



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1676 SOUTH BELCHER ROAD  
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33764-6517  
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727-531-6020

The Last Sunday After Pentecost  
Christ the King  
November 24, 2024  
9:00 am

Announcements

### THE WORD OF GOD

*Celebrant:* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People:* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant:*

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.**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may

be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 23:1-7

These are the last words of David: The oracle of David, son of Jesse, the oracle of the man whom God exalted, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the favorite of the Strong One of Israel: The spirit of the Lord speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue. The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me: One who rules over people justly, ruling in the fear of God, is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land. Is not my house like this with God? For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure. Will he not cause to prosper all my help and my desire? But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away; for they cannot be picked up with the hand; to touch them one uses an iron bar or the shaft of a spear. And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

The Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 132:1-13 (14-19)

1 Lord, remember David, \*  
and all the hardships he endured;  
2 How he swore an oath to the Lord \*  
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:  
3 "I will not come under the roof of my house," \*  
nor climb up into my bed;  
4 I will not allow my eyes to sleep, \*  
nor let my eyelids slumber;  
5 Until I find a place for the Lord, \*  
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."  
6 "The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; \*  
we found it in the fields of Jearim.  
7 Let us go to God's dwelling place; \*  
let us fall upon our knees before his footstool."  
8 Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, \*  
you and the ark of your strength.  
9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; \*  
let your faithful people sing with joy.  
10 For your servant David's sake, \*  
do not turn away the face of your Anointed.

11 The Lord has sworn an oath to David; \*  
in truth, he will not break it:  
12 "A son, the fruit of your body \*  
will I set upon your throne.  
13 If your children keep my covenant  
and my testimonies that I shall teach them, \*  
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore."  
14 [For the Lord has chosen Zion; \*  
he has desired her for his habitation:  
15 "This shall be my resting-place for ever; \*  
here will I dwell, for I delight in her.  
16 I will surely bless her provisions, \*  
and satisfy her poor with bread.  
17 I will clothe her priests with salvation, \*  
and her faithful people will rejoice and sing.  
18 There will I make the horn of David flourish; \*  
I have prepared a lamp for my Anointed.  
19 As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; \*  
but as for him, his crown will shine."

The Second Lesson: Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord

*Response: Thanks be to God.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 18:33-37

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would

be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Response: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Hugh Bell

Nicene Creed (Stand)

**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 worshipped 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.**

Prayers of the People Form III

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; for the Diocese of Southwest Florida, especially St. Andrew’s, Boca Grande; St. David’s, Englewood; Church of the Good Shepherd, Punta Gorda; St. Nathaniel’s, North Port; St. James’, Port Charlotte; Good Shepherd, Venice, and St. Mark’s, Venice; for St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and their pastor Anne, and for the dioceses and provinces of the Anglican Communion, especially The Anglican Church of South America;

***That we all may be one.***

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

We pray for Sean our presiding bishop, Douglas, our bishop, Denise, Hugh and Jim, our priests, and Kevin, our deacon;

***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for Joe, our president, Donald, our President elect and Ron, our governor, and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially those who are listed in our bulletin;

***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Give to the departed eternal rest;

***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*(Silence) The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

### The Confession

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and 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 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

*Celebrant:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

Offertory: (*The people may sit*)

Presentation of Gifts (*Please stand as the gifts are brought forward*)

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A (Stand)

*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.

(*Here a Proper Preface is said*)

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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**

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

*Celebrant and People:* **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant:* Alleluia ! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

## The Communion

All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion.

*Please stand or kneel at the rail.*

*The priest will place the Sacrament in your outstretched hands.*

### **Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors (as needed)**

*Following the communion of the people, the Lay Eucharistic Ministers come forward and are commended for this ministry with the following words:*

**Celebrant:** In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**Celebrant:** We who are many are one body,

**People:** Because we all share one bread, one cup.

### Post Communion Prayer

**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 Dismissal: Response: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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## Welcome Visitors!

Please sign the guest book at the welcoming stand where information is available.

Visit our Website: <https://stjohnsclearwater.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnsClearwater/>

**Join us for coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.**

## Announcements

**Pray for the sick:** James Bernard, Gerry Boone, Michelle Boone, Barbara Bowdoin, Sally Brown, Bruce Cates, The Most. Rev. Michael B. Curry, Ann D'Alessandro, Kristy Foltz, Nan Lanham, Kimberly McMillan, John Piatak, The Rev. George Razee, Eric Rummeler, Nancy Sawyer, Amy Sheilds, Deborah Smith, Kitty Smith, Chrissy Stroup, Sandy Walton, and Bonnie Zwigaitis.

**Pray for the homebound:** Elin Buchanan, Shirley Dunaway, Thelma Lipp, and Margarita Lopez.

**Christmas Poinsettias:** Due to the impact of the hurricanes the past few months, the supply of poinsettias in Florida has been drastically reduced. Our florist has notified us that they cannot guarantee any orders of poinsettias this year. So, we move to "Plan B". **Sunday, December 22 will be designated "Poinsettia Sunday". If you have a poinsettia plant that you would like to donate for the altar, please bring it to the service on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Pack-a-Sack** is a program that provides food for weekends for children who have been identified by school counselors as food insecure. If you would like to sponsor a child for one month- \$25, or for one year \$225, please mark your gift for Pack a Sack. For more information or to assist with the packing, contact Caroline Barnett.

**Tuesday Grief Forum: The Fall Grief Forum is now full.** Please reach out to Becca Bass for information on the next group. Email Rebecca at: [rebeccajbass@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccajbass@gmail.com)

**St. Paul's Wednesday Contemplative Services:** The Contemplative Worship Services are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in St. John's

church sanctuary at 7:15pm.

**Prayer Chapel:** The Chapel is open for anyone wishing individual prayer. Everyone is welcome to go to the Chapel after communion to receive prayer with a member of The Daughters of the King. Prayer requests are held in strict confidence.

**Thrift Shop Volunteers Needed!** The Thrift Shop is looking for volunteers to work the front desk. There are two shifts – Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm or 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Please contact Caroline Barnett if you are interested. (727) 459-3650.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study – 10 am in the Parish Hall:**

See Bob Courdway if you have any questions.

**Episcopal Migration Ministries:** Those who want to financially support these efforts can donate online (link is in the enews).

**Deadline for submission of articles for the bulletin is Tuesday, 3pm for the following Sunday bulletin.**

To make a donation to St. John's, via Faithstreet, scan the QR code below:



### **Dates for Your Calendar**

**Saturday, December 14, 9:00 am - Greening of the Church – come join in decorating the church for Christmas!**

**Sunday, December 22 – “Poinsettia Sunday” –** If you have a poinsettia plant and would like to donate it for the altar, please bring it to the service. All plants will be placed around the altar area.

**December 24, 4:00 pm, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Family service with music.**

## Weekly Schedule

**Thrift Shop Hours** - Tue., Thu., Sat., 9:30am – 3:30pm

**Hand Bell Choir** – Tuesdays - Church Sanctuary – 6pm – **NO REHEARSAL ON NOV. 26**

**Voice Choir** - Tuesdays - Choir Room – 7pm - **NO REHEARSAL ON NOV. 26**

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study** – Parish Hall - Wednesday 10 am

**Men's Cursillo Grouping** - Parish Hall - Thursday 7:30 am

**Rug Hookers** – Parish Hall - Thursdays 10 am



**Diocese of Southwest Florida  
The Rt. Rev. Douglas Scharf, Bishop**

**St. John's Mission Statement:**  
*To love, to serve, to grow in Christ*

**Church Staff**

Interim Priest In Charge  
Deacon  
Office Administrator  
Music Director  
Sexton  
Children's Ministry

The Rev. Denise Guinta  
The Rev. Kevin Mort  
Jan Davis  
Jim May  
Bob Cates  
Mary Anders

**Vestry**

Marlene Eichelberger  
Marti Moore  
Bob Courdway  
Gina Flanigan  
Jessi Griffin  
Sallie Devine  
Bonnie Lovell

Sr. Warden  
Jr. Warden  
Treasurer  
Stewardship  
Clerk & Communications  
Outreach  
Parish Life