

# THE DAY OF PENTECOST



SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025  
9:30AM

## ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

884 NEWFIELD AVE. | STAMFORD, CT 06905

[WWW.STJOHNELCA.ORG](http://WWW.STJOHNELCA.ORG)

203.322.0066

*Welcome to St. John's. We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God.*

**PRELUDE**

*We stand.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

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

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

# HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

*Hail thee, festival day!*



Hail thee, fes - ti-val day! Blest day to be hal-lowed for-ev - er;



day when the Ho - ly Ghost shone in the world with his grace.



1 Bright and in like-ness of fire, on those who a - wait his ap - pear - ing,  
3 God the Al-might-y, the Lord, the rul - er of earth and the heav - ens  
5 Spir - it of life and of pow'r now flow in us, fount of our be - ing,



he whom the Lord had fore-told sud - den-ly, swift-ly de - scends:  
guard us from harm with - out; cleanse us from e - vil with - in:  
light that en - light - ens us all, life that in all may a - bide:



2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the  
4 Je - sus, the health of the world, en - light - en our  
6 Praise to the giv - er of good! O Lov - er and



glo - ry of blos - som; heav - en her gates un - bars,  
minds, great re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -  
Au - thor of con - cord, pour out your balm on our



fling - ing her in - crease of light:  
preme, on - ly be - got - ten of God:  
days; or - der our ways in your peace:

## 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

**Fast and lively**

Org. *f* Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

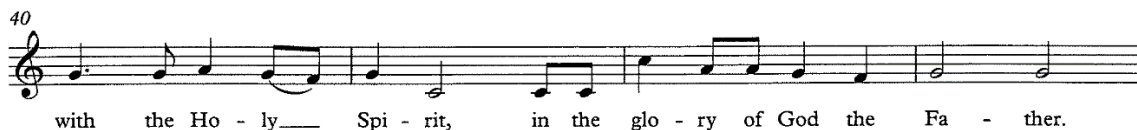
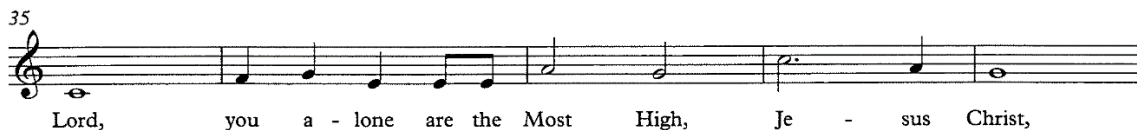
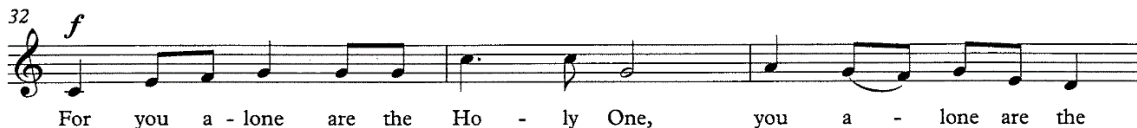
5 peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, hea - ven - ly King, al -

9 - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

13 *mp* praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the

18 Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

22 sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*We sit.*

## WORD

### READING

ACTS 2:1-21

A reading from Acts.

**W**HEN the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>“In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. <sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup>“The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>“Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

1-2: Ndebele/Zulu (*Cynthia Shumba*)  
3-4: Danish (*Inger Ruffels*)  
5-7: Norwegian (*Kaete Weinseiss*)  
8-13: Finnish (*Isaac Ylitalo*)  
14-16: Shona (*Cynthia Shumba*)  
17: Bahasa Indonesian (*Nanette Jordan*)  
18-19: French (*Susan Ylitalo*)  
20: German (*Kaete Weinseiss*)  
21: Afrikaans (*Nathan Lively-Greyling*)

PSALM

PSALM 104: 25-32

*Sung by the choir*  
*Chant by SARAH MACDONALD (CONTEMPORARY)*

**O LORD**, how manifold are your works! \*  
in wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the great and wide sea  
with its living things too many to number, \*  
creatures both small and great.

There move the ships,  
and there is that Leviathan, \*  
which you have made for the sport of it.

All of them look to you \*  
to give them their food in due season.

You give it to them; they gather it; \*  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good  
things.

You hide your face, and they are terrified; \*  
you take away their breath,  
and they die and return to their dust.

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; \*  
and so you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; \*  
may the LORD rejoice in all his works.

He looks at the earth and it trembles; \*  
 he touches the mountains and they smoke.  
 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; \*  
 I will praise my God while I have my being.  
 May these words of mine please him; \*  
 I will rejoice in the LORD.

## SECOND READING

ROMANS 8:14-17

A reading from Romans.

**F**OR all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

## SEQUENCE

VERSES 1-3



1 Ho - ly Spir - it, truth di - vine, dawn up - on this soul of mine;  
 2 Ho - ly Spir - it, love di - vine, glow with - in this heart of mine;  
 3 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, for - ti - fy this will of mine;  
 4 Ho - ly Spir - it, peace di - vine, still this rest - less heart of mine;  
 5 Ho - ly Spir - it, right di - vine, king with - in my con - science reign;



word of God and in - ward light, wake my spir - it, clear my sight.  
 kin - dle ev - 'ry high de - sire; purge me with your ho - ly fire.  
 by your will I strong - ly live, brave - ly bear, and no - bly strive.  
 speak to calm this toss - ing sea, stayed in your tran - quil - i - ty.  
 be my guide, and I shall be firm - ly bound, for - ev - er free.



The holy gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**P**HILIP said to Jesus, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>25</sup> “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SEQUENCE

VERSES 4 & 5

*We sit.*

SERMON

PASTOR MCCREIGHT

*We stand.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Creator Spirit, heavenly dove*

HYMN 577

*We sit.*

## RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these young people, one with the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

*Confirmands stand as their names are read.*

**Charlotte Anne Dianis  
Gino Richard D'Orta**

**Max Christopher Leffers  
Elizabeth Zoe Ylitalo**

I present Charlotte, Gino, Max, and Elizabeth, who desire to affirm their baptism.

*Confirmands and parents come forward and stand at the altar railing.*

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these young people, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants as they affirm the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth through this holy sacrament. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

*We stand.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Confirmands and congregation: I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Confirmands and congregation: I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Confirmands and congregation: I renounce them.*

Do you turn to Christ as your Lord and Savior?

*Confirmands and congregation: In faith I turn to Christ.*

I invite you now to profess your faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

*Confirmands and congregation:* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*Confirmands and congregation:* **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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*Confirmands and congregation:* **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.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Confirmands and congregation:* **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

*Assembly:* **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

*All:* **Amen.**

*The assembly sits and the Confirmands kneel, and the passage chosen for each Confirmand as their "Confirmation Bible Verse" is read, followed by the laying on of hands by parents and presiding minister.*

### **Charlotte**

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you." – *Luke 11:9*

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Charlotte the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith, guide her life, empower her in serving, and bring her to everlasting life. **Amen.**

### **Gino**

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; – *John 8:31*

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Gino the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm him faith, guide his life, empower him in serving, and bring him to everlasting life. **Amen.**

### **Max**

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" – *Exodus 3:14*

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Max the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his faith, guide his life, empower him in serving, and bring him to everlasting life. **Amen.**

### **Elizabeth**

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.  
– *Amos 5:24*

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Elizabeth the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith, guide her life, empower her in serving, and bring her to everlasting life. **Amen.**

*Assembly and Confirmands stand.*

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

*We kneel or sit for the prayers.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each intercession ends with these words:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

*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.



## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*The Spirit of the Lord* STOPFORD (CONTEMPORARY)

To support the mission and ministry of St. John's, you can give online at [www.stjohnelca.org](http://www.stjohnelca.org) or scan the QR code above.

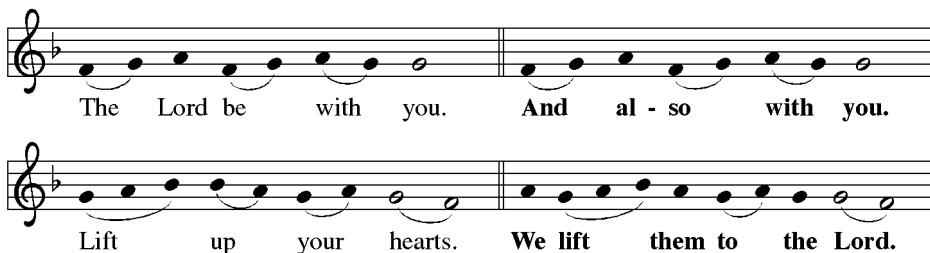
*We stand.*

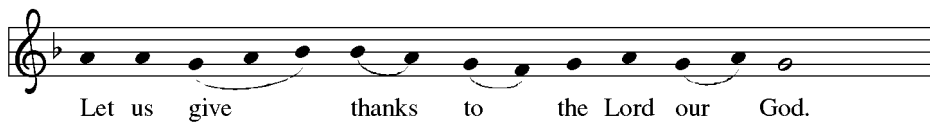
## HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

PUER NOBIS

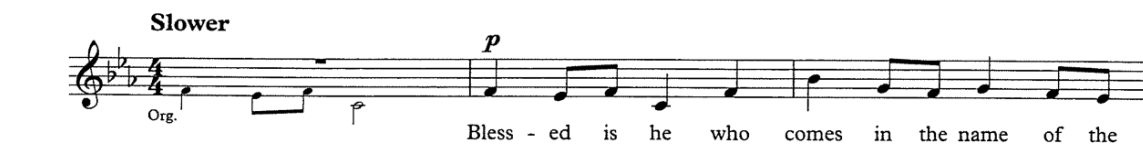
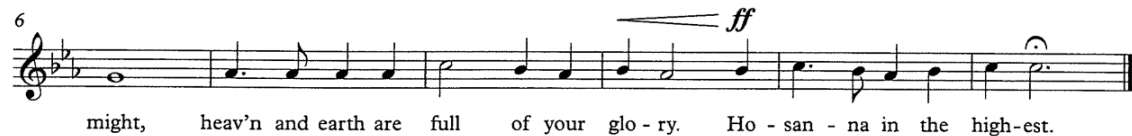
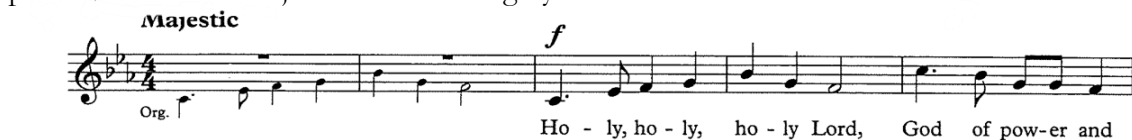
**O Holy Spirit, root of life,  
creator, cleanser of all things:  
Anoint our wounds, awaken us  
with lustrous movement of your wings.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING





It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

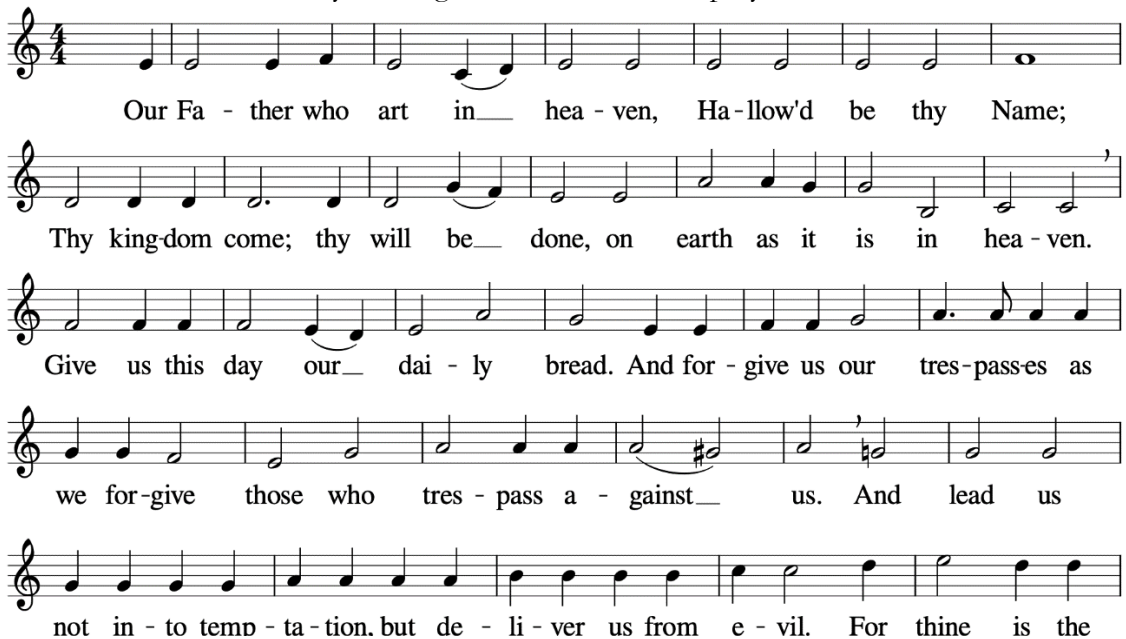
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
 and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord;  
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 be all glory and honor, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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



Our Fa - ther who art in\_\_ hea - ven, Ha - llow'd 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 - pass - es as

we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst\_\_ us. And lead us

not in - to temp - ta - tion. but de - li - ver us from e - vil. For thine is the

king-dom, the po - wer and the glo - ry, for e - ver and e - ver.

A - men. For e - ver and e - ver. A - men.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

*All who believe that Jesus is present in the bread and wine, forgiving sin and promising eternal life, are welcome to the Table of the Lord. Gluten-free wafers are available if requested.*

*We sit.*

## LAMB OF GOD

**Slowly and gently**

Org. *p* Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

7 *mp* world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

13 *mf* sin of the world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

19 *rit. p pp ppp* take a-way the sin of the world, grant us peace.

## MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

**ANTHEM**

*Be still, for the Spirit of the Lord*

HUGHES(CONTEMPORARY)



*We stand.*

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation, you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. 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 Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION     *God of tempest, God of whirlwind*

HYMN 400

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

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St. Martin's Mass, Bednall

Lord's Prayer, Traditional Afrikaans, arr. Marnus Lively-Greyling

### **Worship Leaders Today**

Celebrant	The Rev. Martha McCreight
Organist	Cantor Nathan Lively-Greyling
Worship Assistant	Peter Bartels
Reader	Jennifer Leffers & Susan Ylitalo
Communion Assistant	Jennifer Leffers & Susan Ylitalo
Acolytes	
Usher	Sam Leffers
Altar Committee	Eva Jakubek, Cheryl Milukas
Counters	Noel Bartels, David Hendrickson
Little Free Pantry	Cathy & Mike Mahler
Coffee Hour	Janet Segerdell

### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

#### **Wednesday, June 11**

Vespers - 6:00 pm Chapel | Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 pm Choir Room

#### **Thursday, June 12**

Owls - noon in the Welcome Room

#### **Sunday, June 15**

9:30 am Worship | 3:00 pm Pastor Martha's Installation



Mark your calendars for a very special event! St. John's will celebrate the official installation of Pastor Martha McCreight on Sunday, June 15, at 3:00 PM in the sanctuary, with Bishop Piphio presiding. Immediately following the service, there will be a reception in the Welcome Room.

If you can help, please sign up by contacting the church office. Your contributions, whether in time, effort, or donations, will make this event truly memorable for Pastor Martha and the congregation.



A special thank you to Andrea Budner for the altar flowers in honor of her granddaughter, Charlotte Anne Dianis, and all the confirmands. Also, thank you to the Beldotti Family for the delicious cake to celebrate the confirmation class.

**Looking Ahead . . .**

June 15	3:00 pm Pastor Martha’s Installation Service
June 19	Movie Night - Welcome Room 6:30 pm Social   8:30 pm Movie Begins
June 29	Mass on the Grass
July 27	Mass on the Grass
August 7 - 11	Choir trip to Bruton Parish, Williamsburg, VA
August 24	Mass on the Grass & Blessing of Backpacks
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	Return to 8:30 & 10:30 am Worship

With summer fast approaching, the air conditioning has been turned on in the church. Please prepare by bringing a sweater or jacket in case it is too chilly for you.

**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

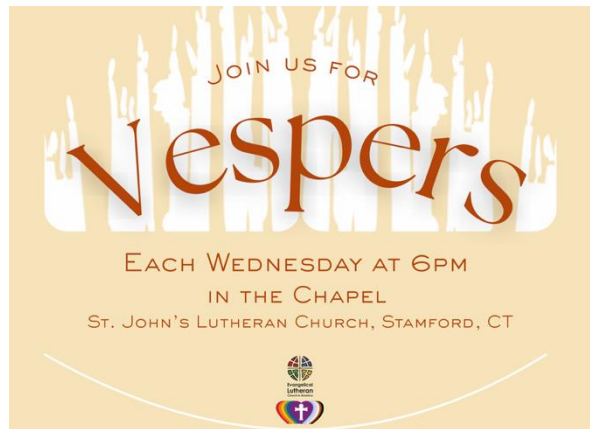


## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, READERS, USHERS, COFFEE HOUR, AND LFP SIGN-UP



If you're seeking a moment of peace and reflection in the middle of your week, consider attending Vespers each Wednesday, starting June 4, at 6 PM in the chapel at St. John's Lutheran.

This ancient service of Evening Prayer provides an opportunity to pause and reset, as the peaceful environment of the chapel surrounds you with a sense of calm. Whether you're a regular member of the congregation or a visitor, Vespers offers a space for contemplation, prayer, and community connection.



The flow of this short service, accompanied by Psalms, Canticles, and scripture readings, invites participants to engage in spiritual meditation and find solace in shared worship.

At St. John's, all are welcome. We share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.