



# SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Ashfield, Massachusetts

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 14, 2026

## Welcome to Saint John's!

Our mission at St. John's Church in Ashfield is to grow, through worship, in God's gospel of hospitality and wholeness, and to faithfully live that word in our fellowship, families, communities, and the world. May all who enter here be received as Christ.

## A Land Acknowledgement

We worship and share God's mission on the unceded land of the Nipmuc, Pocumtuc, and Wabanaki peoples. We are mindful that our blessing came at the price of their sorrow and we pledge to grow in our awareness of racial injustice with God's help.

## Invitation to Holy Communion

This is God's table. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To eat, present your hands to be given bread. To drink, take a sip as the cup is held to your lips. To receive a blessing, instead of bread, cross your arms on your chest.

An \* indicates that we invite you to stand as you are able

**Bold** text is said by the assembly

Prelude Bach's Menuet in G, BWV Anh. 116

Emmet Chilton-Sugerman

\***Gathering Hymn** #539

*O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling*

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

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

\***Gloria** S- 277

*Hurd*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Collect of the Day*

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The First Reading*

*Genesis 18:1-15; (21:1-7)*

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

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

*Psalm 116:1,10-17*

*Responsively by whole verse*

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, \*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

<sup>10</sup> **How shall I repay the LORD \***  
**for all the good things he has done for me?**

<sup>11</sup> I will lift up the cup of salvation \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup> **I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \***  
**in the presence of all his people.**

<sup>13</sup> Precious in the sight of the LORD \*  
is the death of his servants.

<sup>14</sup> **O LORD, I am your servant; \***  
**I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.**

<sup>15</sup> I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

<sup>16</sup> **I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \***  
**in the presence of all his people,**

<sup>17</sup> In the courts of the LORD'S house, \*  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*Sequence Hymn #556

*Rejoice, ye pure in heart*

*The Gospel*

*Matthew 9:35-10:8*

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The Sermon*

*Rev. Mark Hatch*

*Shared silence*

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:  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.

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 Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Miguelina 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.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

*Cycles of Prayer*

We pray for all those in our cycles of prayer: In the Anglican cycle we pray for Church of the Province of South East Asia. In our Diocesan cycle we pray for St. John's, Northampton; Trustees for the Diocese; Covenant of Friendship with Diocese of Asante-Mampong, Ghana. In our towns' cycle we pray for police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical first responders. Among our members and friends, we pray for Dr. Sayed Jafar Ahmadi & Zeinab Musavi, Ali, Amir, Fatima; Christy Jo Anderson, Kevin Gallagher, Innis; Peter Atkinson; James Ault, Margaret, Henry; Tom & Katherine Bakey, Griffin, Remick, Innis. We pray for those who serve in the armed forces, including Richard Bromberg. And among our ministries we pray for our Prayer Team.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

*Confession of Sin*

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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 Bishop, when present, or 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*

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*Wardens' Welcome & God Moments*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Anthem: St. John's Madrigal Singers *My God, thy table now has spread*

*Celebrant* God 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 our thanks and praise.**

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

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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** LEVAS 255

*Brown*

Holy and gracious God: 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 maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, 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 Christ. 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 Jesus Christ our Savior: By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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.**

**The Breaking of the Bread** S-161

*Hurd*

*Prayer for Spiritual Communion*

*Armed Services Prayer Book, 2008*

**ALL:** In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory.

CONGREGANTS ONLINE: Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come.

**ALL: Amen.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Anthem

*On Eagle's Wings*

Let us pray.

**\* Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
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.**

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

**\*Recessional Hymn #WLP 780**

*Lord, you give the great commission*

*The Dismissal*

Postlude Tchaikovsky's Waltz of the Flowers

Emmet Chilton-Sugerman

*Please stay for coffee and conversation!*

## EVENTS

June 14: The Rev. Mark Hatch is our supply priest

June 21: The Rev. Mark Hatch is our supply priest

June 21: Vestry Meeting 11:30am

June 23: Hilltown Churches Food Pantry

June 26: Love in a Backpack filling at the Corner House 3-4pm

June 28: Bishop's Visitation

June 28: Loose plate offering is dedicated to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund

July 5: The Rev. Mark Hatch is our supply priest

July 12: Rev. Canon Steven Wilco is our supply priest

July 16: Community Picnic at St. John's 5pm

**Would you like to make a donation to St. John's?** Please scan this code to donate by credit card, debit card, or with a PayPal account.

Thank you for your generous support!



## Acknowledgements

- The Book of Common Prayer, 1979
- Eucharistic Prayer A, Expansive
- The Book of Occasional Services 2022
- The Holy Bible, The New Revised Standard Version
- Venite App

## CONTACT US

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### *Lay Leaders & Clergy*

**Co-Senior Wardens:** Sue Craft, 413-628-0289 and Andy Wickline, 413-628-1220

**Junior Warden:** Maddy Roberts

**Treasurer:** Raven Harris **Assistant Treasurer:** Jody Skinger Hall **Clerk:** Darlene Monds

**Vestry:** Lynnette Leidy Sievert, Jane Wagener

**Licensed Preachers:** Raven Harris, Andrew Wickline

**Lay Eucharistic Visitors:** Sue Craft, Andrew Wickline, Kristen Wickline, Jane Wagener

**Licensed Worship Leaders:** Andrew Wickline, Kristen Wickline, Sue Craft, Maddy Roberts

### *Staff*

**Director, Madrigal Singers:** Julie Meservey

**Organist:** Emmet Chilton-Sugerman

**Parish Administrator:** Lis Henry **email:** stjohnsashfield@gmail.com

**Financial Administrator:** Amy Murray **Sexton:** John Wickline

### *Ministries*

**Pastoral Care Team:** Sue Craft

**Digital Ministry:** Ted and Kara Toothaker, Andy Wickline, Jane Kaufman

**Buildings & Grounds Team:** Maddy Roberts **Green Team:** Kristen Wickline

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Kristen Wickline **LOVE in a Backpack:** Jenny Burke

**Bicentennial Celebrations:** Addison Hall

Would you like to support our Love in a Backpack program? Purchase items directly from our wish list by scanning this code:



Thank you!