

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 17 | 9:30 am

Hymn of the Day: God, When Human Bonds Are Broken ELW 603

Offertory Hymn: Let the Whole Creation Cry ELW 876

Sending Hymn: How Firm a Foundation ELW 796

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23:23-29

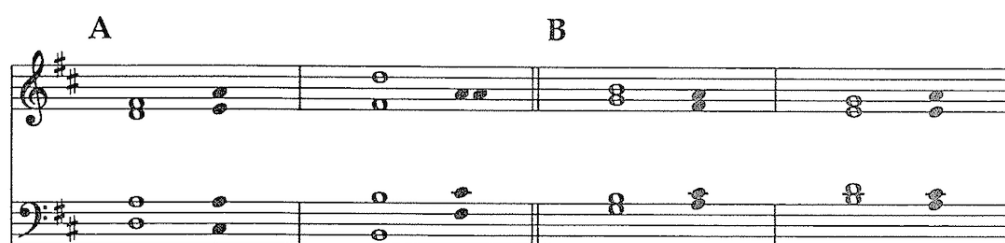
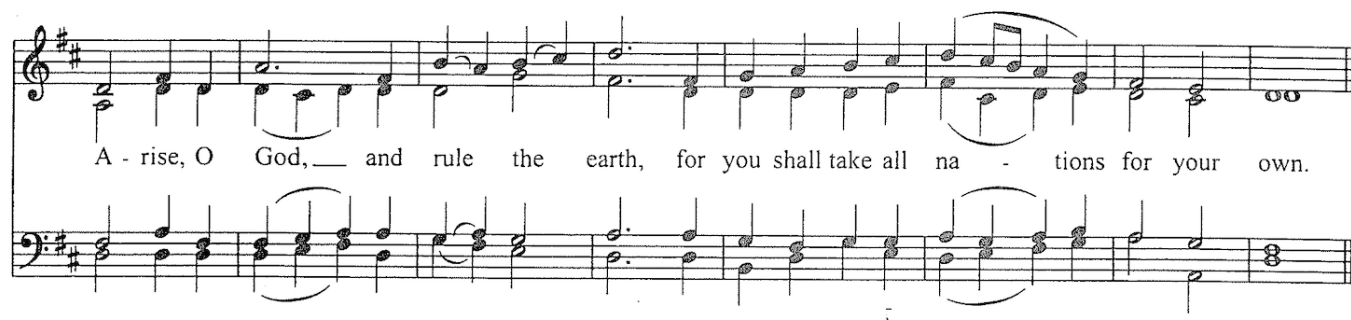
A reading from Jeremiah

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed! I have dreamed!” ²⁶How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 82



- 1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
- he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:
- 2 "How long will you judge unjustly, *
- and show favor to the wicked? [ANT.]
- 3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
- defend the humble and needy;
- 4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
- deliver them from the power of the wicked. [ANT.]
- 5 They do not know,
- neither do they understand;
- they go about in darkness; *
- all the foundations of the earth are shaken. [ANT.]
- A 6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
- and all of you children of the Most High;
- A 7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
- and fall like any prince.'"
 - B 8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
 - for you shall take all nations for your own. [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.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Worship Leaders Today

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Celebrant & Preacher | The Rev Martha McCreight |
| Musician | Jan Lucie |
| Worship Assistant | Michele Effren |
| Reader | Jen Leffers |
| Communion Assistants | Jen Leffers, Marie Sweglar |
| Acolyte | |
| Usher | Eric Lane |
| Altar Committee | Pam Bartlett, Cathy Mahler |
| Counters | J. Geils, Janet Halpin |
| Little Free Pantry | Eric Lane |
| Coffee Hour | Karen & Sue Brandt |

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. 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 20

Vespers - 6:00 pm Chapel

Sunday, August 24

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

Looking Ahead . . .

- August 31 Mass on the Grass & Blessing of Backpacks
- September 7 9:30 am Worship Rally Sunday
- 10:30 am God’s Work Our Hands Service Project
- 11:30 am Church Picnic
- September 14 Return to 8:30 and 10:30 am Worship



We have made a tremendous amount of progress in 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 100 kits:

| Quantity | Description |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 140 | 70-sheet spiral notebook ruled paper - wide or college-ruled (4 per child) |
| 0 | 30 centimeter ruler (12 inch) or centimeters on one side & inches on the other |
| 20 | Pencil sharpener |
| 20 | Pair of blunt scissors -(safety scissors w/embedded steel blades work well) |
| 0 | Unsharpened #2 Pencils with erasers (secure with rubber band) (5 per child) |
| 180 | Black or Blue Ballpoint Pens (no gel ink) (secure with rubber band) (5 per child) |
| 20 | Box of 16 or 24 crayons |
| 20 | 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.

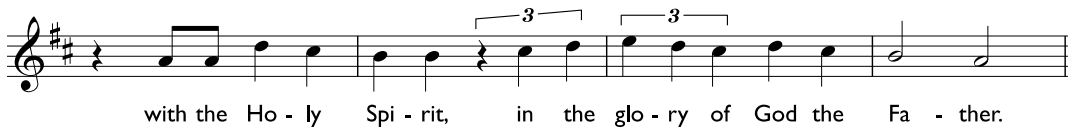
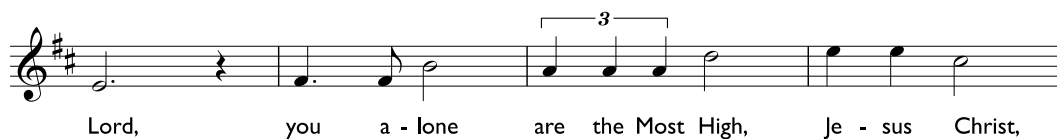
Amen.

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.

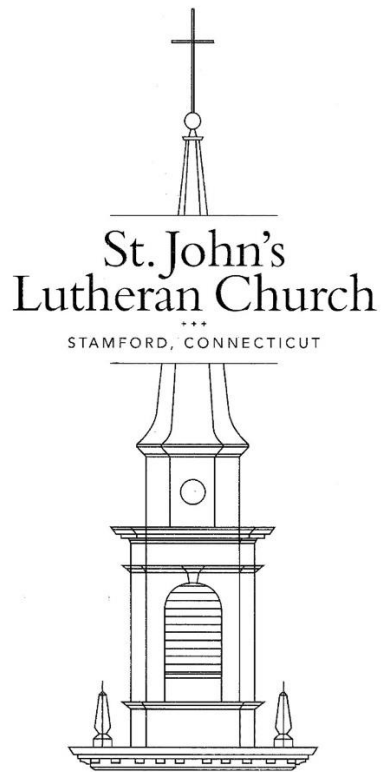
WE NEED YOU!

ACOLYTE SIGN-UP

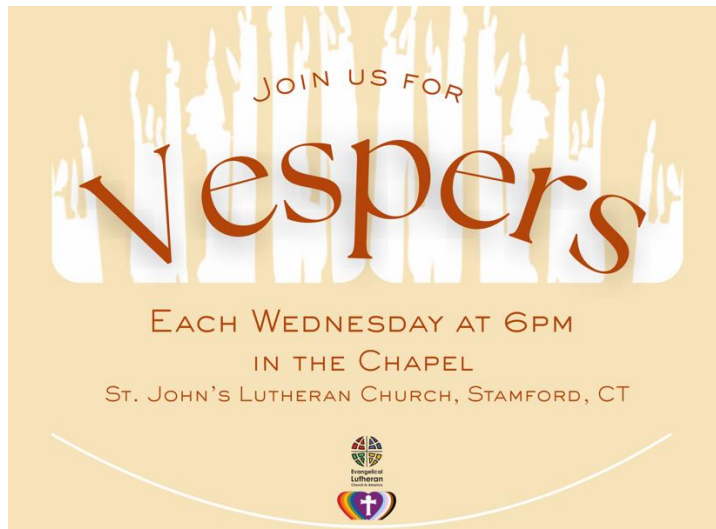


WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, READERS,
USHERS, COFFEE HOUR, AND LFP SIGN-UP





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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.