

## NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 10 | 9:30 am

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Hymn of the Day: Have No Fear, Little Flock ELW 764

Offertory Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd Is ELW 502

Sending Hymn: Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun ELW 557

### FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

A reading from Genesis

**A**fter these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup> But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup> And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 33

Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

A B

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! \*  
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- 13 The LORD looks down from heaven, \*  
and beholds all the people in the world. [ANT.]
- 14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze \*  
on all who dwell on the earth.
- 15 He fashions all the hearts of them \*  
and understands all their works. [ANT.]
- 18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear him, \*  
on those who wait upon his love,
- 19 To pluck their lives from death, \*  
and to feed them in time of famine. [ANT.]
- 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, \*  
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- 22 Let your loving-kindness, O LORD, be upon us, \*  
as we have put our trust in you. [ANT.]

Glory be to the Father \* and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the be-ginning \* is now and ever shall be, world without end. A-men.

The holy gospel according to Luke

Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup> “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## Worship Leaders Today

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev Martha McCreight
Musician	Jan Lucie
Worship Assistant	
Reader	
Communion Assistant	Marie Sweglar
Acolyte	
Usher	
Altar Committee	Pam Bartlett, Cathy Mahler
Counters	J. Geils, Janet Halpin
Little Free Pantry	Cathy & Mike Mahler
Coffee Hour	Kathy Caraballo, Lois Coffin

## Little Free Pantry

To volunteer and maintain the Little Free Pantry – clean, organize, and restock – for the period of one week, go to the Social Ministry tab on St. John’s website or contact Janet Segerdell - [janet.segerdell@gmail.com](mailto:janet.segerdell@gmail.com). The LFP can always use cash contributions which are used to purchase food at the Food Bank for pennies on the dollar.

## Summer Pick-Up Choir

If you enjoy singing, feel free to join the summer choir at 9:00 am each Sunday. We meet in the church around the piano. There’s no weekly commitment and it’s fun and easy—a great family opportunity.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 13

Vespers - 6:00 pm Chapel

Sunday, August 17

9:30 am Worship | 10:30 am Fellowship Hour Welcome Room

Looking Ahead . . .

- August 31 Mass on the Grass & Blessing of Backpacks
- September 7 Rally Sunday 10:30 am Worship  
10:30 am God's Work Our Hands Service Project  
11:30 am Church Picnic
- September 14 8:30 & 10:30 am Worship Resume



We are collecting items for making school kits on God's Work...Our Hands Sunday, September 7. Start looking for school supply items and drop them off in the collection box in the back of the church. **All items are due no later than September 1. If unable to shop, you can donate online or send a check - marked "God's work...Our hands".**

Here is a list of what's still needed to meet our goal of completing 100 kits:

Quantity	Description
250	70-sheet spiral notebook ruled paper - wide or college-ruled (4 per child)
80	30 centimeter ruler (12 inch) or centimeters on one side & inches on the other
80	Pencil sharpener
60	Pair of <b>blunt</b> scissors -(safety scissors w/embedded steel blades work well)
225	<b>Unsharpened</b> #2 Pencils with erasers (secure with rubber band) (5 per child)
425	Black or Blue Ballpoint Pens (no gel ink) (secure with rubber band) (5 per child)
20	Box of 16 or 24 crayons
70	2 ½" eraser

**Everyone's help is needed...**our goal is to complete at least 100 kits. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

# ORDER OF SERVICE



## PRELUDE

*We stand.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the residing minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
you free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You fill us with patience, kindness,  
and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and lead us on the path of life.  
**Amen.**

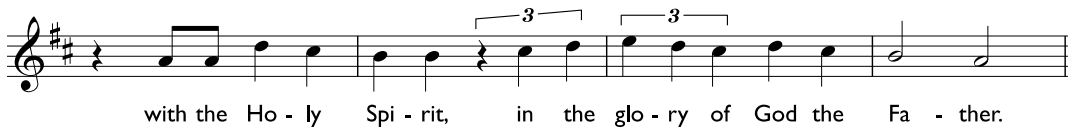
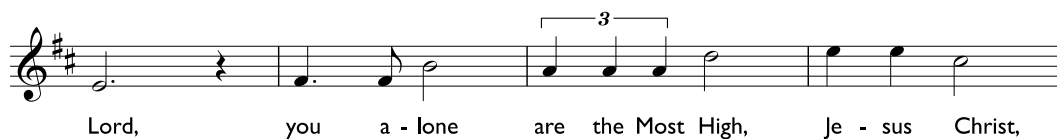
You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✠ Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**Amen.**

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus, Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## GLORIA







## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Pastor leads the Prayer of the Day; after the people respond:*

**Amen.**

*We sit.*

## ANTHEM

## WORD

## READING

A reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**    *Sung by the congregation. The Psalm can be found in the insert.*

*We stand.*

## GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## SERMON

*We stand.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**CREED**

*Apostles'*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*We kneel or sit for the prayers.*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*After each intercession,*  
Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

*We stand.*

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*We sit.*

## GREETINGS

## MEAL

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and  
gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God.

### OFFERING

*We sit.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*We stand.*

### HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. Amen.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

*The assembly may be seated.*

## COMMUNION

*We sit.*

## MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

*We stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

## SENDING

## BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
Amen.

## HYMN

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

***PLEASE RETURN THE ORDER OF SERVICE TO THE NARTHEX.  
YOU MAY TAKE THE INSERT HOME.***

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## Summer Pick-Up Choir

If you enjoy singing, feel free to join the summer choir at 9am each Sunday. We meet in the church around the piano. There's no weekly commitment and it's fun and easy—a great family opportunity.

## Mass on the Grass

Our 9:30 am worship during the summer is held in the air conditioned nave, except for the last Sunday of each month when we worship outdoors for *Mass on the Grass*. Remember to bring your lawn chairs for *Mass on the Grass*.

**June 29**

**July 27**

**August 31** At the end of worship, we will “bless the backpacks.” Students of all ages should bring their school backpacks to worship and receive a blessing for the school year.

## Looking Ahead in the Church Calendar

August 7	Choir trip to Bruton Parish, Williamsburg, VA
September 7	Rally Sunday 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am God's Work Our Hands Service Project 11:30 am Church Picnic
September 14	8:30 & 10:30 am Worship Resume
September 27	9:00 am Pumpkins Arrive - Come Help Unload the Truck

# MISSION STATEMENT

All are welcome! We share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

## INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church Stamford CT is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Munsee Lenape, Schaghticoke, Mohican, and Wappinger peoples. We give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial and wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

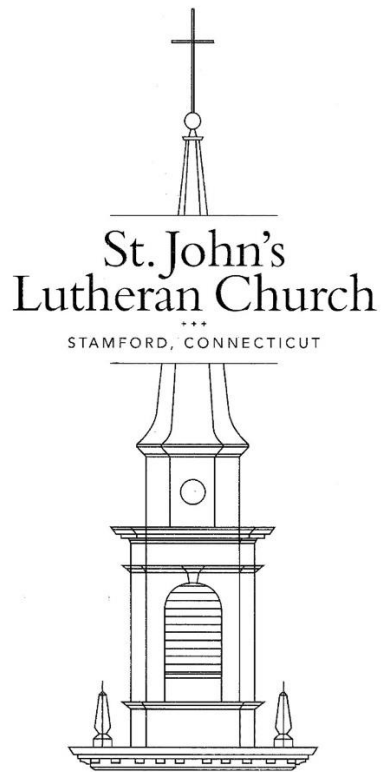
## WE NEED YOU!

ACOLYTE SIGN-UP

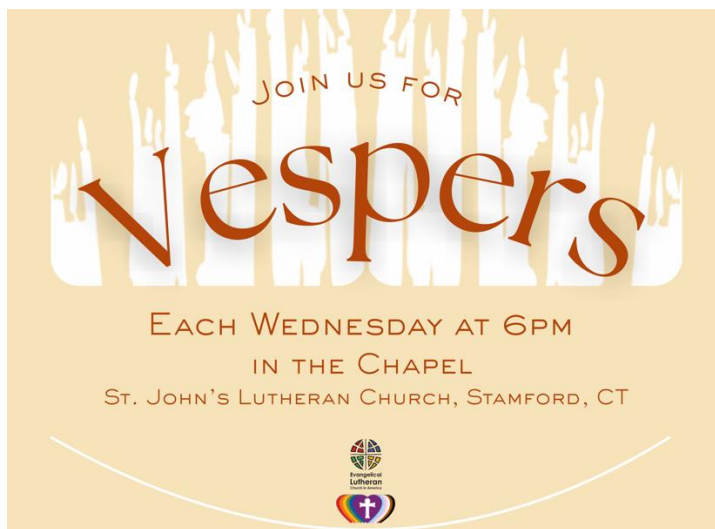


WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, READERS,  
USHERS, COFFEE HOUR, AND LFP SIGN-UP





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## What is 'Vespers'?

Prayer service for the time of sunset and evening, also known as Evening Prayer. Inheriting the practice from Judaism, the Christian Church has observed certain times of the day with prayer since the apostolic period. By the 4th century, the practice of corporate prayer at designated times had become established. These daily prayer offices focus on times of the day rather than the day of the week. While the focus of Sunday is the Eucharist, a celebration of Christ's resurrection, daily prayers focus on the 24-hour cycle of light and darkness.

Evening prayer, like morning prayer, has a basic six-part structure: opening, psalmody, readings, gospel canticle, intercessory prayers, and concluding blessing. The visual focus of evening prayer is a lighted candle known as the Lucernarium candle, which is carried into the worship space. This practice originates from an ancient Jewish lamp-lighting tradition, which the early Christians adapted to represent Christ as the light of the world. This initial section of evening prayer is also known as the lunarium, from the Latin word lucerna, meaning "lamp."

We also sing the Psalms, the oldest form of song in worship since the Old Testament.

**Join us in the Chapel every Wednesday at 6pm from June to August for this brief service.**