Jackson • Valerie Krull • Mary Leo • Ingrid Llanos • Kathleen Manning • Mary Ann & Doug Mahurin • Bob Peck • Usrah Claar-Peck • Mary Catherine Pace • Helen Tim

FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL • Elsie Muzatko • Edith Pill • Maria Dolores Sevilla

WE PRAY FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING IN THE ARMED SERVICES

Ruby Edwards • Christopher Hagen • Brett Johnson • Jon Kidder • Simon Kidder • Jessie Leonard • Lissy Slezak • Richie Rainie

WORSHIP LEADERS • The Rev. R.C. Laird, *Presider & Preacher* • Laird Will, *Eucharistic Minister* • Kathryn Ness, *Lector* • Tom Loranger, *Audio/Video Tech* • Sara Doran, Larrel O'Keefe, Kelli Morgan Aryes and Dee Irons, *Altar Guild*

WORSHIP NOTES

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Prayers of the People are from: Intercessions Year A: Keyed to the Themes of the Revised Common Lectionary © 2011 by Geryl Wolf.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

TODAY, September 17, 2023

12:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

Light refreshments will be served following the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist at a special coffee hour sponsored by the Vestry.

Bob Le Roy
Senior Warden
Bob@stjohnsoly.org

Website: www.stjohnsoly.org

Holy Eucharist in English: 8:00 am and 10:30 AM Sundays. Got to website to view!

Santa Misa en español: 6:00 pm los domingos.

Wednesday Eucharist in English: 7:00 am. Go to website and join by Zoom

ITEMS OF NOTE

Edith Pill, a long time member, has passed away. Her memorial service will be Saturday, September 23 at 11:00 AM followed by a reception.

Long-time parishioner Elsie Muzatko has passed away at age 97. A family-only service will be held in the chapel on October 14th at 3:00 PM.

Reminder that REALM is our data base and you control your profile. If you have a change of address, phone number or email address, log into REALM and update your profile. If you need assistance with REALM, see Adele Roberts, Michael Clifthorne or click here to get to onrealm.org Once in REALM, type your last and first name in the search bar, your profile will pop up. Click on your name, review your profile and make changes, then save.

Check out these new titles now available in the church library. [New Books Available](#)

Help our neighbors in need each week with diapers, pet foods, non perishables, tuna, peanut butter, pasta and soups. Cash donations can be made online or by a check payable to St. John's. Note the memo line: Thurston Co. Food Bank.

The Medical Equipment Bank has moved to a new location at 3537 Martin Way E in Olympia, near the intersection of Lilly Rd. Staff and volunteers will be organizing through Oct 3, when it will once again open for lending, Tue, Thu, and Sat, 11-2:00. The Medical

Equipment Bank lends out a wide variety of items to assist those in need and to reduce medical costs. **Lost and Found** The Parish Office has a small collection of lost and found items. Stylish water and coffee bottles, two pairs of glasses, and a woven pink bracelet. Please stop by the office if you're searching high and low. We might have it!

Safe Church Coursework – Deadline Oct. 15

Time is running out the get your certification for Safe Church practices. Please go to <https://ecww.org/safeguarding-online/> and take the modules. This certification is for Vestry, keyholders, those working with children/catechesis.. Questions, contact pat@stjohnsoly.org

El Hogar Students and Your Support

As our Washington students enter the start of a new school year, students in Honduras are into their last 3 months of their school year. They finish the 2023 school year in November.

We at St. John's have now donated \$3,041.42 as of August 31 towards our pledge to El Hogar to support Alondra and Johan. The 2023 school year began in February and ends in February of 2024 when we send them the funds that we have raised."

We continue to collect your coins, dollars, and checks (with El Hogar on the memo line) for El Hogar in the colorful offering plates each Sunday. We also welcome any contributions you wish to make through your offering envelopes and online gifts to St.

John's. Please keep Alondra, Johan, and the other students and the staff at El Hogar in your prayers.

Now, the visitors program has been rebranded as El Hogar Connects, where we invite you to visit us and partner with our staff and students for a transformational experience Sue Michie

Grounds Committee Workday to be rescheduled!

Bible Study - September TBD

Our virtual bible study will start again in September! Please sign-up at stjohnsoly.org to get the Zoom link or call the office 360-352-8527.

Daughters of the King

Please join Daughters of the King every third Tuesday of the month at 12:45 PM .

Centering Prayer Meets on Thursday in the Guild Room at 12:00 Noon.

Centering Prayer Book Study: The centering prayer book study group will begin exploring Richard Rohr's book *The Universal Christ* on Thursday, September 7th. We meet from 10-12 in the guild room, prior to the noon centering prayer meeting. If you would like to participate in a contemplative approach to book study, please come prepared to discuss page 1-23 of this wonderful book. Questions? Contact Usrah Claar-Peck at 360-570-2211.

Saturday Men's Group: Is a men's forum for connection, fellowship, spiritual growth and development in an informal setting and meets weekly on Saturdays at 9:00 AM

Women's Spirituality: Women's Spirituality Group will meet the first Saturday of every month from 10 AM -12 PM in the Guild Room.

Church Library: Our library is open during business hours and before and after Church services, for browsing, reading or quiet time.

Offering Comfort, Prayer and Blessing: The Pastoral Care Committee, The Daughters of the King, and Clergy continue to offer blessings and prayers daily. If you or a loved one would like to be added to the prayer list or to report an illness, hospitalization, surgical procedure or death contact the office (360-

352-8527) and press 4 to leave a message or email admin@stjohnsoly.org

Summer Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday from 11 am to 2 pm.

OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

admin@stjohnsoly.org
360-352-8527