

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON MA**  
**Holy Eucharist with Holy Baptism**  
**for the Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**  
**(Proper 25 Year A) October 25, 2020 at 8 AM**



**Welcome and Announcements**

*Presider*      Blessed be the one holy and living God.  
*People*        **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**  
*Presider*      There is one Body and one Spirit;  
*People*        **There is one hope in God's call to us;**  
*Presider*      One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
*People*        **One God and Father of all.**

**The Collect of the Day**

*Presider*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*        **And also with you.**  
*Presider*      Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**First Lesson**

*1 Thessalonians 2:1-8*

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you

know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.

As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 BCP page**

**Lord, you have been our refuge \* from one generation to another.  
Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, \*  
from age to age you are God.  
You turn us back to the dust and say, \* "Go back, O child of earth."  
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \*  
and like a watch in the night.  
You sweep us away like a dream; \* we fade away suddenly like the grass.  
In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.  
Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? \* be gracious to your servants.  
Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; \*  
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.  
Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us \*  
and the years in which we suffered adversity.  
Show your servants your works \* and your splendor to their children.  
May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; \* prosper the work  
of our hands; prosper our handiwork.**

**The Gospel**

*Matthew 22:34-46*

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

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'?"

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

## Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Julianne Buenting+

## Holy Baptism

### Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

*Presider* The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and Godparents* **I present Trace John Tompkins to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**

*Presider* Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider* Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents* **I will, with God's help.**

*Then the Presider asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the child*

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer* **I renounce them.**

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer* **I renounce them.**

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* **I renounce them.**

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* **I do.**

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?  
*Answer* **I do.**  
*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?  
*Answer* **I do.**

*The Presider addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

*People* **We will.**

*Presider* Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

### **The Baptismal Covenant**

*Presider* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

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

*People* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin**

**Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Presider* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* **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.**

*Presider* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

## Prayers for the Candidates

*The Presider then says to the congregation*

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth

*Leader* Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Send them into the world in witness to your love.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*The Presider says*

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Thanksgiving over the Water

*The Presider blesses the water, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Presider* We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water.

Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.

Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Gracious God, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Trace John**, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Presider*

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

*The Priest marks the forehead with the sign of the cross using Chrism and saying*

**Trace John**, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

*The baptismal candle is lighted from the Paschal Candle and presented with the following words*                      Receive the light of Christ.

*The Presider says*            Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Presider and People*    **We receive you into the household of God.  
Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection,  
and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

*Presider*                      The peace of Christ be always with you.

## **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

*Presider:*            The Lord be with you.

*People*                **And also with you.**

*Presider*            Lift up your hearts.

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

*Presider*            Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

*All recite in unison*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

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 God,

*Presider and People*

**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, Gracious God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

*Presider:* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Fraction Anthem**

*Presider:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feasts. Alleluia!**

*Presider:* The gifts of God for the People of God.

### **Prayer of Spiritual Communion** *(adapted from the Prayer Book for the Armed Services) for those participating virtually]*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people and your Church,  
we delight to offer to you praise and thanksgiving.  
We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection;  
we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today  
in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you  
to come spiritually into our hearts. Heal and strengthen us with your grace,  
Lord Christ and let us never be separated from you.  
May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, mother of us all,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Presider:* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit,  
Alleluia, alleluia!

*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**