

# The Last Sunday after Pentecost

## Proper 29

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY

26 November 2023 Year A

10:30 AM

\* Indicates please stand

**Prelude** Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier, BWV 731

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

**\*Processional Hymn** All people that on earth do dwell (*Old 100<sup>th</sup>*)

**Hymnal #377**

**\*Opening Acclamation**

**BCP 355**

**\*Collect For Purity**

**\*Gloria**

**Hymnal #S-279**

### The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### The First Lesson

**Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24**

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm 100**

*Jubilate Deo*

- 1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

**The Epistle Reading**

**Ephesians 1:15–23**

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**\*Sequence** Jesus shall reign where'er the sun (*Duke Street*)

**Hymnal #544**

**\*The Gospel Reading**

**Matthew 24:31–46**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when

was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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

## The Sermon

The Rev. Ed Murphy

### \*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

Jesus the Christ, you reign in glory as our King, and to you we lift our voices in prayer, saying, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

+ That we may serve God with gladness and generosity, discovering his likeness in those who hunger and thirst, in those who are threadbare and in prison, and in those who are sick, lonely, depressed, sorrowful, and rejected; let us pray.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

+ For the forgiveness of our sins, the times when we were blind to the needs of others, and deaf to their shout for assistance, that we may move beyond our selfish greed and love with the measure that Jesus loves humanity; let us pray.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

+ That the leaders of our Church may receive the immeasurable greatness of God, seeking the holy way with every step they take, guiding the faithful and those who have strayed into the glorious dwelling place of divine love; let us pray.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

+ For the sea and the dry land, molded by the Creator's imagination, that we may cherish the gifts they bring forth, and be good stewards of their fragile ecosystems; let us pray.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

+ That the sin of division may be lifted from family life, and from wherever it fractures the bonds of affection or movements toward peace, that forgiving what is past and trusting in God's future, we may work to reveal the kingdom in our time; let us pray.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

+ That the righteous dead may live into eternal life, and that those who have gone astray may receive the mercy of the Maker; let us pray.

*Lord, hear our prayer.*

Rejoicing in the reign of Christ over all creation, let us continue our prayers.

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

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

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:  
Cameron Parks-Miller, Mattison Oakes

### **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 pews. Wave!*

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

**Announcements & Welcome**

**Offertory Sentence**

**Anthem** *Largo e spiccato* from Concerto in D Minor, BWV 596

J. S. Bach

**\*Presentation Hymn** Crown him with many crowns (*Diademata*)

**Hymnal #494**

**\*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-130**

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-161**

## **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.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

**Communion Music**    Before the Lord's Eternal Throne (*Winchester New*)

**Hymnal #391**

## **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** Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (*Hyfrydol*)

**Hymnal #460**

**Dismissal**

**Postlude** Excerpt from Sonata No. 3 in A Major, Op. 65

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–47)

**Acolyte:** Chris Way

**Liturgical Ministers:** Ceril Sandstrom, Gwen Freeman, Stephanie Nevels

**Virtual Vergers** Mike Roman, Amber Massa

*Today we welcome the Rev. Ed Murphy as our celebrant and guest preacher.  
Our guest organist is Elisabeth Wang.*

**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 BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX**

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

**Office Hours** Monday thru Thursday 10–3

#### **Rector**

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

Beverly Way, Junior Warden  
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

If you need pastoral assistance, please call the Senior Warden at 607-351-0595, or e-mail [lavendrsage@yahoo.com](mailto:lavendrsage@yahoo.com).

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 are optional when you are not actively eating or drinking.

**Forward Day by Day** for **November, December, and January** 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).

**Prayer List:** Starting next Sunday, December 3, we will have a new prayer list. Please advise the office (607-273-6532 or [office@stjohnsithaca.org](mailto:office@stjohnsithaca.org)) if a name you placed on the current prayer list is to be retained.