

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

A MORNING SERVICE OF WORD & PRAYER
with Administration of Holy Communion
Sunday, August 30, 2026 | Proper 17

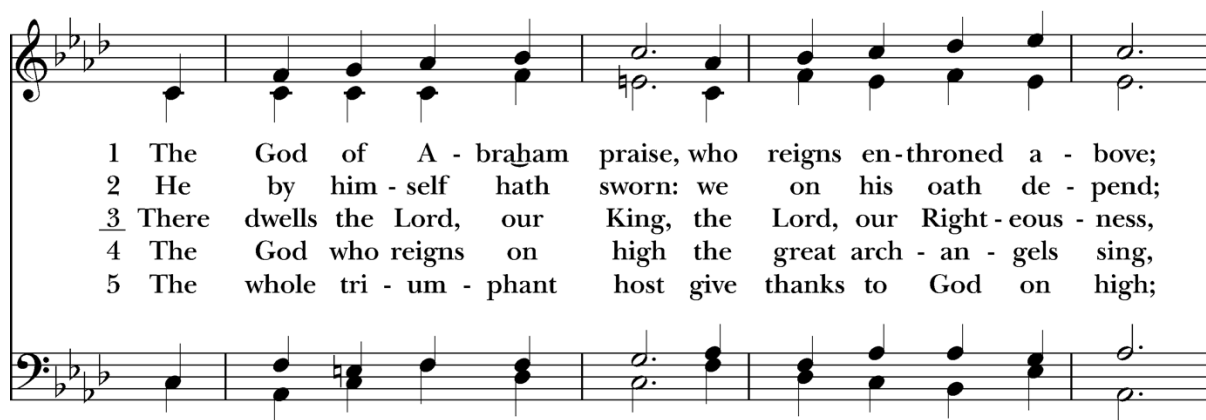
PRELUDE

Vladimir Odinokikh

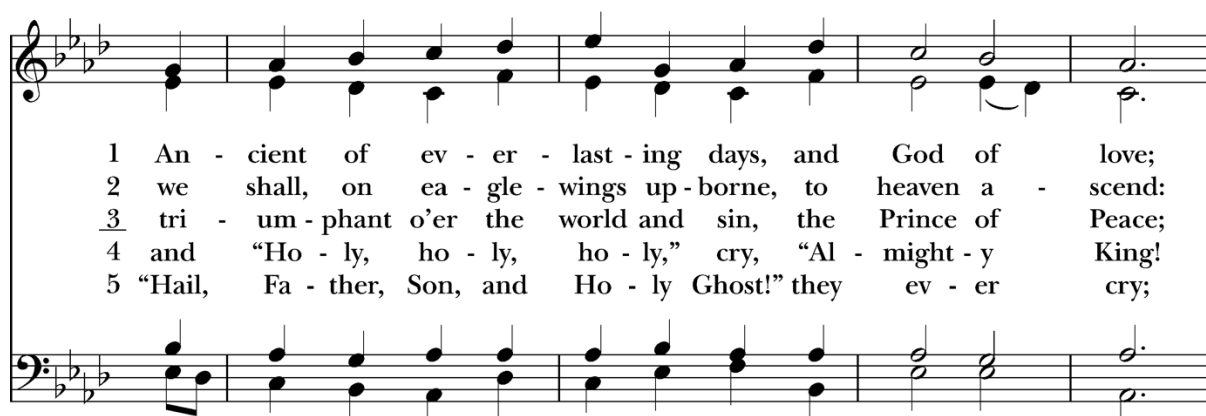
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING WORDS

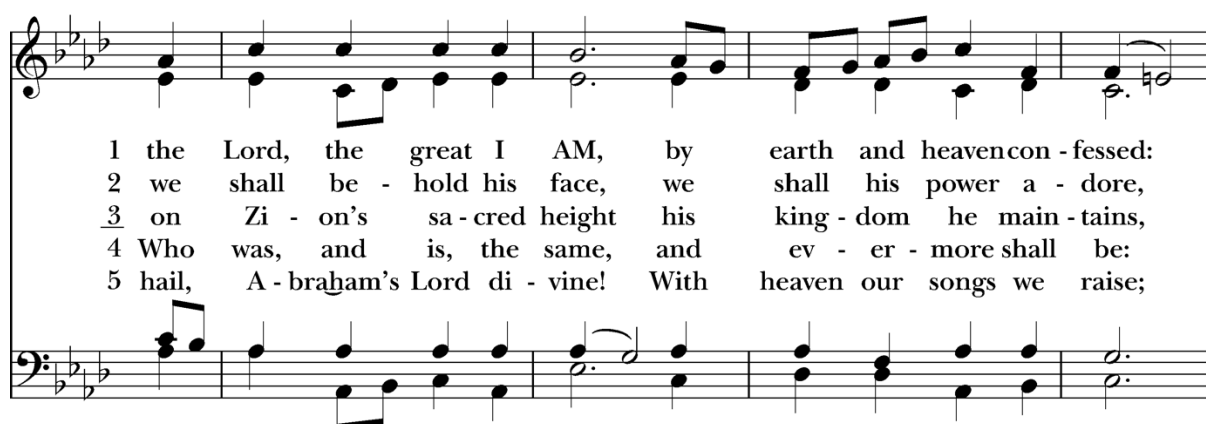
Celebrant: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*



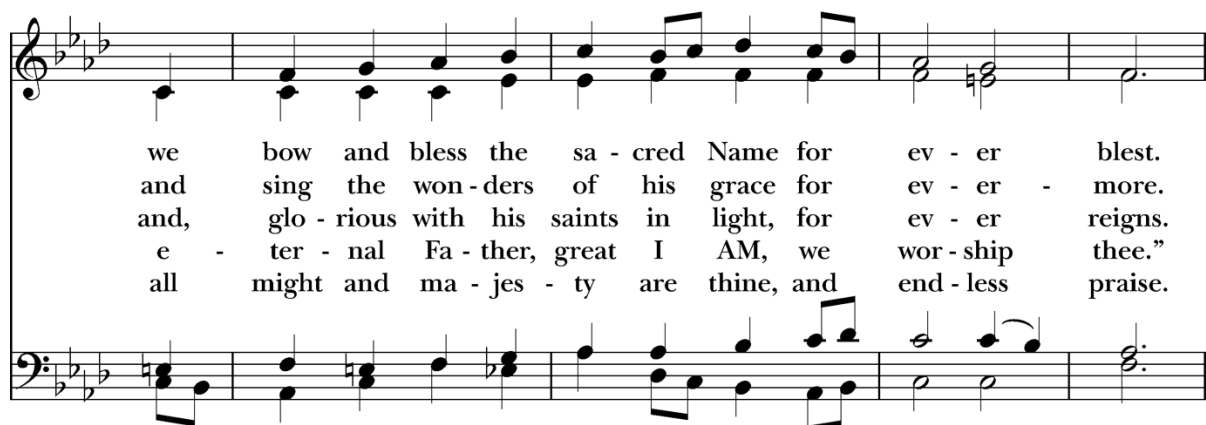
1 The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
 2 He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;
 3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,
 4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,
 5 The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;



1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;
 2 we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend:
 3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
 4 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," cry, "Al - might - y King!
 5 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry;



1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed:
 2 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,
 3 on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains,
 4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be:
 5 hail, A - braham's Lord di - vine! With heaven our songs we raise;



we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for ev - er - more.
 and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.
 e - ter - nal Fa - ther, great I AM, we wor - ship thee."
 all might and ma - jes - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

CONFESSION

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant &
People*

**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.***

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

JUBILATE

Psalm 100

The Celebrant and People say in unison.

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in
our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with
all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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

Exodus 3:1-15

People may be seated while the Lector reads.

A reading from the book of Exodus:

¹Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹²He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

¹³But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴God 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.' " ¹⁵God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

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

PSALM

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

Lector and people read responsively by whole verse.

- ¹Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- ²**Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvelous works.**
- ³Glory in his holy Name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- ⁴**Search for the LORD and his strength; continually seek his face.**
- ⁵Remember the marvels he has done,
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- ⁶**O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.**
- ²³Israel came into Egypt, and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- ²⁴**The LORD made his people exceedingly fruitful;
he made them stronger than their enemies;**
- ²⁵Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people,
and dealt unjustly with his servants.
- ²⁶**He sent Moses his servant, and Aaron whom he had chosen.** ^{45c}**Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING

Romans 12:9-21

People may remain seated while the LEM reads.

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

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

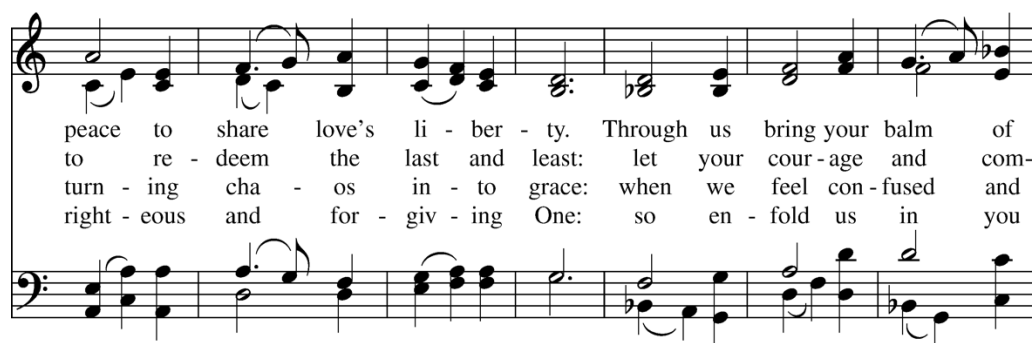
LEM: The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**



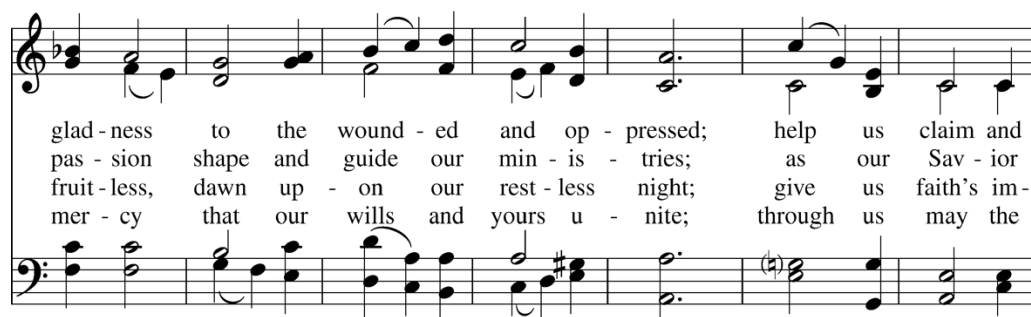
1. Gra - cious Spir - it, give your ser - vants joy to set sin's
 2. Word made flesh, who gave up glo - ry to be - come our
 3. Lov - ing God, who birthed cre - a - tion from the noth - ing -
 4. Tri - une God, e - ter - nal Be - ing, nev - er end - ing,



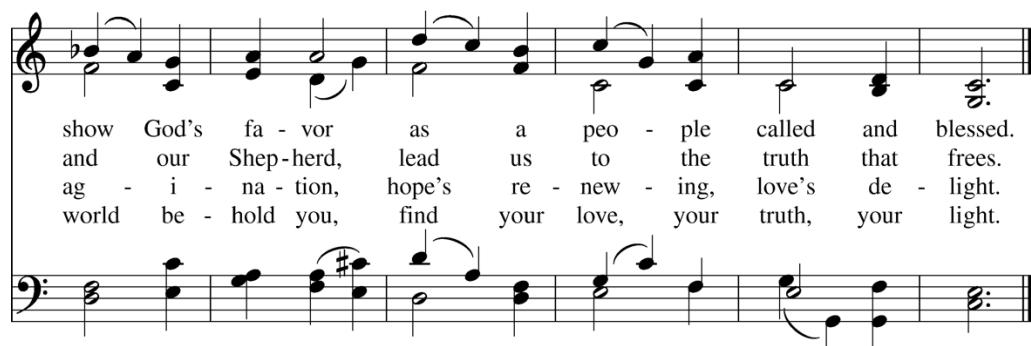
cap - tives free, hope to heal the bro - ken - heart - ed,
 great high priest, tak - ing on our hu - man na - ture
 ness of space, kin - dling life where all was emp - ty,
 un - be - gun, bound - less grace and per - fect jus - tice,



peace to share love's li - ber - ty. Through us bring your balm of
 to re - deem the last and least: let your cour - age and com -
 turn - ing cha - os in - to grace: when we feel con - fused and
 right - eous and for - giv - ing One: so en - fold us in you



glad - ness to the wound - ed and op - pressed; help us claim and
 pas - sion shape and guide our min - is - tries; as our Sav - ior
 fruit - less, dawn up - on our rest - less night; give us faith's im -
 mer - cy that our wills and yours u - nite; through us may the



show God's fa - vor as a peo - ple called and blessed.
 and our Shep - herd, lead us to the truth that frees.
 ag - i - na - tion, hope's re - new - ing, love's de - light.
 world be - hold you, find your love, your truth, your light.

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-28

People stand to hear the gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
People **Thanks be to God.**

²¹Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

THE HOMILY

Al Sparks

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - THE MAGNIFICAT

After a time of reflection, all stand as you are able.

Celebrant Let us affirm our faith in the words of Mary:

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Let us pray for the Church and the world, saying “Lord have mercy.”

Heavenly Father, we ask your blessing upon the Universal Church, its members and our mission in the world; we pray for this congregation, for our parish clergy, for our bishop, Rob, and for Sean, our Presiding Bishop.

Lord have mercy.

God of wisdom and truth, guide our nation and the decision-making of those whose authority governs her future; bless all communities throughout the world with wise and reflective leaders; we pray for Donald our President, Kelly our Governor, and our town’s leaders.

Lord have mercy.

God of all creation, guarding the welfare of our world and your entire creation, nourish us in all manner of goodness, giving us the benefit of loving one another.

Lord have mercy.

Loving God, bless this community, our goals, and our desire to reach out to others in need of your grace.

Lord have mercy.

Merciful God, alleviate the suffering of all in your divine care; we pray for those affected by natural disasters and inclement weather, for those who are sick, those who suffer, those who are impoverished or hungry, those oppressed and those in despair, especially all who are exposed to violence, insult and rejection, especially these friends and members of our parish: Beth & Josh, Betty Williams, Bob Lindberg, Danielle & Jake Horihan and their families, Erik Lindberg, Heydi Manchame, Janice Sykes, Jeanne Phillips, Karen (Kathie Clark's sister), Kathy DePasquale, Peggy Pschirrer, Rebecca Cooper, Rick Zurmuhlen (Kristi's and Karlie's father), and Sara Crosby.

Holy God, listen as we pray; adding our own prayers and thanksgivings, in silence or aloud.

Lord have mercy.

Father of all, welcoming the souls of the departed and comforting those who mourn their loss, keep us in your steadfast care.

Lord have mercy.

Gracious God, help us to become reflections of Christ's most holy life, enabling us to live according to your will.

Lord have mercy.

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.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, 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. 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.

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.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Therefore, let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to God.

Descant

4 O Judge di - vine of hu - man strife! O

1 Put forth, O God, thy Spi - rit's might and
 2 Let works of dark - ness dis - ap - pear be -
 3 Let what a - pos - tles learned of thee be
 4 O Judge di - vine of hu - man strife! O

Van - quish - er of pain! To know thee is e -

bid thy Church in - crease, in breadth and length, in
 fore thy con - quering light; let ha - tred and tor -
 ours from age to age; their stead - fast faith our
 Van - quish - er of pain! To know thee is e -

ter - nal life, to serve thee, to reign.

depth and height, her u - ni - ty and peace.
 ment - ing fear pass with the pass - ing night.
 u - ni - ty, their peace our her - it - age.
 ter - nal life, to serve thee is to reign.

8

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.

SOLEMN DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION (from the reserved sacrament)

The previously consecrated elements are reverently placed upon the altar from the front. Standing at the head of the congregation and facing the altar, the Celebrant leads the people in prayer.

All **In the beginning, the Holy Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being. Through Mary, the blessed Mother, the Word was made flesh in the body and blood of Jesus. Out of the Earth, Christ is born again and dwells among us.**

Celebrant **O God, Creator of time and space, your Spirit abides with us and with all creation. We thank you for these gifts of the land and for these, our bodies, which we offer in your service. We thank you for this holy food we are about to receive, a miracle of new and unending life in you.**

All **Gathered here today in your presence, may our hearts and souls be set on fire. May we bound to this good Earth in love, and to all your creatures from every people and tribe and faith and language and nation and species. May we be transformed by the same self-giving love that has transformed this bread. May we, taking into our humble bodies this holy food, become the love that creates all things, bears all things, renews all things. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

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.

*The People receive Communion through bread consecrated at a previous service.
Gluten free wafers are available; let the priest know at the altar that you'd like one.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

Vladimir Odinokikh

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

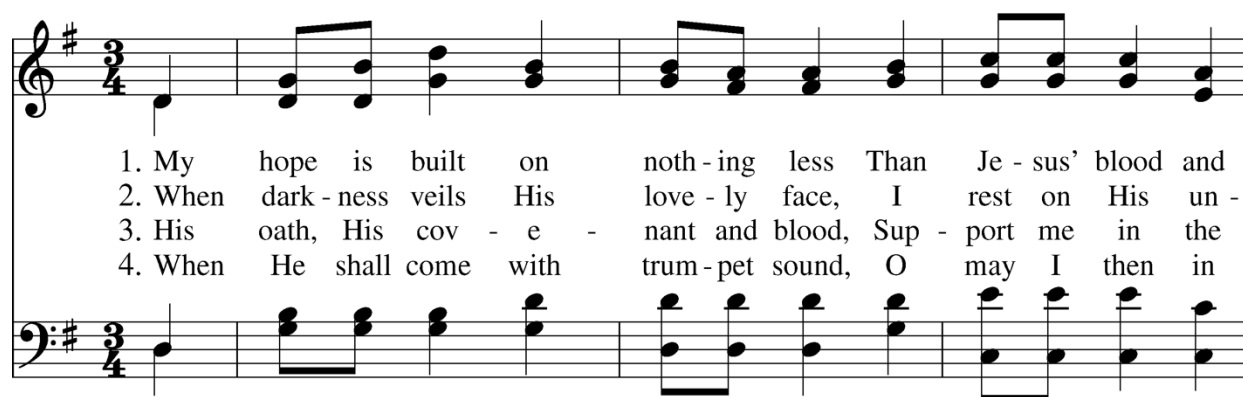
People stand as you are able.

Let us pray. (*Celebrant and People say in unison*)

**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

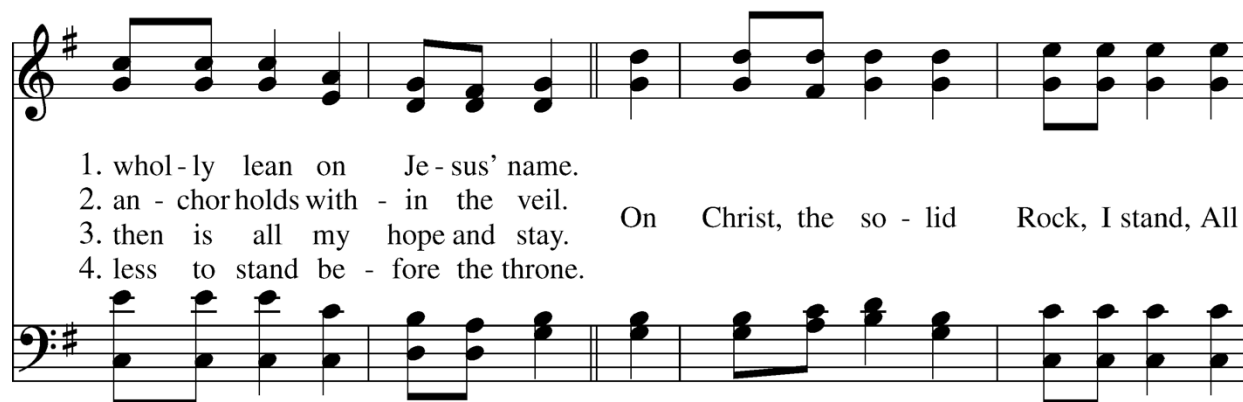
Celebrant: The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*



1. My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus' blood and
 2. When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on His un -
 3. His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood, Sup - port me in the
 4. When He shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in



1. right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, But
 2. chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale, My
 3. whelm - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, he
 4. Him be found; Dressed in His right - eous - ness a - lone, Fault -



1. whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 2. an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the so - lid Rock, I stand, All
 3. then is all my hope and stay.
 4. less to stand be - fore the throne.



oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

Vladimir Odinokikh

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PARISH INFORMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PARISH INFORMATION

Working Together at St. John's

	<i>This Sunday</i>	<i>Next Sunday</i>
<i>Celebrant:</i>	The Rev. David Gilliam, presiding Al Sparks, Homilist	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm
<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>	Bill Reed	Peggy Pschirrer
<i>LEM</i>	Josh Beer	Drew Street
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Mary Schoppmeyer	Andrew Wilking
<i>Flowers</i>	Marilyn Wilking	Patti Sparks
<i>Ushers</i>	Mairin Keleher & John Proctor	Bill Tyson & Joe Cuoco
<i>Hospitality</i>	Lynne & Bill Reed	Alison Brule
<i>Counters</i>		Alison Brule & Patti Sparks

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.

Ashuelot Concerts 2026-27 International Concert Series Opening Concert Weekend | September 4 and 5

You are very welcome to the first concert weekend of the season - featuring Nick Burns - piano, Louisa Stonehill - violin, Nicholas Cords - Viola, and Nina Lee - Cello as they share the rich musical tapestry of 'Bohemian Beginnings' from Suk, Martinu, and Dvorak.

- Friday, September 4th - 7:30pm at Stonewall Farm, Keene
- Saturday, September 5th - 3:00pm at The Bellows Falls Opera House

Tickets available online: www.ashuelotconcerts.org or at the door. Accessible entry points are available at both locations. See you there!

Ashuelot Concerts 2026-27 season schedule brochures are now available and located in the Parish Hall. Please contact Alison Brule for more information.

Many Hands Make for Light Work

Please Assist with the Reception at St. John's in honor of Charlie Montgomery

Following the 10am Memorial Service for Charlie Montgomery at the First Congregational Church on Saturday, September 19, a reception will follow here in the St. John's Parish Hall. Alison Brule is the anchor/coordinator for the reception. Please reach out to Alison if you are able to support in any of the following ways:

- Setup of the Parish Hall on Friday, September 18th -- from 10am until completed.
- Kitchen support/Hospitality during the reception on Saturday, September 19th
- Cleanup support following the reception

Thanks so much in advance!

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.

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!

CROP Hunger Walk

Saturday, October 10th @ 9:15 am

No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the CROP Hunger Walk is more than just a gathering of people in a place. We're part of a movement, taking steps and raising funds together to provide meals for those in our own community who need them - and supporting programs that create greater food security in communities all around the world.

You can join the St. John's team AND/OR make a donation either by:

1. Going to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org>

- Join the team by typing "Walpole" in the white Search icon near the top and choosing St. John's Team
- Make a donation by clicking on the orange button in the box on the right hand side of the page.

OR

2. Scanning the QR code below

- Join the team by clicking on blue Join or Start a Team button, then type "Walpole" into search bar and choose St. John's Team
- Make a donation by clicking on the orange button below the Join or Start a Team button.



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