

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH | Walpole, NH
All are welcome – no exceptions – to worship, love, serve & grow.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, August 23, 2026 | Proper 16

PRELUDE *Impromptu op.90#3 by F. Schubert*

Vladimir Odinokikh

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

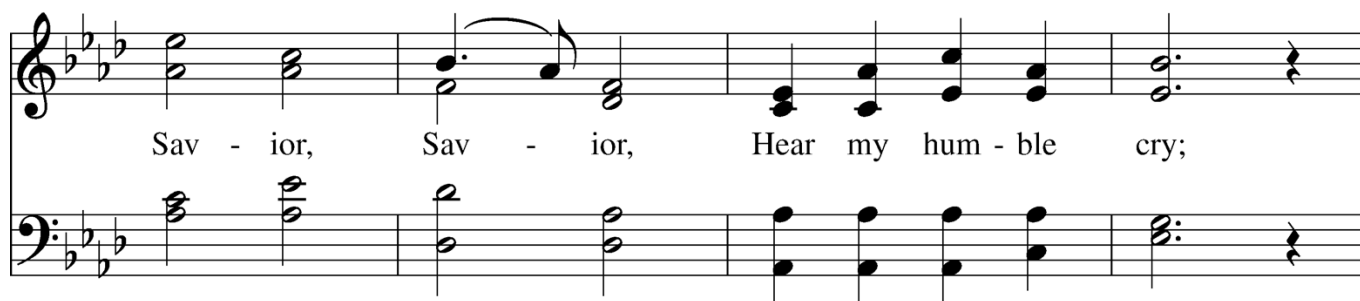
THE WORD OF GOD



1. Pass me not, O gen - tle Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble cry;
2. Let me at thy throne of mer - cy Find a sweet re - lief;
3. Trust - ing on - ly in thy mer - it, Would I seek thy face;
4. Thou the spring of all my com - fort, More than life to me,



1. While on oth - ers thou art call - ing, Do not pass me by.
2. Kneel - ing there in deep con - tri - tion, Help my un - be - lief.
3. Heal my wound - ed, bro - ken spi - rit, Save me by thy grace.
4. Whom have I on earth be - side thee? Whom in heav'n but thee?



Sav - ior, Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble cry;



While on oth - ers thou art call - ing, Do not pass me by.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

All stand as able.

Celebrant Blessed be God: most holy glorious and undivided Trinity.

People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

We pray in unison:

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.*

GLORIA

Hymnal S-280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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

Isaiah 51:1-6

People may be seated while the Lector reads.

A reading from the Book of prophet Isaiah:

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Lector and people read responsively by whole verse

- ¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- ²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name,
because of your love and faithfulness;**
- ³for you have glorified your Name and your word above all things.
- ⁴**When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.**
- ⁵All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- ⁶**They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.**
- ⁷Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly;
he perceives the haughty from afar.
- ⁸**Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.**
- ⁹The LORD will make good his purpose for me;
O LORD, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

A reading from Paul's letter to the church in Rome:

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my
light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my light and
my sal - va - tion; whom shall I fear?

Down continue on the next page

Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear? —

The Lord is the strength of my life;

whom shall I fear? In the time of trou - ble,

He shall hide me, O in the time of trou - ble,

He shall hide me, in the time of trou - ble,

He shall hide me; whom shall I fear?

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

People stand to hear the gospel.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Rev. Fred Chisolm

THE CREED

After a time of reflection, all stand as you are able. We recite in unison:

**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

The LEM and the People pray responsively. All remain standing as you are able.

Let us offer prayers to God who builds the church of Christ on the rock of faith
and shares with us the keys of the kingdom.

For this holy gathering, for our parish clergy, for Rob our bishop, and Sean our
Presiding Bishop for the people of God in every place, and for all who seek the
Lord.

O Christ, hear us.

For those in authority, for Donald our President, for Kelly our Governor, for the
Courts, for Congress and all legislatures, for the light of justice among all
peoples.

O Christ, hear us.

In thanksgiving for the opportunities we have for formation and fellowship together For those who are new to our community and those who are visiting today.

O Christ, hear us.

For abundant fruits of the earth, and for safety from violent storms.

O Christ, hear us.

For the sick and the suffering, travelers and those on vacation, prisoners, captives, and their families, and all those in danger and need, especially Beth & Josh, Betty Williams, Bob Lindberg, Danielle & Jake Horihan and their families, Chris Cooper, Erik Lindberg, Heydi Manchame, Janice Sykes, Jeanne Phillips, Karen, Karen (Kathie Clark's sister), Kathy DePasquale, Peggy Pschirrer, Rebecca Cooper, and Sara Crosby.

You may add your own prayers for intercession at this time.

O Christ, hear us.

For our town and those who live in it, for our town leadership, and for our families, companions, and all those we love.

O Christ, hear us.

For those who rest in Christ and for all the dead.

O Christ, hear us.

O God who restores and makes whole, hear the prayers we offer today and make the wilderness of this world a garden of salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord 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. People may greet one another from their seats.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Rite Two, Eucharistic Prayer B

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

Give thanks to the Lord for He is so good, His mer-cy en-

dures for - ev - er. (for - ev - er.) Give dures for - ev - er. (for -

Fine

ev - er.) 1. To Him a - lone who does might - y won - ders,
2. He made the sun to gov - ern the day - time,

1. Who by His un - der - stand - ing made the hea - vens.
2. The moon and stars to gov - ern o'er the night - time.

D.C.

DOXOLOGY*All stand.***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.****Praise God all creatures here below.****Praise God above, ye heavenly host.****Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

The People stand or kneel.

Holy, holy, holy

Hymnal S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

If you wish a blessing, instead of the bread or wine, cross your arms over your chest.

Gluten free wafers are available; let the priest know at the altar that you'd like one.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Vladimir
Odinokikh

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

People stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,

you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,

and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace,

and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you

with gladness and singleness of heart;

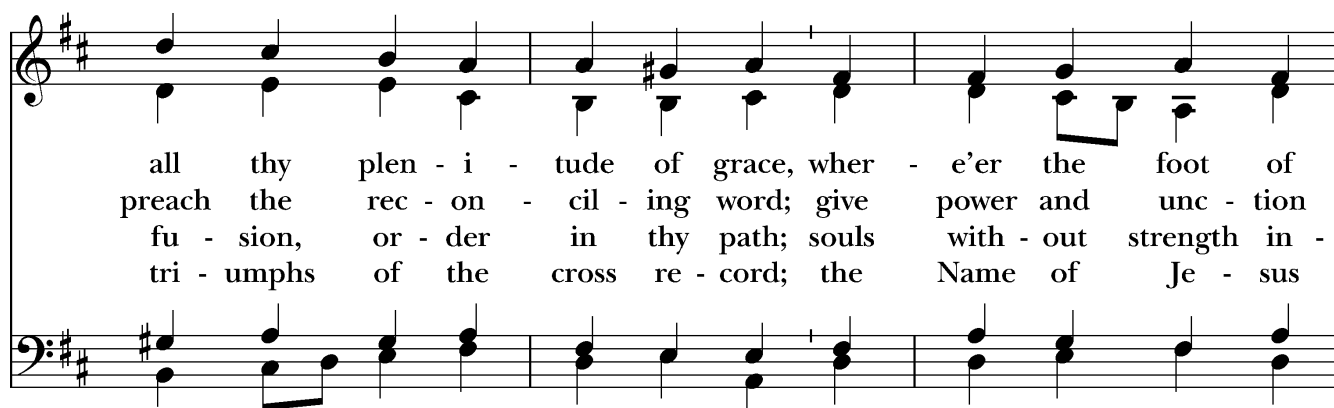
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*



1 O Spi - rit of the liv - ing God, in
 2 Give tongues of fire and hearts of love, to
 3 Be dark - ness, at thy com - ing, light; con -
 4 Con - vert the na - tions! far and nigh the



all thy plen - i - tude of grace, wher - e'er the foot of
 preach the rec - on - cil - ing word; give power and unc - tion
 fu - sion, or - der in thy path; souls with - out strength in -
 tri - umphs of the cross re - cord; the Name of Je - sus



man hath trod, de - scend on our a - pos - tate race.
 from a - bove, when - e'er the joy - ful sound is heard.
 spire with might, bid mer - cy tri - umph o - ver wrath.
 glo - ri - fy, till ev - ery peo - ple call him Lord.

DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE *Allegro from concerto in C major*
by J. Ernst of Saxe-Weimar

Vladimir Odinokikh

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PARISH INFORMATION

Working Together at St. John's

	<i>This Sunday</i>	<i>Next Sunday</i>
<i>Celebrant:</i>	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm	The Rev. David Gilliam, presiding Al Sparks, Homilist
<i>Rector:</i>	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Deacon Bill Clark The Rev. David Gilliam	The Rev. Deacon Bill Clark The Rev. David Gilliam
<i>Organist:</i>	Vladimir Odinkikh	Vladimir Odinkikh
<i>Acolyte:</i>	Conor O'Donnell	Conor O'Donnell
<i>Lector(s)</i>	John Proctor	Bill Reed
<i>LEM</i>	Joe Cuoco	Josh Beer
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Patti Sparks	Mary Schoppmeyer
<i>Flowers</i>	Taylor Royle	Marilyn Wilking
<i>Ushers</i>	Joe Cuoco & Al Sparks	Mairin Keleher & John Proctor
<i>Hospitality</i>	Karen & John Proctor	Lynne & Bill Reed
<i>Counters</i>	Chas Street & Alison Brule	

Sara Would Love a Visit

Sara Crosby is currently at Pine Heights, a rehabilitation center located at 187 Oak Grove Avenue in Brattleboro. She would be very glad to receive visits from members of the parish. Please call or text Sara at 802-591-0721 ahead of time to arrange a convenient time to visit.

Bluegrass Sunday on the Walpole Common

Hosted by River Valley Church

TODAY | 10a - 12p

Our church neighbors on the Common are hosting a special event. Everyone is invited to attend - consider wandering over during coffee hour!

While the Fruit Is in Season...

Now is the perfect time to start making jams, jellies, and other preserves for our Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 21! Not a jam-maker? You can get a head start by baking and freezing cookies or preparing another favorite handmade item.

New to the parish and eager to help? Ask some of our Holiday Fair veterans during coffee hour about the perennial best sellers. There are plenty of ways to contribute - and every item helps make the fair a success!

An Invitation to Give for Venezuelan Relief

In response to the recent devastating earthquakes in Venezuela, our Outreach Committee has approved a \$500 donation to Episcopal Relief & Development to provide immediate crisis aid. While this initial gift helps jumpstart critical relief efforts on the ground, the road to recovery for these communities will be long and challenging. Our goal is to send at least \$1000. Contributions can be made through our weekly offering designated "Venezuela Relief". Pray for them.

A Letter and Request for Assistance for Families Impacted by ICE Arrests in Keene

This letter came from Duncan Hilton, former pastor of St. John's, to the Vestry who asked that it be shared with the parish. Duncan is now a Roman Catholic and espousing the life of a Catholic Worker in Keene. The assistance fund for the families is now at 90% of its \$14,000 goal – your gifts would be welcome so that the goal can be achieved.

Dear Friends,

Over the weekend, a friend from church was arrested by ICE on our street. Two other men in town were also arrested. The families impacted by the arrests are our neighbors, friends, and Christian brothers and sisters. They have prayed and broken bread with us, hosted us at their homes and worked to repair ours, cooked for church potlucks and helped stay late to clean up. Now they need our help.

At their families' request, during this time when they have lost breadwinners, we are raising money to help with basic expenses - legal costs, rent, food, diapers, etc. Funds will be distributed by their church friends based on direct conversations with families about their needs. Would you [consider donating to this GoFundMe here?](https://gofund.me/67f399e0d?)

OR <https://gofund.me/67f399e0d?>

Your kindness and generosity helps to counter the heartbreak and fear. As Pope Leo said, we must, "Draw close to one another with patience, put ourselves in the place of others' stories and suffering, and recognize that we share the same dreams and the same hopes, There are no enemies -- only brothers and sisters."

Gratefully,
Duncan

Fill Your Red Bag for the Fall Mountain Food Shelf

All parishioners are invited to take a "Red Bag" (a red cloth shopping bag with St. John's name on it) and fill it with items for the Fall Mountain Food Shelf every month. During August, the requested items are baked beans, hearty soups, peanut butter and condiments (mayo, mustard, ketchup, salt, pepper, sugar). Betsy McGuire is our Fall Mountain Food Shelf Coordinator.

You're Invited: Celebration of the Life of Charlie Montgomery

Saturday, September 19, 2026 | 10a

Memorial Service, First Congregational Church, 15 Washington Street

Reception following at St. John's Episcopal Church, Parish Hall.

The Montgomery Family invites you to join in honoring the life of Charlie Montgomery at a memorial service and reception on September 19. The family has shared that if you would like to do something in Charlie's honor, you are encouraged to volunteer at an environmental or conservation organization of your choice. If you would like to make a gift in his memory, you are asked to consider two wonderful local non-profits on whose board he served: Chase's Mill, www.chasesmill.org or Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services, www.hcsservices.org.

Meet and Greet with Bishop Candidates

The Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire is actively searching for its 11th bishop to succeed the retiring Bishop Rob Hirschfeld.

The slate of candidates has been announced: The Rev. Ed Cardoza, The Rev. Fran Gardner-Smith and The Rev. Canon Dr. Kristofer H. Lindh-Payne, OSF. You can read more about them on the Bishop Transition & Election web page here:

<https://www.nhepiscopalbishoptransition.org/slate> . The electing convention is on October 24, 2026.

Please mark your calendars to attend one of these Meet and Greet sessions to meet the candidates.

- Holderness School, Holderness - Thursday, October 8, 3 pm
- Christ Church, Exeter - Friday, October 9, 6 pm
- St. Paul's School, Concord - Saturday, October 10, 3 pm

Our Rector: The Rev. Fred Chisolm can be reached at (802) 649-6495 (cell) or via email at rector@StJohnsWalpole.org.

St. John's Vestry 2026: Marilyn Wilking (Senior Warden), Drew Street (Junior Warden), Lisa Cuoco (Treasurer), Alison Brule (Clerk), Josh Beer, Mairin Keleher, John Proctor. Both wardens may be reached at info@StJohnsWalpole.org.