

Welcome to
St. John's Episcopal Church
Chula Vista, CA

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024
9:00 am



***No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey,
you are welcome here***

Lighting of Altar Candles

Prelude

Welcome

Processional Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Hymnal 423



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,
in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;
most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see
al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Opening Acclamation

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

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen***

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 Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.***

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15

Domine, quis habitabit?

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

who may abide upon your holy hill?

Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right,

who speaks the truth from his heart.

There is no guile upon his tongue;

he does no evil to his friend;

he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

In his sight the wicked is rejected,

but he honors those who fear the Lord.

He has sworn to do no wrong
and does not take back his word.

He does not give his money in hope of gain,
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things
shall never be overthrown.

A Reading from the Letter of James

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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual *Help Us, O Lord, to Learn*

Hymnal 628



1 Help us, O Lord, to learn the truths your word im - parts: to
2 Help us, O Lord, to live the faith which we pro - claim, that
3 Help us, O Lord, to teach the beau - ty of your ways, that



stu - dy, that your laws may be in - scribed up - on our hearts.
all our thoughts and words and deeds may glo - ri - fy your Name.
yearn - ing souls may find the Christ and live a life of praise.

The Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

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

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 Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

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.***

The Prayers of the People

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Sean, our Presiding Bishop-elect, and Susan our Bishop;
and for all bishops, priests, deacons and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For Christina Muwonge, sister of Alice Burnham, and all who have died;

For those who put their trust in you, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

For those who risk their lives to ensure our freedom, to heal, protect, comfort, and keep us safe;

***Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women
of our armed forces, first responders, medical professionals, essential workers and
their families. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in
their trials and challenges; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and
grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Celebrant 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Birthday, Anniversary and Traveler Prayers

The Offertory

Your generous offering helps us to continue the mission and ministry of the parish.

You may give here or online by using the "Give Now" button on our St. John's website: www.saint-johns.org

Offertory Anthem

Doxology



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;



Praise him a - bove, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A-men.

The Great Thanksgiving *(Enriching Our Worship 1, Eucharistic Prayer 3)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***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.

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 sing with joy:

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.

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:

Celebrant and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

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 St. 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.

Celebrant and People

Blessed are you 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 Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God

Communion

Spiritual Communion

I invite all who are watching our liturgy online to receive Christ spiritually. Let us pray together:

Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We are grateful to know there are many ways to experience your presence, but in whatever way we do, we know you come into our hearts, minds and souls. Unite my heart with those of my family of faith gathered to celebrate the great meal of thanksgiving and make us all one with you. May this spiritual communion strengthen my faith and grant me confidence in your loving care now and forever. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant 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.***

The Blessing

Celebrant The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People ***Thanks be to God.***



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing! Your
 2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour
 3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud; while
 4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go, from



1 glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 2 out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 3 an - swering ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.
 4 youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.

Refrain



Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks, and sing.

Postlude

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant/Preacher
Reader/Prayers
Psalmist/Vocalists

Rev. Roger Haenke
 Celia Vasquez, Jim Lindshield
 St. John's Choir: Jeff Bates, Tom Brzeczek, Bob Dunn,
 Alice Burnham, Pamela Brittain, Denise Eddleman,
 Jane Ferguson, Ted Garcia, Don Lamar, Joe and
 Maria Love, Marge Moore, Chelsey Nyaradi,
 Nancy Painter, Leslie Parker, Tom Welch

Organist
Acolytes

Cheryl Seppala
 Scott Bricknell, Marge Moore, Malia Attaway,
 Lynn Naranjo

Ushers
Eucharistic Ministers
Livestream

Gregg and Elizabeth King
 Iris Atkins, Debbie Lothspeich, Alex Valdez-Ber
 Cliff Berkowitz, Jamie Attaway

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

St. John's Mission Statement

St. John's is a Christian community that intentionally gathers to experience God's love through Episcopal worship, education, fellowship, and ministry to the wider community.

St. John's Prayer Lists

*Today and every day include some time for prayer, for yourself,
for your church family, and for those in need.*

For Our Military

Matt Jensen, Drew Shorkey, Cody Crossland, Cameron Ronie, Chariti Paden, Mark Stanfield, Sean Robinson, Jonathan Martinez, TK Nguyen, Christopher Lindshield, Timothy Lindshield, Jeremy Colton, David Sanchez, Jonathan Baldera, Nick Wyatt, Jamal Warner, Matt Hernandez, Daniel Getreu, Devon Strunk, Taylor Harrold, Jorge Zuazua, Sebastian Morales, Roberto Chavez, Ryan Lothspeich, Andrew C. Dugger, Dan and Chelsey Nyaradi, Gen. G.C. Heinrich, Pedro Bonilla, and Patrick King.

For Strength in Time of Need

Steve Magill, Gary and Shirley McCarren, the McClure family, Alec Hauer, Barbara Oliveira, Linda Longoria-Neff, Ann and Bill Rogers, Karen Polk, Bob Milam, James Kellogg Burnham III, Marcia Morris, Mike Gollihur, Marilyn Sparks, Louise Olson, Tom Brosche, and Fred Federoff.

For the Deceased

Pray for the repose of the soul of Christina Muwonge, sister of Alice Burnham.

***Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord;
And let light perpetual shine upon her.***

***May her soul and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.***

*(Names are kept on the Prayers List for 4 weeks and should be submitted by Wednesday.
If you wish to add a name, please email Maria Love at: info@saint-johns.org.)*



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