

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 20 | 9:30 am

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Hymn of the Day: Jesus, the Very Thought of You ELW 754

Offertory Hymn: *See insert.*

Sending Hymn: Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak ELW 676

FIRST READING

Genesis 18:1-10a

A reading from Genesis.

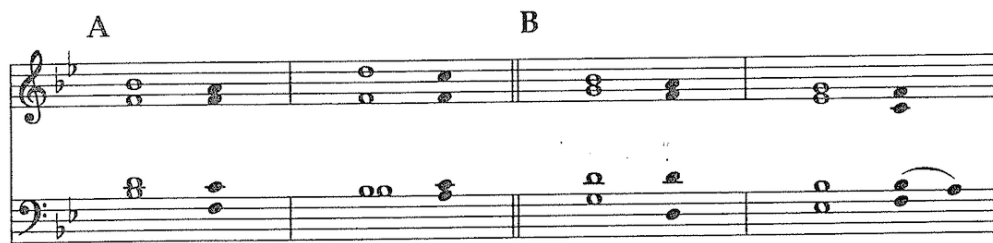
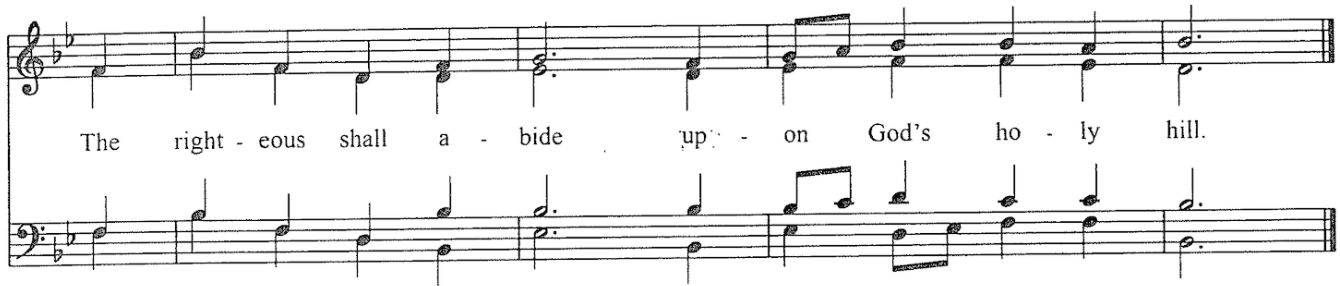
**T**he Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup> He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." <sup>6</sup> And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." <sup>7</sup> Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup> Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

<sup>9</sup> They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." <sup>10a</sup> Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 15



- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart. [ANT.]
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt  
upon his neighbor. [ANT.]
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the LORD.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word. [ANT.]
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown. [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.**

**N**ow as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

## Worship Leaders Today

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev Martha McCreight
Musicians	Nathan K. Lively-Greyling, Nanette & Tom Jordan, Alex McGuiness
Worship Assistant	Cheryl Milukas
Reader	Eric Lane
Communion Assistants	
Acolyte	
Usher	Eric Lane
Altar Committee	Sheila Koch
Counters	Joe & Cheryl Milukas, Shirley Schulz, Michele Taylor
Little Free Pantry	Cathy & Mike Mahler
Coffee Hour	

## 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, July 23

Vespers - 6:00 pm Chapel

### Thursday, July 24

7:00 pm Opus 5 30th anniversary concert series featuring talented Vladimir Antonov-Charsky from the UK

### Sunday, July 27

9:30 am Mass on the Grass (weather permitting)

10:30 am Fellowship Hour Welcome Room

## Looking Ahead . . .

August 7 Choir trip to Bruton Parish, Williamsburg, VA

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



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 needed for each kit:

Quantity	Description
4	70-sheet spiral notebook ruled paper - wide or college-ruled
1	30 centimeter ruler (12 inch) or centimeters on one side & inches on the other
1	Pencil sharpener
1	Pair of <b>blunt</b> scissors -(safety scissors w/embedded steel blades work well)
5	<b>Unsharpened</b> #2 Pencils with erasers (secure with rubber band)
5	Black or Blue Ballpoint Pens (no gel ink) (secure with rubber band)
1	Box of 16 or 24 crayons
1	2 1/2" eraser

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



**RICHARDS, FOWKES & CO.**

**OPUS 5**

**30 ANNIVERSARY  
SERIES**

**THURSDAY**

**JULY 24**

**7PM**

**Vladimir Antonov-Charsky organist**

## LORD, ENTHRONED IN HEAVENLY SPLENDOR

G. H. Bourne  
(1840-1925)

G. C. Martin  
(1844-1916)



1. Lord, en - throned in heav'n - ly splen - dour, first - be - got - ten from the dead,
2. Here our hum - blest hom - age pay we, here in lov - ing rev - 'rence bow;
3. Though the low - liest form doth veil thee as of old in Beth - le - hem,
4. Pas - chal Lamb, thine off - 'ring, fin - ished once for all when thou wast slain,
5. Life - im - part - ing heav'n - ly Man - na, strick - en Rock with stream - ing side,



thou a - lone, our strong de - fen - der, lift - est up thy peo - ple's head.  
here for faith's dis - cern - ment pray we, lest we fail to know thee now.  
here as there thine an - gels hail thee, Branch and Flow'r of Jes - se's Stem.  
in its ful - ness un - di - min - ished shall for ev - er - more re - main,  
heav'n and earth with loud ho - san - na wor - ship thee, the Lamb who died,



- Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Je - su, true and liv - ing bread.  
2. thou art here, we ask not how.  
3. we in wor - ship join with them.  
4. clean - sing souls from ev - 'ry stain.  
5. ris'n, a - scend - ed, glo - ri - fied.





# 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.**

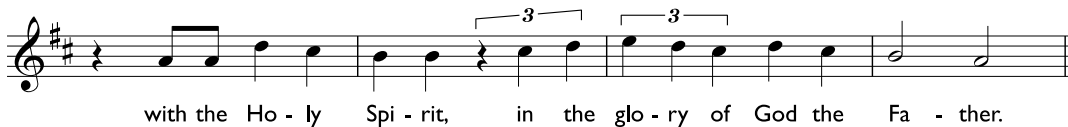
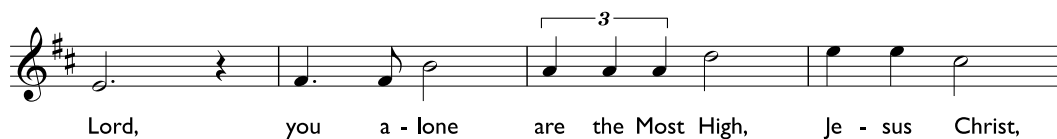


## GREETING

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

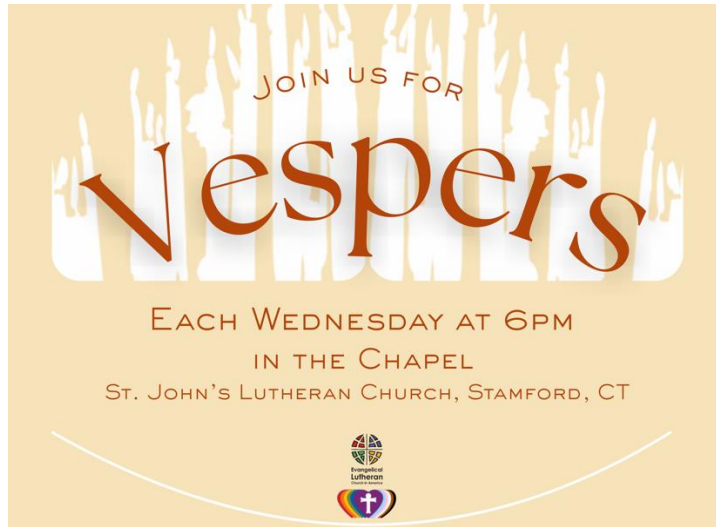


WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, READERS,  
USHERS, COFFEE HOUR, AND LFP SIGN-UP





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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.**