

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost—August 28, 2022, 9 am

SUNDAY NEWS

Readings: Jeremiah 2:4-13, Psalm 81:1, 10-16, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16, Luke 14:1, 7-14,

Prelude:

“O God, Thou Faithful God”

Johannes Brahms

Opening Hymn #686 (Blue Hymnal 1982), “Come, thou fount of every blessing”

**Collect: Lord Jesus Christ, you ate and drank
with power brokers and with outcasts,
offering food, freedom, and
forgiveness to all. Help us to increase
our hospitality,
welcoming the stranger to our table
and finding ourselves face-to-face
with you. AMEN. (MLH)**

First Reading: Jeremiah 2:4-13 Hear the word of
the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the
families of the house of Israel. Thus
says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me,
and went after worthless things, and became
worthless themselves?
They did not say, "Where is the Lord
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?"
I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.
But when you entered you defiled my land,
and made my heritage an abomination.
The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?"
Those who handle the law did not know
me;
the rulers transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal,
and went after things that do not profit.
Therefore once more I accuse you, says the
Lord,
and I accuse your children's children.
Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.
Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.
Be appalled, O heavens, at this,
be shocked, be utterly desolate,
says the Lord,
for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,

the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.

Psalm 81:1, 10-16

1 Sing with joy to God our strength *
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

**10 I am the Lord your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt
and said, *"Open your mouth wide, and I
will fill it."**

11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, *
and Israel would not obey me.

**12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of
their hearts, *to follow their own devices.**

13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! *
that Israel would walk in my ways!

**14 I should soon subdue their enemies *
and turn my hand against their foes.**

15 Those who hate the Lord would cringe
before him, *and their punishment would
last for ever.

**16 But Israel would I feed with the finest
wheat *and satisfy him with honey from
the rock.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 13:1-8

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.

Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Gospel Hymn #321 (Blue Hymnal 1982) "My God, thy table now is spread"

The Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Offertory Hymn #707 (Blue Hymnal 1982), "Take my life and let it be"

Communion Music "Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness" Brahms

Final Hymn #593 (1982 Hymnal), "Lord, make us servants of your peace"

Postlude Blessed Are Those Who Live in Faith" Brahms

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Saint John's Church NEWS AND NOTES: Aug. 28, 2022

Zoom Coffee Hour, aka "Reliable Joy" Sunday at 12:30 pm. Meeting ID: 873 3272 1412 Passcode: 01930 Dial by location: 1 646 558 8656

Music Planning This Saturday! Interested in choosing hymns, suggesting anthems, and/or planning service music (the Glory to God, Holy, Holy, etc)? Please show up **tomorrow, August 27, at 9 am** for a planning session. We'll go for 2-3 hours to plan out music for September and October. All are welcome!

Meeting This Sunday--the "Question Committee" Following Coffee: The group that will be tackling the questions for the clergy job posting will gather to organize today after coffee in the Thompson Room.

Worship Time Change for Fall: On Tuesday, the vestry voted to go permanently to one service, citing the preference for gathering all together as a community and the willingness of most "8 o'clockers" to have one service. **Starting Sept. 11, worship will be held at 9:30.**

What If . . . ? Sunday is September 11! Be sure to show up for worship at 9:30 on Sunday, Sept. 11 for a chance to stretch your imagination and dream! Details to follow. . . . Sponsored by the Visioning Team.

Choir Gathering, Thursday, Sept 8: It's almost Fall! We hope to have choir involvement starting in September, even though our music director will not be coming for several months. Any people interested in singing with the choir are invited to show up to the Thompson Room on Sept 8 at 7 pm. We'll talk about music options and socializing/prayer/worship options for the Fall.

Request for Lodging: A painter and actor from Portland, Oregon is seeking a home stay for several weeks in the area, as he considers next steps in his life. He could pay \$100 per week. Please contact Elizabeth (Elizabeth@stjohnsgloucester.org) if you would like to pursue this.

Stewardship Webinar, Sept 21: Want to help the church pledge drive this year? Sign up for "Shape Up Your Stewardship! Best Practices for 2022 Campaigns" on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 6:30-8 p.m. via Zoom from the Diocese along with TENS to provide training on the challenges and opportunities of raising money for ministry in 2022. Register for this free, virtual event [here](#) and let the wardens, Sue Lupo or Lise know!

The Interfaith Climate Justice Retreat, Sept 28: Entitled "Befriending Earth, Befriending Each Other," the creation retreat will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 28th from 10-5 at the Eastern Point Retreat House. For more information, see the flyer in the fyi. Cost is \$60 and includes lunch. Pastor Lise will help facilitate.

Regal Rummage and Thrift Stop: Open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 to 2. Volunteers welcome. Your gently used but no longer needed clothes, household items, craft supplies and furniture can find a new home by donation!

Please Pray for the Search! We invite all members to engage in prayer for the search process. If you would like to be part of a dedicated praying team, please speak to Katharine Newhouse.

Vestry Notes for August 23, 2022

- The Vestry set the worship schedule for Fall 2022. From the Sunday after Labor Day, September 11, 2022, there will be a single service at 9:30AM.
- The Choir will return on September 11 at the 9:30 service. The Choir will self-rehearse on Thursday evenings either in person or via Zoom and rehearse and warm up with Eileen on Sunday Mornings before the service. Eileen has agreed to accept a \$75 per week increment to her stipend for the extra time involved.
- The Search Committee has completed the final draft of the Parish Profile and will be sending it to the Vestry who will review it, perhaps add to it and ultimately vote on it before sending it to the Diocese. This document is an important part of the search process for a new priest as it

describes who we are to prospective candidates. The congregation will have an opportunity to read the profile before it is submitted.

- The Autumn months are the start of the year for Stewardship and Pastor Lise has some ideas to make this year's campaign fun and challenging. Join the committee to work on this necessary part of our community at St. John's.
- The Vestry is looking for volunteers to fill Vestry and leadership positions for the next year. It will be an exciting time with a new priest and an opportunity for fresh voices and ideas. Interested? Ask the Vestry or Wardens about what is involved.

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost — August 28, 2022

9am

Participating in the Liturgy

Celebrant & Preacher

Lector

LEM

Acolyte

Usher

Musicians

Altar Guild

Flower Guild

The People of God gathered in St. John's Church

The Rev. Lise Hildebrandt, Interim Priest

Alex Garcia-Mata

Geoff Pope

Sue Lupo

Ian Bedford

The Congregation, Eileen Hunt, Organist

Karen Kasper and Melanie Murray-Brown

Yvonne Smikle

Action Shelter Sandwiches were provided by Debby and Steve Jencks this weekend.

The sanctuary lamp burns this week in loving memory of Jane Walsh given by Marge Bishop.

Please sign up for future dates including flower and lamp, Action Sandwiches and coffee hour. Sign ups are on the kiosk in the parish hall.

St. John's Intercession List: Debra Ketchopulos, Rita Peritore, Dawn Tesorero, Jim and Mary Drogan, the Baxter Family, Deneice, Rick Kopka, Len Berry, Ellen, Ginga Graves and Patrick DeMuller, Wayne Martin, Hope Newhouse, Jackson, Bo Goldman, Nate Mook, Lily Newhouse, Ace Newhouse, Charlie Bishop, Cecily Merrill, Ernie Runnells, Marjorie Fergusson, Sarah Hackett, Jack Ketchopulos, Jacqueline Vannah, Laurie Brown, the Featherstone family, DeeDee Bedford, Pat Earle, Michael Rocha, Liana and Joe Webb, Lynn Runnells, Laura, Becki Pedersen, Anne Sullivan, Linda, Malcolm Henderson, Sereda Feener, Emelia Currier, Danny, Patricia Anders, Meghan, David Arnold, Connor Macauley, Patti Kelleher, Margie Sonthemier, John Fleming. Contact prayer list manager: Joan Gorga 978-283-5926 or jmgorga@yahoo.com



St. John's Episcopal Church

stjohnsgloucester.org

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Alan McIntosh Gates, Bishop of Mass. & Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragen

The Rev. Lise Hildebrandt, Interim Priest
Marge Bishop, Church Assistant
Elizabeth de Veer, Parish Administrator

Staff email: first name + stjohnsgloucester.org

Wardens: Karen Kasper and Ellen Sibley

Clerk: Joan Gorga

Treasurer: Sue Lupo, Ass't. Treasurer: Geoff Pope

VESTRY: 2023: Katharine Newhouse, Jane Ward

2024: Doug Parsons, Janet Knott, Melanie Murray-Brown

2025: Steve Jencks, Dori Mottola