



**Sunday September 13, 2020**  
**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**  
**St. John's Episcopal Church, Bangor, Maine**

**Prelude**

*Berceuse, Op. 31, Louis Vierne*

**Welcome**

**The Word of God**

**Gathering Rite**

Gathering Hymn 433, v 1&3, *We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing*



1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
 2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
 3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;  
 or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;  
 and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing;  
 so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;  
 Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:

sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.  
 thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!  
 thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

## Opening Acclamation (BCP p. 355)

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

*People*

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.**

**Amen**

## Collect for Purity (BCP p. 355)

*The Celebrant may say*

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.**

## Opening Anthem or Song of Praise (BCP p. 356)

*The following is said, all standing*

**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.**

## The Collect of the Day (BCP p. 357)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## The Lessons

First Reading: Exodus 14:19-31

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

<sup>19</sup>The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. <sup>20</sup>It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. <sup>21</sup>Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. <sup>22</sup>The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. <sup>24</sup>At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. <sup>25</sup>He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." <sup>26</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." <sup>27</sup>So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. <sup>28</sup>The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup>But the Israelites walked on

dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>30</sup>Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup>Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

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

*Silence may follow.*

### **Psalm: Psalm 114**

*Said in Unison*

<sup>1</sup>**When Israel went out from Egypt,  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,**

<sup>2</sup>**Judah became God's sanctuary,  
Israel his dominion.**

<sup>3</sup>**The sea looked and fled;  
Jordan turned back.**

<sup>4</sup>**The mountains skipped like rams,  
the hills like lambs.**

<sup>5</sup>**Why is it, O sea, that you flee?  
O Jordan, that you turn back?**

<sup>6</sup>**O mountains, that you skip like rams?  
O hills, like lambs?**

<sup>7</sup>**Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD,  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,**

<sup>8</sup>**who turns the rock into a pool of water,  
the flint into a spring of water.**

## Second Reading: Romans 14:5-12

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

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

*Silence may follow.*

## Sequence Hymn 641, v 1&3v *Lord Jesus, think on me*

*All stand.*

1. Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin; from  
 2. Lord Je - sus, think on me, with care and woe op - pressed; let  
 3. Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray; through  
 4. Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past, I

earth-born pas - sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.  
 me thy lov - ing ser - vant be, and taste thy prom - ised rest.  
 dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point thou the heav' - nly way.  
 may the e - ter - nal bright-ness see, and share thy joy at last.

## Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

*All stand.*

*Deacon*           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

*Deacon*           The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*           **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### The Homily

The Rev. Marguerite A.H. Steadman, Rector



## The Creed (BCP p. 358)

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 (Form VI, BCP p. 392)

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For the Most Rev. Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop, and the Rt. Rev. Thomas Brown, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;**

**in your compassion forgive us our sins,**

known and unknown,  
 things done and left undone;  
 and so uphold us by your Spirit  
 that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
 to the honor and glory of your Name;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect*

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin (BCP p. 359)**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*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.**

*The Priest stands and says*

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 (BCP p. 360)**

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*           The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*               **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **The Holy Communion**

### **Offertory Sentence (BCP p. 376)**

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

### **Offertory Anthem**

*Theme Upon the Doxology (Old 100th)*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

### **Sursum Corda (BCP p. 361)**

*The People remain standing.*

*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.**

### **Proper Preface (BCP p. 361)**

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

### **Sanctus (BCP p. 362)**

*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.**

### **Words of Institution (BCP p. 362)**

*The People stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

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.**

### **Epiclesis (BCP p. 363)**

*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.**

### **The Lord’s Prayer (BCP p. 363)**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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,  
     forever and ever. Amen.

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

### **Fraction Anthem (BCP p. 364)**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
 Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### **Invitation (BCP p. 364)**

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In Union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you an embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. **Amen**

### **Distribution (BCP p. 365)**

*Communion from the Reserve Sacrament is available on Second Saturdays of the month from 9-11am at the Church and at the same time as our food drive for the Food Cupboard at the Bangor*

*Area Homeless Shelter. People are encouraged to make offerings of canned goods and also to come to retrieve the Sacrament to then keep at home and to receive it together on Zoom on Sundays. Communion bags with the Reserve Sacrament can also be retrieved by appointment or by requesting delivery by emailing [community@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:community@stjohnsbangor.org).*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in Eternal Life. **Amen.**

### **Post-Communion Prayer (BCP p. 365)**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us spiritually  
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 (BCP p. 366)**

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

### **Announcements**

### **Dismissal (BCP p. 366)**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.



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

## **Postlude**

Adagio and Fugue in C major, BWV 564

**For the Sick, Injured, or Distressed** – Eileen, Angela O., Veronica, Andrew L., Justin O., Stevens W., Ann L., Jacob B., Chris, Lois N., Deej P., Nyree O., Patricia, Devin, Tracy, David, Aidan, and Gretchen. *Continued prayers for* – Robert B., Phillip F., Ralph R., Ross M., Katie, and Bobby.

**For our Homebound Members** – Evelyn L., Joline F., Kathleen D., Mary, Charles, Robert B., Christa F., Lilly P., Earlene B., Cathy K., Betty C. and Eileen H.

**For Everyone affected by the COVID19 virus:** for students, families, teachers, and school administrators as they learn new patterns and behaviors and strive to protect the safety of all. For all who are sick or dying, all who mourn, all who are isolated, anxious, or scared; for those most vulnerable in our institutions and on our streets, for those sacrificing and volunteering to provide safe beds and nutritious meals; for all who are working in essential services, especially our doctors and nurses and all in our health care systems, for all working in our grocery stores and supply chains, and for those who clean and sterilize; for all who willingly sacrifice their own needs and desires for sake of others' health and well being.

**For the World:** for Peace and Goodwill among Nations and for peoples in war-torn places, especially those in those in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Iraq. For an end to war and all forms of violence. For all who suffer for conscience's sake. For our enemies and those who wish us harm. For all suffering effects of climate change and of natural disasters, especially in California, Oregon,. For refugees, immigrants, and those who are displaced, especially for children.

**For our Nation:** for all those who lost family and friends on September 11th 19 years ago, for the people of Kenosha, WI, Portland, OR, for all who suffer from injustice; for eyes to see injustice and for the will to work for fairness for all of God's people; for all who protest and for those who are charged to maintain our safety; and for all who struggle to change our world and its systems of oppression.

**For the Leaders of our Country, State and Community:** Donald Trump, President; Members of Congress, especially, Susan Collins, Angus King, Chellie Pingree, Jared Golden of Maine; Janet Mills, Governor; and Clare Davitt, Mayor - that they govern with wisdom, civility, and compassion.

**For our Military Personnel**, especially those of this Parish: Sarah M., Dillan L., Joshua M., Aaron B., and Timothy W.

**For the Departed** - Joan Zapf, Frances Yorks, for all who have died from the Corona Virus around the world; All who have died from racial injustice and violence around the world.

**With Thanksgiving** for the lives of those celebrating birthdays during the week - Jim B., Fran C., Bruce M., Patricia M., Chiamaka M., Jack P., Natalya S., Phillip U., and Christopher W.

*If you would like to add or reinstate a name or concern for our parish prayer list, please contact one of the clergy. Please use this list for your own personal prayers too.*

## Announcements, Opportunities & Invitations

Our last **family afternoon prayer** in this series will be at **3:30pm on Sunday, Sept. 13th** in the church yard. We hope that you can come hear the story of Moses parting the Red Sea and pray with us! Please RSVP to Ann-Marie at [youth@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:youth@stjohnsbangor.org) so we can make sure we are good with space.

**Join us this evening, Sunday September 13th, at 5:00pm for Evening Prayer in the Churchyard of St. John's.** The service includes worship with live music, scripture, prayer and silence in the cool and quiet of a summer evening. (Masks and social distancing are required.) Space is limited so please reserve your space now.  
<https://onrealm.org/stjohnsbangor/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=MmE4MjNkYTktYzFlMi00ZTI4LTk4OTktYWMyMjAxNGY5YzB>

**You're invited to Tea Time with Phoebe (the Holy Guinea Pig), on Sunday September 13th at 5:00pm.** Yes, we are all tired of ZOOM, but some of us find this a helpful way to connect in these distancing times. Tea Time has come to be a place for our previous coffee-hour conversations, but in some ways even better - with fewer distractions we are more fully able to share and discuss our cares and concerns and ways to help our neighbors, even while socially distanced. So even if you have not attended in the past, feel free to drop in at any time - and stay for a while, or for the entire time. The gathering lasts at most an hour.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84006054306?pwd=ZmJHVXI4WGJLZ1FuYnB1WWkreUNadz09> Questions, feel free to contact me, Ann, at [deacon@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:deacon@stjohnsbangor.org).

**Some folks were missing compline. SO - We are offering it! Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm for compline, or Night Prayers.** Compline is later in the day than Evening Prayer for those of us who work. It is past suppertime and the nightly news for others. The service lasts about 15 minutes and is a lovely way to conclude the day. We will try this until the end of September. For now, we are embracing the familiar, and using the Book of Common Prayer service (BCP page 127). Need a copy of the service? Have a question? Let me know: [deacon@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:deacon@stjohnsbangor.org). Please feel free to drop (ZOOM) in: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85863792988?pwd=K0cwNERZS08yTzZYTE1rWnlvWHBDUT09>

**Please join us on Thursday September 17th for our very first Eucharist back in the Church** since we closed our doors due to COVID-19 in March. We will be observing 6ft social distancing, your temperature will be taken and masks covering your nose and mouth are mandatory. Space is limited, so you must register online at <https://onrealm.org/stjohnsbangor/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=YzI4MDNjN2ItOGI0Mi00MjA4LWI0YzQtYWZmMjAxNDdiM>

**Part-Time is Plenty: Thriving without Full-Time Clergy, by G. Jeffrey MacDonald: book discussion on Zoom.** Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, now through October 1st. The book is quite relevant to the experience parishes (including St. John's Episcopal) face when transitioning from a full-time rector to a part time priest. This holds true for part-time priests as a permanent change within a parish or whether it is an interim transition in between a rector's replacement. The book is both inspiring, practical and would provide for a spirited discussion, among a small group, of changes we at St. John's are about to undergo; and how to best navigate through those changes. If you are interested in participating in this Zoom group discussion, please contact Ross Moczo at [roscoe@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:roscoe@stjohnsbangor.org) or Scott Burgess at [scott@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:scott@stjohnsbangor.org).

**SACRED GROUND at St. John's:** "*Sacred Ground*" is a Film-Based Dialogue Series on Race & Faith created by Episcopal Church staff led by film director Katrina Brown. Its set of videos and workbooks are used to facilitate conversations on racism and reconciliation. The group for St. John's is postponed so as not to overlap with the Diocesan group that begins September 16 and that meets every three weeks on-line on Wednesdays from 2pm-4pm. If you'd like to learn more or to register, please go to the Diocesan website at <https://www.episcopalmaine.org/ministry/advocacy-social-justice/racial-justice#SACRED>. Background reading for the group includes *Waking up White* by Debby Irving, and *Jesus*

*and the Disinherited*, by Howard Thurman. Even if you can't join the Diocesan group, consider reading the books. If you'd like to be part of discussion groups at St. John's on these books or to plan for Sacred Ground at St. John's, please contact our Formation Director, Patricia Sprague, at [formation@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:formation@stjohnsbangor.org).

To all of our wonderful volunteers who donate their time and efforts to cooking and serving at the Salvation Army with us, we have exciting news. **The Salvation Army began allowing volunteers back into the building to cook!** Our group is signed up for the 4th Tuesday. We'll be cooking and placing the food into to-go boxes which the Salvation Army staff will then serve from the truck. We will be practicing social distancing and masks are required, so please bring one. **We look forward to seeing you again at the Salvation Army on September 22nd from 10:00am to 1:30pm!**

**The Gospel of Mark. Our annual 50-Day Bible Challenge** will be starting on September 27th at 11:30am. Copies of the daily readings and reflections (A Journey with Mark) are available from the parish for \$13. If you would like to reserve a book, email your request to [formation@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:formation@stjohnsbangor.org). You'll be contacted to arrange a convenient delivery method.

Each month, **Communion from the Reserve Sacrament will be available on Second Saturdays** of the month from 9-11am at the Church and at the same time as our food drive for the Food Cupboard at the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter. October 10th will be our next Second Saturday. People are encouraged to make offerings of canned goods and also to come to retrieve the Sacrament to then keep at home and to receive it together on Zoom on Sundays. Communion bags with the Reserve Sacrament can also be retrieved by appointment or by requesting delivery by emailing [community@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:community@stjohnsbangor.org).

**Extra help is needed for our monthly serving at Second Saturday, hosted at St. John's.** We are scheduled to serve next on **October 10th from 11:30am-1:30pm.** We are currently serving "to go" meals, observing social distancing and masks are required. No need to sign up in advance, or even commit to coming monthly. Just stop in to help out when you can.

**Would you be interested in reading from the comfort of your home any weekday at 9am?** Please contact Patricia Sprague by email at [formation@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:formation@stjohnsbangor.org) to let her know which weekday you'd like to read. You do need a computer, tablet or phone with a camera and microphone to be a reader.

Are you computer savvy? **We're looking for volunteers to help stream our Sunday services. We use Zoom, OBS Software and YouTube.** Are you not a computer wizard but comfortable with basic computer skills? **We also need volunteers to share their screen and music while in Zoom during the service.** If you'd be interested in regularly volunteering on Sunday mornings doing one of these duties, please contact Vanessa at [admin@stjohnsbangor.org](mailto:admin@stjohnsbangor.org).

**You may give online** at <https://stjohnsbangor.org/online-giving/> or **by texting** "StJohnsBangor Donation \$50" to 73256 to donate using your text messaging. (Any amount donation can be made, \$50 is just the example.) Standard text message rates do apply. **Donations by check can be mailed** to : St. John's Episcopal Church, 234 French St., Bangor ME 04401. Thank you for your continued support.