



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

The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 11, 2024
9:00 am

Announcements

Prelude: "Terra Beata"

Franklin L. Sheppard

Processional Hymn: 393 "Praise our great and gracious Lord"

Moaz Zur

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.**

Gloria S280

Robert Powell

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

The king, David, ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom. So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. The battle spread over the face of all the country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword. Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him. Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, "Good tidings for my lord the king! For the Lord has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you." The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man." The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord;

Lord, hear my voice; *

let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

2 If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, *

O Lord, who could stand?

3 For there is forgiveness with you; *

therefore you shall be feared.

4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
5 My soul waits for the Lord,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
6 O Israel, wait for the Lord, *
for with the Lord there is mercy;
7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: 666 “Out of the depth I call”

St. Bride

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (6:35, 41-51)

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by

the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Denise Guinta

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, St. Edmund's, Arcadia; Christ Church, Bradenton; St. George's, Bradenton; St. Mary Magdalene, Bradenton; Church of the Annunciation, Holmes Beach; All Angels by the Sea, Longboat Key;

Holy Spirit, Osprey; for St. Paul's Lutheran Church and their pastor Anne, and for the dioceses and provinces of the Anglican Communion, especially The Anglican Church in Korea;

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 Michael, our presiding bishop, Sean our presiding bishop elect, 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 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.

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

Silence may be kept.

The Confession

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)

Offertory Hymn: 151 “From deepest woe I cry to thee” Aus tiefer Not

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:

S130 “Holy, holy, holy” Schubert/Proulx

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.

Communion Hymn: 335 “I am the bread of life” Suzanne Toolan

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

Closing Hymn: 48 “O day of radiant gladness”

Es flog ein kleins Waldvoegelein

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

Postlude: “Not far beyond the sea, nor high above the heavens”

Samuel S. Wesley

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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, Barbara Bowdoin, Sally Brown, Bruce Cates, Lee Cates, The Most. Rev. Michael B. Curry, Ann D'Alessandro, Kristy Foltz, Nan Lanham, Mark Lelekacs, Kimberly McMillan, John Piatak, The Rev. George Razee, Eric Rummmler, Nancy Sawyer, The Rt. Rev. Dabney Smith, Deborah Smith, Kitty Smith, Chrissy Stroup, Sandy Walton, and Bonnie Zwigaitis.

Pray for the homebound: Elin Buchanan, Shirley Dunaway, Margarita Lopez, and Hortense McGregor.

Cottage Meetings are Coming!

Rev. Denise Guinta at the church office 727-531-6020 or email at: The first stage of our interim discernment process is for me to get to meet all of you. I want to hear your stories and your desires for St. John's Church and the future. Cottage Meetings are informal gatherings that may be hosted in various places. I will have some questions to ask the group and this portion will take no longer than 90 minutes. I am seeking volunteers to host these meetings, light refreshments are welcome if it is an in person meeting. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteer hosts in the entrance to the sanctuary (with suggested dates) from September 11th-25th. Hosts will be asked to provide a time of day and the number of people they can accommodate. After we get a list of hosts each meeting will have its own sign-up sheet posted on August 25th. If you have any questions or want to request a different date please contact

interimstjohns@gmail.com

Pack-a-Sack is a program that provides food for weekends for children who have been identified by school counselors as food insecure. St. John's is currently providing weekend food packs for 40 children at Belcher Elementary. The pack contains enough food for a child for the

weekend - cereal, shelf stable milk, juice, fruit boxes, cereal bars, mac & cheese, ramen noodles, etc. 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.

Pilgrimage Healing: In individual healing sessions, trained partners use a unique process that provides a peaceful atmosphere of safety and support. During this period of relaxation, healing touch, and prayer, the client needs only to be open to receiving the benefits of the process. **A demonstration will be held in St. John's church sanctuary on Sunday, Aug. 11 at 12noon.**

A training session will be held on Saturday, August 17 from 9am-2pm.

Tuesday Grief Forum: Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 10:30am - noon. Facilitated by Rebecca Bass, Certified Grief Educator and Spiritual Director. A place of fellowship, connection, support and learning.

St. Paul's Wednesday Contemplative Services: During the summer, the Contemplative Worship Services will be 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:

Our Wednesday morning Bible study will be taking a summer vacation. Our next meeting will be August 21st. Enjoy your summer and remember Forward Day by Day is a great way to keep up with short daily Bible readings.. 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

Aug. 11: Pilgrimage Healing Demonstration. Church Sanctuary, 12noon – 1pm

Aug. 13: Tuesday Grief Forum. Parish Hall, 10:30am – Noon

Aug. 17: Pilgrimage Healing Training. Church sanctuary, 9am – 3pm

Aug. 27: Tuesday Grief Forum. Parish Hall, 10:30am – Noon

Sep. 8: God's Works. Our Hands. St. John's and St. Paul's combined service, 9:30am. Ministry Fair. Potluck lunch in the Parish Hall, immediately following the service.

Weekly Schedule

Thrift Shop Hours – SUMMER HOURS

Tue., Thu 9:30- **12:30** & Sat. 9:30 – 3:30

Retirees -2nd Monday of the month

Hand Bell Choir – Practice resumes August 20 – Church Sanctuary – 6pm

Voice Choir - Practice resumes August 20 – Choir Room – 7pm

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Parish Hall

Wednesday 10 am

Our Wednesday morning Bible study will be taking a summer vacation. Our next meeting will be August 21st. Enjoy your summer and remember *Forward Day by Day* is a great way to keep up with short daily Bible readings.

Men's Cursillo Grouping - Parish Hall

Thursdays 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