

# The Holy Friendship

of

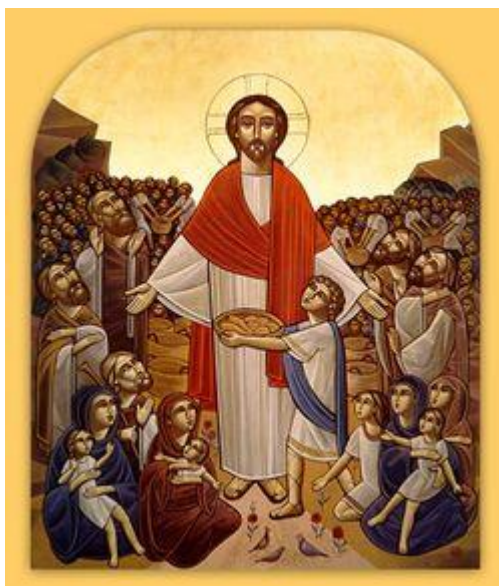
## St. James Episcopal Church

95 Route 2A | Preston, CT 06365  
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&

## Grace Episcopal Church

4 Chapel Hill Road | Yantic, CT 06389  
860-887-2082



## The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Morning Prayer Service

July 25, 2021 at 9:00 am

The Rev. Kim J. Litsey, Priest in Charge  
Robert Peck, Officiant  
Mike LaFleur & Peter Liebert, Musicians

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

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

## MORNING PRAYER

### Processional Hymn: #389 Let Us with Gladsome Mind

Officiant: Grace to you and peace from God.

### Confession of Sin

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

### Officiant 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.**

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

### The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

### Officiant & People:

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore ever. Amen.**

### Jubilate Psalm 100

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \***

**serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God; \***

**he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \***

**give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;**

**\* and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

### Psalm 14

1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \*

All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.

2 The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, \*

to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.

3 Every one has proved faithless;

all alike have turned bad; \*  
there is none who does good; no, not one.

4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*

who eat up my people like bread  
and do not call upon the LORD?

- 5 See how they tremble with fear, \*  
because God is in the company of the righteous.
- 6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
but the LORD is their refuge.
- 7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

## The Lessons

### 2 Samuel 11:1-15

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant." So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house. In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

**Reader: Here ends the Lesson**

## The Third Song of Isaiah Surge, illuminare

### Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
\* and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
For behold, darkness covers the land;  
\* deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the Lord will rise,  
\* and his glory will appear upon you.  
Nations Will stream to your light,  
\* and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open;  
\* by day or night they will never be shut.  
They will call you, The City of the Lord,  
\* The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land,

\* ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation,  
\* and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day;  
\* by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be your everlasting light,  
\* and your God will be your glory.

**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.**

## **The Epistle**

### **Ephesians 3:14-21**

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. **Amen.**

**Reader: Here ends the Lesson**

## **A Song to the Lamb - Dignus es**

### **Revelation 4:11; 5:9-10, 13**

Splendor and honor and kingly power  
\* are yours by right, O Lord our God,  
For you created everything that is,  
\* and by your will they were created and have their being;  
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain,  
\* for with your blood you have redeemed for God,  
From every family, language, people, and nation,  
\* a kingdom of priests to serve our God.  
And so, to him who sits upon the throne,  
\* and to Christ the Lamb,  
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor,  
\* for ever and for evermore.

## **Sequence Hymn: #686 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

## **The Lesson from the Gospel**

### **John 6:1-21**

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many

people?” Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.” When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**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 Prayers**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

### **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. Amen**

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.  
V. Day by day we bless you;  
R. We praise your Name for ever.  
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
R. For we put our trust in you.  
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;  
R. And we shall never hope in vain

### **The Collect**

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

Officiant: 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.**

Officiant: 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.**

### **Officiant and People:**

**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 ourselves 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.**

**Peace**

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**Announcements**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Officiant:

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: LEVAS #175 Nobody knows the Trouble I've Seen**

## News & Announcements

**Mark your Calendars!** Our annual **Holy Friendship Gathering and Picnic!** It will be on September 12 at 10:00am. This year's event will be held at the Yantic Fire Department. More information to come!

**237 Annual Convention** of the Episcopal Church in CT will be held on October 22 & October 23. Register before July 31 for early bird pricing. For more information, please go to the ECCT website at: [www.episcopalct.org](http://www.episcopalct.org)

Our next **Morning Prayer Service** is on Sunday, August 22 at 9 am, which is the fourth Sunday of the month. The service will be at St. James In-person, on Zoom & Facebook Live. Coffee hour will immediately follow. Morning Prayer will be offered every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. This is an opportunity to celebrate the gift of our Lay worship leaders.

**Free CT Food Bank Drive-Thru Food Distribution:** Every Monday in Norwich until August 31.  
Address: 28 Stonington Road, Norwich, CT 06360 - in the parking lot across from Pistol Pete Bar & Grill  
Hours: 9:30am - 12pm

**Gentle Adaptive Yoga:** Tuesdays, 5-6:15pm [SJ parish hall]  
*For more info, call Karen 860-204-0797 or [yogahealsus@yahoo.com](mailto:yogahealsus@yahoo.com)*

**Scripture & Compline:** Thursdays, 7pm via Zoom

**Guided Healing Prayers:** Fridays, 8am via Zoom.