

**MORNING PRAYER  
ON THE LAWN**

**MAY 2, 2021**

**9:00 AM**



**St. John's Episcopal Church  
Four Fountain Square  
Larchmont, NY**

*Welcome to St. John's Church. We are glad you have joined us for worship today.*

*For everyone's safety and comfort, we thank you for following all safety guidelines, including wearing a face covering at all times, maintaining appropriate social distance, use of hand sanitizer, etc.*

*If you are visiting or looking for a new church home, please introduce yourself to our clergy or an usher. Children are welcome and encouraged to participate in our worship services. Thank you for turning off your cell phones.*

*You are welcome to join us for worship at any time, including each Sunday at 10:00 am in our sanctuary or on Zoom, Sunday at 6:00 pm for an outdoor Eucharist, and for prayer services throughout the week on Zoom. Visit our website for our full schedule ([stjohnslarchmont.org](http://stjohnslarchmont.org)).*

*If you have a pastoral emergency and need to speak with a priest when the office is closed, you may contact the Rev. Lisa Mason on her personal cell phone at (210) 854-4811.*

## **OPENING SENTENCE**

*Officiant* Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God

## **OUR CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

***All*** 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.

*Officiant* 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.

***People*** Amen.

## PRECES

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*All* 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.  
Alleluia.

## INVITATORY PSALM: VENITE (PSALM 95:1-7)

*Officiant* Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:  
*All* Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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.

*Officiant* Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:  
*All* Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

## **PSALM 22:24-30**

*The psalm is read responsively by the half verse.*

- 24     **My praise is of him in the great assembly; \***  
          **I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.**
- 25     **The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**  
          **and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \***  
          **“May your heart live for ever!”**
- 26     **All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \***  
          **and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.**
- 27     **For kingship belongs to the Lord; \***  
          **he rules over the nations.**
- 28     **To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \***  
          **all who go down to the dust fall before him.**
- 29     **My soul shall live for him;**  
          **my descendants shall serve him; \***  
          **they shall be known as the Lord’s for ever.**
- 30     **They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \***  
          **the saving deeds that he has done.**

## **READING: ACTS 8:26-40**

*Reader*           A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

## **CANTICLE 9: THE FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH (ISAIAH 12:2-6)**

*The canticle is read responsively by the half verse.*

**Surely, it is God who saves me; \***  
**I will trust in him and not be afraid.**  
**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \***  
**and he will be my Savior.**  
**Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \***  
**from the springs of salvation.**  
**And on that day you shall say, \***  
**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;**

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

*All*            **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.**

## **READING: JOHN 15:1-8**

*Reader*            A reading from John.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*All stand.*

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*         **And also with you.**

*Officiant*      Let us pray.  
*All*              **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.**

## SUFFRAGES

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant* Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
*People* **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

*Officiant* Day by day we bless you;  
*People* **We praise your name for ever.**

*Officiant* Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
*People* **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
*People* **For we put our trust in you.**

*Officiant* In you, Lord, is our hope;  
*People* **And we shall never hope in vain.**

## COLLECTS

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant* Let us pray.  
Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
*All* **Amen.**

*Officiant* O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*All* **Amen.**

*Officiant* Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name.

**All** Amen.

## INTERCESSIONS & THANKSGIVINGS

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant* Have compassion on all who are suffering the effects of the pandemic, and all who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially Ann, April, Bernadette, Betsy, Blanche, Bob, Brian, Caitlin, Carol, Carolyn, Clementine, Collette, Dotty Lee, Ellen, George, Harold, James, Jmel, Laura, Lynn, Matt, Orlo, Patricia, Peggy, Randy, Robert, Sandy, Sara Lee, Sheila, and Tom.

Bless all who have died, especially Roland Bouffard and Eric Hansen, and all those who mourn.

## GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*All remain standing.*

**All** Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,

and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## **DISMISSAL & GRACE**

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

*Officiant* Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. (*Ephesians 3:20,21*)

**All** Amen.

