

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 12
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY
30 July 2023 Year A
10:00 AM

* Indicates please stand

Prelude

***Processional Hymn** O worship the King (*Hanover*) **Hymnal #388**

***Opening Acclamation** **BCP 355**

***Collect For Purity**

***Gloria** **Hymnal #S-278**

The Collect of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Genesis 29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b

Confitemini Domino

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
 - 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
 - 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
 - 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
 - 5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
 - 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
 - 7 He is the Lord our God; *
his judgments prevail in all the world.
 - 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
 - 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
 - 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
 - 11 Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance."
- 45b Hallelujah!

The Epistle Reading

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those

whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed
all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to
be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than
conquerors through him who loved us.
For I am convinced that neither death,

nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things
present, nor things to come, nor powers,
nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in
all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our
Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence If thou but trust in God to guide thee (*Wer nur den lieben Gott*)

Hymnal # 635

***The Gospel Reading**

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.” “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.” “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Kit Tobin

***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**

Let us bring before the Lord the prayers that dwell in the heart of our community, responding, "Hear us, good Lord."

+ Spirit of Wisdom, guide our tongues, that we may speak of your marvelous works and rejoice in your bountiful gifts of forgiveness and new life; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

+ Righteous Governor, assist our leaders in discerning truth from deception, and good from evil, so that they may exercise their office with integrity and be signs of hope to the people of our country and world; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

+ Source of strength, be with us in our weakness, and help those who live in the dark corners of hopelessness, so that your love may reveal a greater light and dispel the fears that visit every heart; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

+ Bearer of our sins, remove the dust that blinds us to our shortcomings, so that in admitting our wayward thoughts and actions we may turn toward your mercy and receive your forgiveness; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

+ Creator of the universe, who brings us joy in the diversity of all that the eye can behold, make us ever grateful for the splendor of your making, and ever protective of its fruits; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

+ Sun of Righteousness, bring the dead into the brilliance of your light, and make us thankful for the intercession of your saints; let us pray.

Hear us, good Lord.

Bound together in the love of Christ, let us continue our prayers.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially for

Joan	Peter	Edith	Jeff	Carrie
Richard	Cece	Kathryn	Daniel	Linda
Shirley	Deb	Ruth	Lynne	Johnlyn
Wes	Allison	Frank	John	John
Charles	Elizabeth	Jack	Monica	Jim
Dick	Katie	Julianne	John	Virginia
Rebecca	Theodore	Faicia	Terry	Chris
Strater	Carol	Eleanor	Nathan	Bruce
Penny	Lorraine	Bob	Carole	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:

Ben Dean

Confession Of Sin

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.*

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

Please remain in your pew. Wave!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements & Welcome-Mother Megan will be on vacation through August 14, Please contact the office if you have any questions or concerns.

Offertory Sentence

*Presentation Hymn "Thy kingdom come!" (*St. Flavian*)

Hymnal #615

*The Great Thanksgiving

Expanded Language Prayer A

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: *continuing:* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy (*Sanctus*)

Hymnal #S-128

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, Sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, He gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day, bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Fraction Anthem **Lamb of God** (*Agnus Dei*)

Hymnal #S-165

The Communion of the People

All people are invited to the Lord's Table.
Eucharist will be distributed in the center aisle. Please come forward in a single line to receive.
You may either intinct your wafer in the small chalice, or you may drink from the larger common chalice after consuming the wafer.

*Please replace your mask after receiving the sacrament.
Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

Communion Music Deck thy self (*Schmuche dich*)

Hymnal # 339

Post Communion 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.*

Blessing

***Recessional** This is the hour of banquet and of song (*Morestead*)

Hymnal # 317

Dismissal

Postlude

Acolyte: Ceril Sandstrom

Liturgical Ministers: Josette Garrison, Stephanie Nevels, Amber Massa

Virtual Vergers Matthew Sanaker, Mike Roman

Welcome guest organist Jerome Fung

St. John's extends a warm welcome to visitors!

May you experience the Lord's presence during worship. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate and stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service.

LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from **One License** with license # **A – 724223**



St. John's Church
210 North Cayuga Street
Ithaca, NY
(607)-273-6532

www.stjohnsithaca.org

Office email: office@stjohnsithaca.org

"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10–3

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Gwen Freeman, Senior Warden
Parish Administrator, Cathy Wagner
Director of Music/Organist

Beverly Way, Junior Warden
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

If you need pastoral assistance, or just want to reach out to Mtr. Megan, please call her at 315-757-0251, or e-mail mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org.

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may make a secure donation at <https://stjohnsithaca.org/donate/>. Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter [The Fledgling](#) by contacting the church office.

Please Join Us:

Coffee Hour has resumed in the Parish Hall following the service. Masks optional.

Forward Day by Day for **August, September and October** is available on the table in the rear of the church.

Flowers: If you wish to give Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the church office (607-273-6532).