

Saint John's Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday after Pentecost
Saturday, June 13 and Sunday, June 14 3 Prop 6 Yr A, 2026

The Prelude *Grace*

Clay R. Christiansen

The Processional Hymn *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven*

The Hymnal 1982, 410

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant 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 *5pm*

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 Gloria *9:30am*

The Hymnal 1982, S-236

- 1 Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
- 2 Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
- 3 Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
- 4 Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
- 5 Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
- 6 Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)

In our Hebrew scripture story the Lord appears to Abraham and promises that he and Sarah will have a son. As often seen in biblical narratives, the Lord's presence is disguised, this time in one of three visitors. Abraham may suspect God's nearness, but he also generously fulfills his duty of hospitality to strangers. Because both of them are well beyond the years of childbearing, Sarah laughs when she overhears the exchange between God and Abraham, but the fulfillment of the Lord's promise will later bring her great joy. Abraham will place his trust in God's power and through this son become the father of a great people. A reading from the book of Genesis.

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

[The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response Psalm 116:1, 10-17

Dilexi, quoniam

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *

because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

10 How shall I repay the Lord *

for all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *

and call upon the Name of the Lord.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *

in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord *

is the death of his servants.

14 O Lord, I am your servant; *

I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *

and call upon the Name of the Lord.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *

in the presence of all his people,

17 In the courts of the Lord's house, *

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson

Romans 5:1-8

In this reading Paul bids the disciples to rejoice in the reconciliation and hope which are theirs because of the sacrifice of Christ on behalf of sinners. Through faith we have justification; we are given a right relationship with God. Now even our sufferings can lead to endurance, and this to perseverance which strengthens our hope. God has shown great love for us in that, while we were still God's enemies because of sin, Christ died for us. A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Hymn *O love of God, how strong and true*

The Hymnal 1982, 455

The Gospel *all standing, as able*

Matthew 9:35-10:8(9-23)

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Alan R. Hesse

The Nicene Creed

Scottish Liturgy 1982 (revised 2022)

**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 substance 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 was made 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 worshipped 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

Lay Leader Let us offer prayers for the world and its people, for those who suffer and those in need, for the Church and its members. O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom you chose us, before the foundation of the world, and destined us in love to be your own: help us to pray for all your children. For the life of the world; that your peace may be known and may prevail.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We remember those on our prayer list: We pray for healing and wholeness for Amy, Mary, MaryAnn, Judy, Marilyn, Dave, George, Kim, Tom, Alan, Charlie, Ed, Jim, Alden, Lily, Catherine, Deb, Herb, Joe, and Regina. Have compassion for those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who exercise rule and authority; that they may acknowledge your power:

For Donald our President, for Maura our Governor, for our Senators Edward and Elizabeth, for our Representative Bill, for all our elected officials,

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the Church which is Christ's body; that it may live for the praise of your glory:

In our prayers, we hold our Presiding Bishop- Sean, our Diocesan Bishop-Julia and our Rector Alan.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The altar flowers have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Michael McLaughlin by Dee McLaughlin.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer. We give thanks for the churches of the Merrimack Valley Deanery: **Grace Church** (Lawrence), **Esperanza Academy** (Lawrence), **St. Anne's Church** (Lowell), **St. John's Church** (Lowell), and **Congregations' Lectors, Worship Leaders, Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors.**

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. I invite you to lift up your personal thanksgivings and petitions.

Celebrant O God, you exerted your strength and power when you raised Christ from the dead, putting everything in subjection beneath his feet: accept the prayers which we offer in Christ's name for the world you have created and redeemed; through Christ in whom you have set forth the mystery of your will, to unite all things in heaven and on earth, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant God is love and we are God's children. There is no room for fear in love. We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

God our Father, we confess to you and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do.

**We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil.
For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Celebrant God, who is both power and love, forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace *Then, all standing in body or spirit.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Offertory *If Ye Love Me*

Thomas Tallis

The Offertory Prayer *5pm, then, all standing in body or spirit.*

All things come of Thee O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.

The Doxology *9:30am, then, all standing in body or spirit.*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!



The Great Thanksgiving

Scottish Liturgy 2022, adapted, Eucharistic Prayer VII

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Worship and praise belong to you, Father, in every place and at all times. You made us, all the people of the world, and everything that is. You give us the daylight. Your Word lights up our minds. Jesus was born among us to be light in our darkness. Your Spirit lives in us so that we can look at the world with your eyes.

One day we will be with you in heaven, but now we join with the saints and angels, and sing their joyful song:

The Sanctus *said at 5pm; sung at 9:30am*

The Hymnal 1982, S-125

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.

Father, you never forget us or turn away from us, even when we fail you.

You sent your Son Jesus who gave his life for us. He healed those who were sick, cared for those who were poor,

and cried with those who were sad.

He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive. For all your love we give you thanks in the way that Jesus showed us.

On the night before he died, while he was having supper with his friends, he took bread and offered you thanks.

He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you.

This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

So, as we do what he told us, we open our hearts to him; we remember how he died and rose again to live now in us.

Together with him we offer you these gifts: in them we give you ourselves. Send your Holy Spirit on us and

on this bread and this wine, that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ, and that, sharing your life,

we may travel in your company to our journey's end.

With all your people we give you thanks and praise through the Son and in the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant The living bread is broken for the life of the world.

People **Lord, unite us in this sign.**

The Fraction Anthem 9:30am

The Hymnal 1982 S-161

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.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All who seek God and are drawn to Christ, are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Hold out your hand to receive the host. You may receive the wine by the chalice or in the small cups in the tray.

If you prefer not to receive the wine, cross your arms and wait for the minister to say *The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.*

If you **prefer to receive a blessing** you may cross your arms across your chest.

As you return to your seats, deposit your cup in the place provided in a white pedestal table.

If you would like to **remain in your seat** and receive communion, please **let an usher know.**

The Communion Music *My God, thy table now is spread*

The Hymnal 1982, 321

The Postcommunion Prayer

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.

The Blessing

Welcome, Announcements, and Celebrations

The Recessional Hymn *Come, labor on*

The Hymnal 1982, 541

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude *Postludium*

Flor Peeters

Celebrant: The Reverend Alan R. Hesse

Director of Music: Misao Koyama, with Choir

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ames and Jared Cohen

Lectors: Lillian Woo, Sylvia Connor, and Phyllis Helfrich

Altar Guild: Melissa Abbott, Judy Cohen, Jann Czarnetzki, Dee McLaughlin, and Sharon Therriault

Ushers: Mary Howe and Judy Cohen

Hospitality: Jeannie Johnson

Liturgical Note: Introduction to the readings come from Fredrick Borsch's "Introducing the Lessons of the Church Year, 3rd Edition" Morehouse 2009.

Welcome to St. John's!

Whether this is your first visit to St. John's or you are a long-time member, please know that there is a warm welcome for you here!

Please feel free to participate fully in our service today and in the life of the parish. We are glad you have come and hope you leave feeling closer to God! At several points in the service, you may notice that some people are kneeling, some are standing and some are sitting. We are given this choice and you should feel free to do whichever is most appropriate for you. Please know that you are invited to fully participate in the Holy Eucharist as a Baptized Christian.

If you would like to know more about St. John's and may be interested in membership or interested in being placed on our email mailing list, please contact the church office.



Saint John's Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church of Sandwich Est. 1854
159 Main St, Sandwich, MA

Office Hours, Tues-Fri 9am-2pm **Parish Office** 508-888-2828

Susan Sharpe, Parish Administrator parishadmin@StJohnsSandwich.org

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The Rev. Dr. Philip H. Townner, Priest Associate (retired)

The Rev. Barbara Peterson, Priest Associate (retired)

The Rev. Alan R. Hesse, Rector 508-888-2828 extension 2, text 508-505-5668, Rector@StJohnsSandwich.org



Announcements

Sunday School: has concluded for the year. As a celebration, please join us for Sunday Sundaes in the Parish Hall after worship this Sunday, June 14.

St. John's Annual Pancake Breakfast: Saturday, July 4th in advance of the town parade. We will need many volunteers to help with set up on Friday, cooking, serving and clean-up on

Saturday, for this event. Sign-up sheets can be found in the Narthex. Thank you to those who have already offered to help. For questions, please contact Deb Roberts.

The "Kick Off to Summer Raffle" is a benefit for the church with numerous prizes including a gas grille, picnic supplies, gift cards and certificates and more. Tickets are \$5 each, 3 for \$10 and can be obtained from the office, Thrift Shop, and after weekend services. For questions, contact Diana or Jim Stanley or the Parish Office.

St. John's Summer Concert Series: kicks off July 11th under the tent behind the 161 building. Admission is free, food is available for purchase, bring a comfy beach chair and your friends and family, and enjoy an evening of great music! Additional dates, July 25, August 15, and August 29. We will need extra hands to help with set-up and clean-up, greeting, cooking, raffle sales, and kitchen staff. Sign-up sheets will be available shortly.

Hour of Prayer: The church is open for your quiet prayers weekly, on Wednesdays, from 12-1pm.

Mark your calendars for the next presentation on Tuesday evening, June 23rd at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Our parishioner, Claire Desilets, will present "The Buzz on Bees". Please plan to join us! Admission is free and light refreshments will be served. **Caring for Creation Committee:** Meeting Fridays at 11:00 AM Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86013659293>.

Ways and Means Committee: meets on Tuesday June 16 at 6:30 via Zoom. All are welcome to join in at the link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86559395776>

If you love the smell of bark mulch, then breathe deep when you come to services this weekend. Cole's Lawncare and Landscaping Service had a crew of 6 men and 3 trucks working all day on Wednesday, raking out shrubbery areas and spreading bark mulch everywhere around the Church, the back of #161, and Thrift Shop. A job well done! **Thank you Josh Cole and crew!** St. John's is one of the most beautiful properties on Main Street!

Caring for Creation announces that Faith Communities Environmental Network will present Bill McKibben, a leading climate activist, introducing his two recently published books at the Church of the Holy Spirit Parish Hall, Orleans, on June 24 at 6pm. All are invited. For questions, please contact Steve Tom.

June 13-21, 2026

Saturday, June 13

5pm Worship Service with Holy Eucharist
5:30pm Second Saturday Social, Parish Hall

Sunday, June 14

9:30am Worship Service with Holy Eucharist
10:15am Sundaes for Sunday School, Parish Hall

Monday, June 15

10am AI-Anon, Parish Hall
4-8pm Lasit Theater Group (Hall & Undercroft)

Tuesday, June 16

12noon AA, Parish Hall
6:30pm Ways & Means via Zoom
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/71140757470>

Wednesday, June 17

12pm-1pm Open Prayer, Church
1pm Town of Sandwich Building Inspections

Thursday, June 18

12noon AA, Parish Hall
4-7 Lasit Theater Group (Hall and Church)
6-7pm AA, Undercroft

Friday, June 19

11am Caring for Creation Zoom link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86013659293>
6:30pm-8pm Lasit Theater Group Recital (Hall and Church)

Saturday, June 20

9:30am AA, Parish Hall
1pm Lasit Theater Group Recital (Hall and Church)
5pm Worship Service with Holy Eucharist

Sunday, June 21

9:30am Worship Service with Holy Eucharist
Coffee Hour, Parish Hall