



SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ASHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 17, 2024

Welcome to Saint John's!

Our mission at St. John's Church in Ashfield is to grow, through worship, in God's gospel of hospitality and wholeness, and to faithfully live that word in our fellowship, families, communities, and the world. May all who enter here be received as Christ.

An Acknowledgement

We worship and share God's mission on the unceded land of the Nipmuc, Pocumtuc, and Wabanaki peoples. We are mindful that our blessing came at the price of their sorrow and we pledge to grow in our awareness of racial injustice with God's help.

Invitation to Holy Communion

This is God's table. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To eat, present your hands to be given bread. To drink, take a sip as the cup is held to your lips. Dipping the bread into the wine is discouraged for reasons of public health. Be assured the risen Christ is present in each element. To receive only one is to receive the fullness of grace. To receive a blessing, instead of bread, cross your arms on your chest.

***Bold** text is said by the assembly*

**Stand as you are able*

Prelude “O God My Faithful God” Johann Hanff (1630-1706) Duane Nyman,
Organist

Gathering Hymn* WLP #721, Signs of endings all around us

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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* S-278 Glory to God (Mathias)

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the prophet Daniel.

¹“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16 *Responsively by whole verse*

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *

I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord,
my good above all other.”

² **All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, ***
upon those who are noble among the people.

³ But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **Their libations of blood I will not offer, ***
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

⁵ O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; ***
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

⁷ I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.

⁸ **I have set the Lord always before me; ***
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave, ***
nor let your holy one see the Pit.

¹¹ You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

¹¹And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “he sat down at the right hand of God,” ¹³and since then has been waiting “until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.” ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying, ¹⁶“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,” ¹⁷he also adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” ¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn* *Hymnal 1982* #628, Help us, O Lord, to learn

Gospel*

Mark 13:1-8

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ²Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

³When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴"Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birthpangs.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon

Shared silence

The Rev. Vicki Ix

Nicene Creed*

Enriching Our Worship 1

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*

For the church in every age, but in our own, especially. May we be steadfast in faith and lavish in love. God of truth and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our nation as we accept the results of this presidential election and move forward in hope as neighbors to one another. God of truth and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For a permanent and transformative peace in the Middle East. God of truth and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For an immediate and decisive movement of our newly elected leaders to stop the progression of climate change. God of truth and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those seeking a just wage, a safe place to sleep, or a nourishing meal. God of truth and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those leaving incarceration this week that they may find housing, work and welcome. God of truth and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick and dying whom we name aloud. *Pause* God of truth and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who have left the body in the hope of the resurrection. God of truth and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Cycles of Prayer

I ask your prayers for those remembered in our cycles of prayer: In the Anglican cycle we pray for The Anglican Church of Southern Africa. In our Diocesan cycle we pray for St. John's, Williamstown; Inquirers, Postulants and Seminarians;

Tough Love, Amherst; Bishops' Executive Secretaries; Together (B+E+S+T). In our town's cycle we pray for local merchants, business owners, and their employees. Among our members and friends, we pray for Olaf and Peggie Thorp, Nell Todd, Theodore and John Beach; Mike Beach; Susan Todd; Amy Troyes-Karas; Georgette Vianni; Ivy Tirrell; Lisa Goding. We pray for those who serve in the armed forces, including Richard Bromberg. And among our ministries we pray for our Pastoral Care Team.

Amen

Presider concludes with a collect

Living God, may your will be done in us,
through us and for us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Confession of Sin*

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace*

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements & Anointing for Healing

Co-Senior Wardens

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem The time for turning (*Salley Gardens arr. Craig Courtney*)

Julia Meservey, Director

The Great Thanksgiving*

Enriching Our Worship 1

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus (*Holy, Holy, Holy*) S-125 (Proulx)

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

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have

freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with [blessed John, and] all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People

Blessed are you now and for ever.

AMEN

As our Savior Christ
has taught us,
we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread S-161, Lamb of God (Hurd)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Armed Services Prayer Book, 2008

All Congregants: In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory.

Congregants online: Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to 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.

All Congregants: **Amen.**

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Solo Kevin Blanchard Hymn #598, tune Aus teifer Not

Post-communion Prayer*

Loving God,

**we give you thanks for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food**

in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

**Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Blessing *from St. Clare*

Live without fear:

your Creator has made you holy,

has always protected you,

and loves you as a mother.

Go in peace to follow the good road

and may God's blessing be with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Forth *Hymnal 1982 #607, O God of every nation*

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude "The Old Hundredth" Johann Walther (1684-1748) Duane Nyman, Organist

Join us for coffee and conversation!

Events

November 24: Offertory dedicated to Vicar's Discretionary Fund in Memory of Russell Williams

November 24: Holy Conversation 11:30am

November 26: Hilltown Churches Food Pantry

December 1: Tea and Empathy 3pm

December 7: Love in a Backpack filling 2:30pm

December 8: Ingathering of pledges for 2025

December 8: Vestry Meeting

December 11: Ring the Bells for Climate Change 11am

December 14: Elle Morgan Ordination at Christ Church Cathedral, Springfield 10am

Acknowledgements

- Eucharistic Prayer A, includes expansive language options approved for trial use
- *Enriching Our Worship 1*
- Service Music reprinted with permission from RiteSong.com
- *The Book of Common Prayer 1979*
- *The Holy Bible, The New Revised Standard Version*

Contact Us

Mailing address: PO Box 253, Ashfield, MA 01330-0253 | **Telephone:** 628-4402

Email: stjohnsashfield@gmail.com | **On the web:** www.stjohnsashfield.org | **FB** @stjohnsashfield

Lay Leaders & Clergy

Vicar: The Rev. Vicki Ix, 362-0742 communications@diocesewma.org **Co-Senior Wardens:** Sue Craft, 628-0289 and Susan Todd, 628-3998 **Junior Warden:** Maddy Roberts **Treasurer:** Raven Harris **Clerk:** Lynnette Leidy Sievert **Vestry:** Jane Wagener, Andrew Wickline

Licensed Preachers: Raven Harris, Andrew Wickline **Lay Eucharistic Visitors:** Sue Craft, Andrew Wickline, Kristen Wickline, Jane Wagener **Licensed Worship Leaders:** Andrew Wickline, Kristen Wickline, Sue Craft **Seminarian:** Elle Morgan

Staff

Organist: Duane Nyman **Director, Madrigal Singers:** Julie Meservey **Parish Administrator:** Lis Henry email: stjohnsashfield@gmail.com **Financial Administrator:** Amy Murray
Sexton: John Wickline

Ministries

Pastoral Care Team: Sue Craft

Liturgy Team: The Rev. Vicki Ix

Digital Ministry: Ted and Kara Toothaker, Andy Wickline, Thad Bennett

Buildings & Grounds Team: Maddy Roberts

Green Team: Kristin Wickline

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Kristen Wickline

LOVE in a Backpack: Jenny Wildermuth & Amanda Carter luvinabackpack@gmail.com

Bicentennial Celebrations: Addison Hall