



MISSION STATEMENT

A Worshipping Community serving as a beacon of God's love by exemplifying the two great commandments; love God with our whole heart and love our neighbors as ourselves.

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 9, 2023
Holy Eucharist
New Zealand Book of Common Prayer**

St. John's Episcopal Church
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College Park, Georgia 30337

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The Word of God

Prelude: My Shepherd

By M. Card
Soloist: Lisa Norton-Rotella

OPENING HYMN- *Love divine, all loves excelling-* **Blue Hymnal 657**

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever, AMEN.

COLLECT FOR PURITY- *Celebrant and People*

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.*

HYMN OF PRAISE- *Alleluia, Give thanks to the risen Lord- HYMNAL 178- VERSE 4*

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING:

Val Valverde

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

The servant said to Laban, “I am Abraham’s servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.’”

“I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,” and who will say to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your camels also” —let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master’s son.’”

“Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore

to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:
Romans 7:15-25a

Archie Polk

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN- *Awake my soul-* Blue Hymnal 11

All stand.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

All stand.

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds." At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

HOMILY – The Rev. Tim Black

THE CREED

All stand.

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

Jane Graham

All remain standing.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! With grateful hearts we pray to our Loving God, saying, “We thank you, God; *you hear the voice of your beloved.*”

Loving God, you call your Church “my love” and “my beauty.” Look upon your Church with eyes of great compassion and love. May we generously share the love with which we have been so greatly blessed. We pray and give thanks today for our Parish Partner Church in Cape Coast, Ghana, The Church of St. Mary the Virgin and Fathers Enoch and Francis, their priests.

Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence

We thank you, God;

You hear the voice of your beloved.

Loving God, you have blessed our nation with great freedoms. Grant us, and all the people of this land, the grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace.

Silence

We thank you, God;

You hear the voice of your beloved.

Loving God, all that you have created tells of your love for us. May flowers and birds, but even more so our human relationships, remind us of your great care and presence.

Silence

We thank you, God;

You hear the voice of your beloved.

Loving God, you promise to give rest to all those who carry heavy burdens. Lift up those who are weighed down by the burdens of violence, depression, and despair.

Silence

We thank you, God;

You hear the voice of your beloved.

Loving God, your Son Jesus revealed your heart to be gentle and humble. We pray for those who have restless souls. We pray that all the sorrowful and the suffering may find their rest in you. We pray for all seeking healing of any kind, including: Eleanor

Buchanon, Barbarine Thorpe, Claude Lindsey, Frank Harrell, Fernanda Contreras, and Debra Cole.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence

We thank you, God;

You hear the voice of your beloved.

Loving God, you rescue us from death. We pray that all who have died, especially those who strived for freedom and peace, may come to know that heavenly comfort you have prepared us. We pray today for: Homer London and Lena Robbins.

Silence

We thank you, God;

You hear the voice of your beloved.

Celebrant: Lord hear our prayer and what we have asked gratefully, may you grant effectively, to the Glory of your Name. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant:

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

We conclude the Passing of the Peace by singing:

We are one in the spirit, we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that our unity may someday be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love
The Holy Communion

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

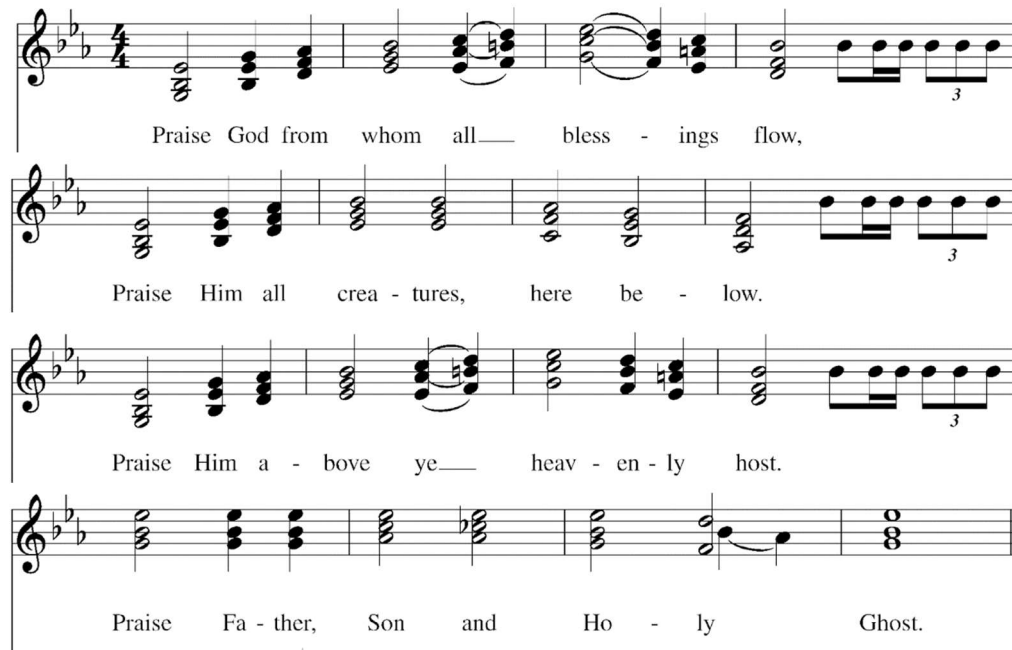
The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY HYMN- *Blest be the King*- Blue Hymnal 74

The congregation stands as the offerings are presented during the singing of the Doxology.

DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all— bless - ings flow,

Praise Him all crea - tures, here be - low.

Praise Him a - bove ye— heav - en - ly host.

Praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

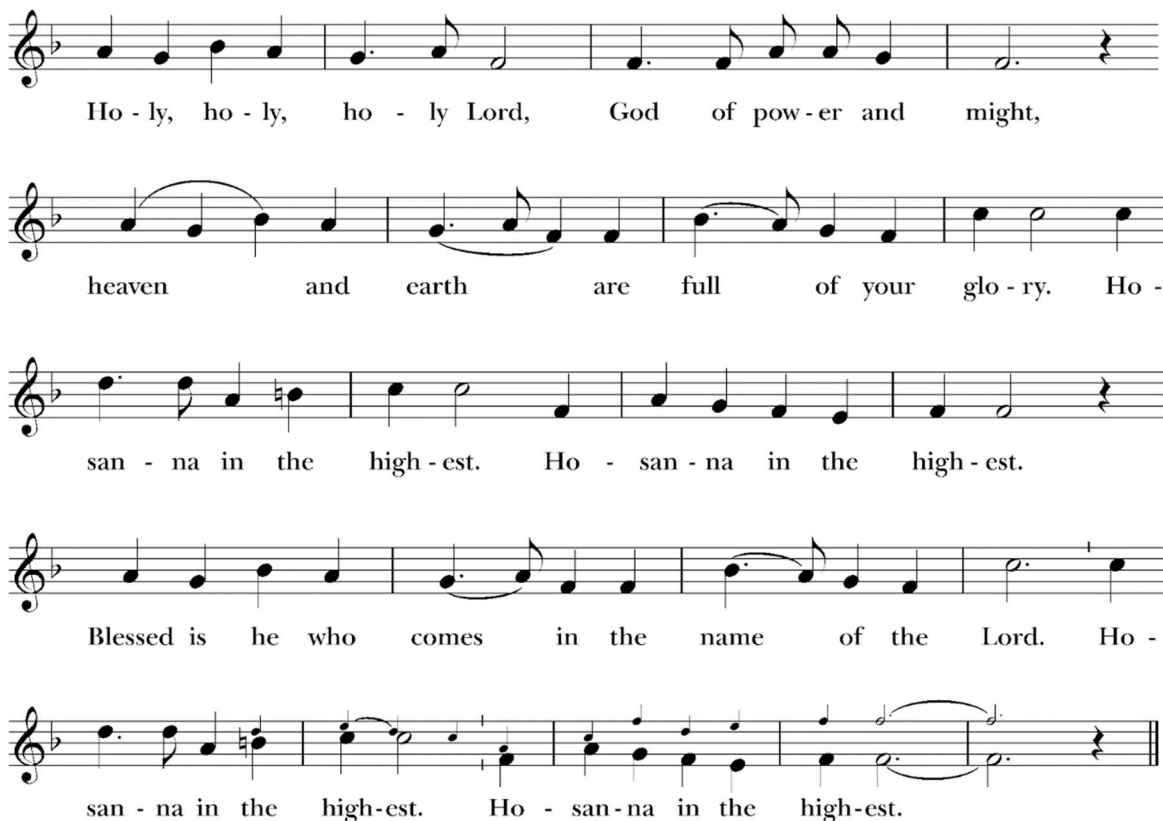
It is right to offer thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

SANCTUS

Celebrant and People



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.

All glory and thanksgiving to you, almighty God, that on the night before he died your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me. After supper Christ took the cup; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Celebrant and People

Glory to you, Lord Christ; your death we show forth; your resurrection we proclaim your coming we await; Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

Therefore, loving God, recalling your great goodness to us in Christ, his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life and this cup of salvation. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which we offer through Christ our great high priest. Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed for the service of your kingdom. United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Celebrant and People

Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

S 119 The Lord's Prayer (Traditional) (Plainsong/Douglas)

People and Celebrant

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our

dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome at God's table.

DISTRIBUTION

We will be sharing communion in both kinds available by either intinction (dipping the host in wine) or common cup. If you desire common cup, you can communicate this by holding out one hand for bread only, two hands for bread and wine. If you prefer intinction, you can communicate your preference by holding your hands in a prayer position or simply by telling the Eucharistic minister.

COMMUNION HYMN- *Just as I am*- LEVAS 137 (Red and Black Hymnal)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in

heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people:

Live without fear, your creator has made you holy and loves you like a Mother. Walk the good road, do not return evil for evil and always show hospitality to the strangers in your midst. And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you, now and always. AMEN.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN : *Lord of all hopefulness*- Blue Hymnal 482

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

POSTLUDE: I just Come From The Fountain

By H. Love

Soloist: Lisa Norton-Rotella

We display the flag of the United States of America today not in an effort to conflate patriotism with our faith in God, but as an outward sign that, prayerfully, we offer up our national life together for God's help, blessing and presence.

PARISH NOTES

At 10:00 AM: Join us via Zoom July 9, 2023 You may be prompted to enter the following: Meeting ID: 890 4465 2335 Password: 704817. If you do not have a camera-enabled device, but want to participate via audio only, then call (toll-free) 1-929-205-6099 and use the same meeting ID and password as above.

Bible study and Wednesday Night Supper will be taking a break in July and returning on August 2. Bible study will resume its deep dive into the Acts of the Apostles in August.

Music in the Horseshoe Returns July 21- Join us as we enjoy the end of the day together with food and drink (BYOB and Food- free tea, lemonade and water) and enjoy some blues with guitarist and singer Alex Lotito of *The Titos*. Free! Bring a friend (or four!)

Make Prayer Requests Online: <https://forms.gle/UTa6iMfrukhfurgD8>

Subscribe to Eagle Notes: Complete information about what is happening at St. John's can be received in your inbox just by signing up for our weekly email. (If you do not get email, we can make arrangements for you to get a copy of the weekly news). To sign up, please email us at info@stjohnscollegepark.org

Morning Prayer on Zoom Tuesday and Thursday- 10 AM- One of the vastly underutilized gifts of the Episcopal Church is morning prayer. Start your day off with prayer with our online community each week on Tuesday and Thursday. Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 869 7767 5734 Password: 752305

Compline Night Prayer Thursday - 7:00 pm

Join us on zoom. Meeting ID: 843 7684 4017 Password: 848486

Give by Texting- You can use your phone's text messaging capabilities to give to St. Johns. **Just text 73256 and enter our code 3480 as the message.** You will be taken to the giving page where you can make your selections. You can also set up online giving through a link in our weekly email. To subscribe to the weekly email, please contact our administrator at info@stjohnscollegepark.org

Sunday July 9, 2023

Readers: Val Valverde and Archie Polk

Prayers of the People: Archie Polk

Vergers: Jane Graham

Priest in Charge: The Rev. Tim Black

Organist: Toku Kawata

Church Administrator: Terry Glover

Vestry Members

Daniel Hudson, Hospitality

Archie Polk, Evangelism

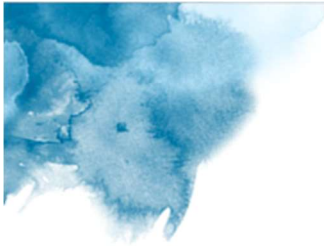
Michael Proscia, Jr. Warden

Pat Roberts, Sr. Warden

Val Valverde, Worship & Music

Sherran Davis, Clerk

Richard Pflieger, Treasurer



Straight and gay, rich and poor, and every color and age, St. John's is a place of Radical Kindness, warm and open Christ-Followers who celebrate God's grace and love and cherish one another. We are proud and grateful to serve as a "neighborhood church" for the tri-cities; College Park, East Point and Hapeville.

Everyone needs a place to be cherished.

We invite you to make St. John's yours!