

The Holy Friendship

of

St. James Episcopal Church

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&

Grace Episcopal Church

4 Chapel Hill Road | Yantic, CT 06389
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The Seventeenth Sunday in Pentecost

September 19, 2021 at 9:00 am

The Rev. Diana Rogers, Officiant
Mike LaFleur & Peter Leibert, Musicians

Join us for In-person worship at St. James, Live on Facebook:
St. James Episcopal Church Preston,
or on Zoom

11:00 am 2nd In-person at Grace Episcopal Church

*Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the Parish Hall following
this service including our "Friends on Zoom"*

The Liturgy of the Word

Welcome

Opening Hymn #680 Guide Me o thou Great Jehovah

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

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

The Gloria

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.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Proverbs 31:10-31

A capable wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.
She is like the ships of the merchant,
she brings her food from far away.

She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her servant-girls.

She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

She girds herself with strength,
and makes her arms strong.

She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.

She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.

She opens her hand to the poor,
and reaches out her hands to the needy.

She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.

She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.

Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.

She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.

Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.

She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

She looks well to the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband too, and he praises her:

“Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.”

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 1

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.
The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Mark 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Diana Rogers

~ a short silence will be kept ~

Nicene Creed

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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 worshiped 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.**

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Come Holy Spirit fill our hearts with the assurance of your grace and mercy as we pray to you our almighty and wondrous God. May your life-giving Holy Spirit fall like rain upon all the people throughout the world so that we are united to one another in our desire for peace, love, and joy.
Come, Holy Spirit and fill us with your love.

People: Grant us your peace.

Pour out your Spirit upon our President and the leaders of the nations and for all who govern and hold authority over the welfare of the people, that they may ensure the dignity of all by lifting up the need for economic balance, food security, and a healthy environment.
Renew a sense of care and kindness.

People: We bid you gracious God.

For the holy friendship of Grace and St. James, and for all who gather for the breaking of the bread throughout the community. May the Holy Spirit invite us to holy work that we cannot foresee or imagine.
Enliven our hearts to dream dreams and see visions.

People: May you be glorified in all that we are invited to do.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that they may share with all your saints in your eternal Kingdom. May they and all who mourn feel the presence of the Holy Spirit, and let the peace that passes all understanding be with them.

People: We pray to you gracious God.

Comfort and heal all those who are suffering from any illness or adversity that they may find your life giving

Spirit in the midst of their challenges. Specifically, we ask for prayers for those on our prayer list and please add others either silently or aloud...

Give them a sense of hope in the redeemer and our advocate.

People: Now and forever good Lord.

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, you sent the Holy Spirit to be our comforter and to lead us into truth and enable us to grow into the likeness of Christ. Look with compassion upon your people and help us to be empowered by your Holy Spirit to follow the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

Confession of Sins

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

~ silence ~

Celebrant 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.

Absolution

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

† THE HOLY COMMUNION †

Offertory Hymn #529 In Christ there is No East or West

The Presentation of the Gifts: The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING †

Eucharistic Prayer A

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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.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down on this day from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations. 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.**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: 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 forever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer
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.

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The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

~ silence ~

Communion Hymn #321 My God My Table Now is Spread

A Prayer for Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Holy Sacrament you assure us of your presence within us, within the body of Christ, and the faithful through all the generations. Grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, even when unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.

Blessing †

May the Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn #544 Jesus Shall Reign

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

News & Announcements

The annual **Gales Ferry Crop Hunger Walk** will be held on Sunday, October 17. All money raised from this fundraiser helps fight food insecurity abroad as well as the Gemma Moran food bank in New London. The St. James and Grace Friendship Team are looking for people to be walkers or support our team. The walk which will start at the United Methodist Church in Gales Ferry kicking off at 1:00 pm. (It's about a four mile walk). To registers please visit:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/st-jamesgrace-friendship-team> to join our team or donate. You can also donate cash or write a check made payable to CWS/CROP and may be given to team captain, Elaine Hess. For more details, contact the office at St. James at 860-889-0150 or office@stjamespreston.org. **“Let’s get walking to fight hunger!”**

SAVE THE DATE

St. James 56th Fish Fry 2021 is on! This fall we hauled in a big catch and plan on having our famous fish fry! They will be held on the first three Fridays in October: 10/1, 10/8 & 10/15 from 4:00 to 6:30 pm. For the safety of all church-goers this event will be “Takeout only”. Would like to volunteer? Please look for our signup sheets in the parish sunroom. If you have any questions, please contact Mary, Elaine, or Dawn at the St. James office at 860-889-0150 or via email at: office@stjamespreston.org We hope to see you!

The Preston Public Library, in partnership with Hartford Healthcare, will host a vaccination clinic for Covid-19 on Thursday September 23, 1:00 to 3:30 pm. The Pfizer & Johnson & Johnson vaccine will be available. There is no registration required. ID and insurance, if applicable, to be presented. All those receiving Dose 1 at the first clinic will be scheduled for Dose 2 at second clinic (not applicable for Johnson & Johnson). Consent forms required to be signed, minors must have guardian present to sign consent form at clinic. Refreshments, created by Puffins Restaurant of Seabird Enterprises, will be provided. For additional questions, please call the library at (860) 886-1010 and ask for the director.

Scripture & Compline: Thursdays, 7pm via Zoom

Guided Healing Prayers: Fridays, 8am via Zoom