

# The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## Proper 21

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY

September 29, 2024 Year B

10:30 AM

\* indicates please stand

## Season of Creation

**Prelude** Canzona

Eric Thiman (1900-75)

**\*Processional Hymn** Morning Has Broken (*Bunessan*)

**Hymnal #8**

### **\*Opening Acclamation**

*Celebrant:* Blessed be the One who creates all things.

*People:* *The Holy One's love is new every morning.*

### **\*Collect For Purity**

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**

**Hymnal #S-278**

*Celebrant:* The Creator be with you.

*People:* *And also with you.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

O God, you show your glory throughout your Creation, calling it very good: Grant us the fullness of your blessing, that we, stewarding your garden, may become partakers in your joy; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **The First Lesson**

**Esther 7:1–6, 9–10; 9:20–22**

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 124**

*Sung by the choir*

***Nisi quia Dominus***

1 If the Lord had not been on our side, \*  
let Israel now say;

5 Then would the raging waters \*  
have gone right over us.

2 If the Lord had not been on our side, \*  
when enemies rose up against us;

6 Blessed be the Lord! \*  
he has not given us over to be a prey for  
their teeth.

3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive \*  
in their fierce anger toward us;

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of  
the fowler; \*  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \*  
and the torrent gone over us;

8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

**The Epistle Reading**

**James 5:13–20**

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.

***Thanks be to God.***

**\*Gradual** Sweet Hour of Prayer (*William B. Bradbury*)

**LEVAS #178 vv. 1–2**

**\*The Gospel Reading**

**Mark 9:38–50**

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

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

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for

us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
***Glory be to you, O Lord.***

**\*Sequence** Sweet Hour of Prayer (*William B. Bradbury*)

**LEVAS #178 v. 3**

**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**

Eternal God: We thank you for the beauty of the World: for the teeming life of the seas, the flight of birds, and the diversity of animal life. Grant us grace to treat Creation with respect and care; to protect endangered species, to preserve the variety of habitats, and to honor the delicate balance of nature.  
*God of life: hear our prayer.*

We thank you for the wealth of blessings from land and sea; for the power of wind, and the warmth of sun. We pray for the nations of the earth, give us the will to cherish this planet and to use its resources sustainably for the welfare of all.

*God of justice: hear our prayer.*

We pray for the faithful witness of the Church, called to reconcile and heal: For this parish and our Diocese.

*God of grace: hear our prayer.*

We pray for the human family. We exult in our diversity and giftedness, we repent of our sins, divisions and violence. By the power of your Spirit, restore your image within us. As every human being is known and loved by you, may we care for one another with love and respect.

*God of all-embracing love: hear our prayer.*

Almighty God of mercy and compassion, you sent your Son Jesus to teach us the things that make for peace; help the leaders of this world to lay down their weapons of war. Help those who make decisions on behalf of the people of Israel and of Gaza to safeguard human life and flourishing and turn away from death and destruction. Help us living in the US to use our liberty and safety to speak on behalf of those who live in deprivation and danger, and save us from denial and complicity in the evils we deplore, and as we labor, give comfort, strength, and safety to all of your children in the land we call Holy. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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

Joan	Gerald	Avery	Mary Beth	Nick	Rebekah
Charles	Cece	Jane	Jack	Penny	Libby
Wes	Theodore	Chris	Julianne	Ann	Joanne
Virginia	Lorraine	Carole	Jack	David	Olivia
Shirley	Edith	Amelia	Lisa	Cheryl	Roger
Linda	Kathryn	Susan	Ira	Isabella	Sara
Jim	Sarah	Jeff	Jan	Shawn	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:  
Laura Day, Mike Van Fleet

## **Confession Of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

*Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. 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

The God of heaven has made a home on earth. Christ dwells among us  
and is one with us. The peace of Christ be always with you.  
*And also with you.*

## Announcements & Welcome

### Offertory Sentence

**Anthem** As Torrents in Summer

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

*As torrents in summer, Half dried in their channels, Suddenly rise,  
tho' the Sky is still cloudless, For rain has been falling, Far off at their fountains;  
So hearts that are fainting Grow full to o'erflowing, And they that behold it  
Marvel, and know not, That God at their fountains Far off has been raining!*

**\*Presentation Hymn** Now Holy Spirit, Ever One (*Wareham*)

**Hymnal #20**

### \*The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

**Celebrant:** The Creator be with you..

**People:** And also with you

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts

**People:** We lift them to the Creator.

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to our loving God.

**People:** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

**Celebrant:** Because in the mystery of Christ's incarnation you have gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, calling your people to be ministers of reconciliation and to proclaim the Good News to all creation. God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
*Glory to you for ever and ever.*

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
*By your will they were created and have their being.*

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.  
*Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.  
*By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.*

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*The Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
*We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.*

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.*

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *Amen.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Fraction Anthem**

Michael McCarthy

The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**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 or you may drink from the common chalice after consuming the wafer.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

**Communion Music** O Food to Pilgrims Given (*O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*)

**Hymnal #309**

**Post Communion Prayer**

*Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that the gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Lead us to transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen.*

**Blessing**

**\*Recessional** Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Like (*Gardiner*)

**Hymnal #609**

**Dismissal**

**Postlude** Toccata in Seven

John Rutter (b. 1945)

**Crucifer:** Alan Mata

**Acolyte:** Amber Massa

**Liturgical Ministers:** Cora Yao, Margaret Johnson, Sara VanLooy

**Virtual Vergers** John Jackson, Amber Massa

*This morning we welcome The Rev. Kit Tobin as our celebrant and guest preacher.*

**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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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

#### **Rector**

Beverly Way, Sr. Warden  
Ilze Lemesis, Parish Administrator  
Timothy E. Smith, Director of Music/Organist

Pamela Talbott, Jr. Warden  
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

If you need pastoral assistance, please call or text the Senior Warden at 607-232-4465.

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.

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

**Please Join Us** for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the service.

**Candles and Flowers:** If you wish to give candles or Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special occasion, please call the church office (607-273-6532).

#### **SIGN UP TODAY! The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations**

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[episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/](https://episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/)

“It is our Christian obligation to vote, and more than that, it is the Church’s responsibility to get souls to the polls.”—Bishop Michael Curry



# The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## Proper 21

September 29, 2024 Year B

### Hymns

#### **Morning Has Broken (*Bunessan*)**

##### **Hymnal #8**

1 Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoke like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing, Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

Words: By permission of David Higham Associates Limited,  
London.

#### **Sweet Hour of Prayer (*William B. Bradbury*)**

##### **LEVAS #178**

1 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,  
That calls me from a world of care,  
And bids me at my Father's throne  
Make all my wants and wishes known.  
In seasons of distress and grief  
My soul has often found relief.  
And oft escaped the tempter's snare  
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

2 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,  
Thy wings shall my petition bear  
To Him whose truth and faithfulness  
Engage the waiting soul to bless;  
And since He bids me seek His face,  
Believe His word and trust His grace.  
I'll cast on Him my ev'ry care,  
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.

3 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,  
May I thy consolation share,  
Till from Mount Pisgah's lofty height  
I view my home and take my flight:  
This robe of flesh I'll drop, and rise  
To seize the everlasting prize.  
And shout, while passing through the air,  
"Farewell, farewell, sweet hour of prayer!"

#### **Now Holy Spirit, Ever One (*Wareham*)**

##### **Hymnal #20**

1 Now Holy Spirit, ever One with God the  
Father and the Son, pour forth into our hearts,  
we pray, the fullness of your grace today.

2 Let mouth and tongue, mind, sense, and  
strength God's mighty actions tell at length, let  
love in flames of living fire the hearts of all the  
world inspire.

3 Almighty Father, hear our cry through Jesus  
Christ, our Lord Most High, whom with the  
Spirit we adore forever and forever more.

Words: St. 3 © 1982, James Waring McCrady

#### **O Food to Pilgrims Given (*O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*)**

##### **Hymnal #309**

1. O Food to pilgrims given,  
O Bread of life from heaven,  
O Manna from on high!  
We hunger; Lord, supply us,  
nor thy delights deny us,  
whose hearts to thee draw nigh.

2. O stream of love past telling,  
O purest fountain, welling  
from out the Savior's side!  
We faint with thirst; revive us,  
of thine abundance give us,  
and all we need provide.

3. O Jesus, by thee bidden,  
we here adore thee, hidden  
in forms of bread and wine.  
Grant when the veil is riven,  
we may behold, in heaven,  
thy countenance divine.

Words: By permission of Oxford University Press.

**Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Like  
(Gardiner)  
Hymnal #609**

1 Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife,  
we hear thy voice, O Son of Man.

2 In haunts of wretchedness and need,  
on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,  
from paths where hide the lures of greed,  
we catch the vision of thy tears.

3 The cup of water given for thee  
still holds the freshness of thy grace;  
yet long these multitudes to see  
the true compassion of thy face.

4 O Master, from the mountain side,  
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
among these restless throngs abide,  
O tread the city's streets again;

5 till all the world shall learn thy love,  
and follow where thy feet have trod;  
till glorious from thy heaven above,  
shall come the city of our God.