



Welcome to
St. John the Divine Episcopal Church
17740 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037



September 1, 2024
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist

St. John the Divine Episcopal Church in Morgan Hill is a welcoming, inclusive community, sharing the Love of God with one another through prayer, worship, fellowship, and pastoral care, and through our outreach ministries in the South Valley communities and the Diocese of El Camino Real.

WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn:

God My King, Thy Might Confessing

Richard Mant (1776-1848)

H #414

STUTTGART

para. Ps 145:1-12

Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andachtige und Schone Gesange 1715

♩ = 80

1. God, my King, thy might con - fes - sing, ev - er will I bless thy Name;
2. Ho - nor great our God be - fit - teth; who his ma - jes - ty can reach?
5. Full of kind - ness and com - pas - sion, slow to an - ger, vast in love,
6. All thy works, O Lord, shall bless thee; thee shall all thy saints a - dore;

day by day thy throne ad - dres - sing, still will I thy praise pro - claim.
Age to age his works trans - mit - teth, age to age his power shall teach.
God is good to all cre - a - tion; all his works his good - ness prove.
King su - preme shall they con - fess thee, and pro - claim thy sover - eign power.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Collect for Purity

All

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



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

God of unclean hands, touching those rejected by the world, despised by the religious: guide us from false purity which hides misshapen hearts; lead us to the joyful feast in which all are renewed; through Jesus Christ, the beauty of God's face. **Amen.**

The Lessons

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

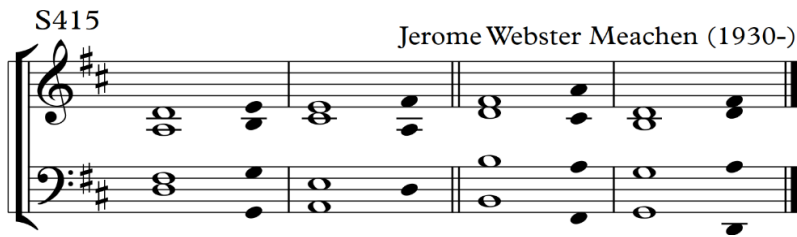
But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

***All:* Thanks be to God.**

Psalm:

Psalm 15



- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act-they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Gradual: H660 – O Master let me walk with thee

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly; 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,; 3 Teach me thy pa - tience; still with thee in clos - er,; 4 in hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the paths of ser - vice free; tell me thy se - cret; win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward; dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith; fu - ture's broad - ening way, in peace that on - ly help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care. feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way. sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong, thou canst give, with thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me thy pa - tience; still with thee in clos - er,
4 in hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice free; tell me thy se - cret;
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fu - ture's broad - ening way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
thou canst give, with thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Gospel Reading

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

***All:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Savior.

***All:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Karen Cuffie

Nicene Creed

**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,
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.**

Prayers of the People

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in
your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the
world.
In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for all who labor that all shall
earn a living wage and be treated with honor and respect.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

(You are invited to offer your own petitions either silently or aloud.)

Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

(You are invited to offer your own petitions either silently or aloud.)

Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: God and Father of all, hear our prayers for all in need and fill your hungry people with bread from heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Confession of Sin

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

(There will be a moment of silence)

People: **God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. *Amen.***

Absolution

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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.**

Exchange peace.

***Offertory:* Come, Ye Thankful People, Come,**
arr. Bran & Adams, by George J. Elvey

Jim Blessing
and Doni Bundros

Doxology (Old 100th):

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;

praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep
and brought all things into being:

sun, moon, and stars;

earth, winds, and waters;

and every living thing.

You made us in your image,

and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;

and yet, as a mother cares for her children,
you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us

to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels
in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,
lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord *Sanctus*

S130

Setting from *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert, arr. Richard Proulx

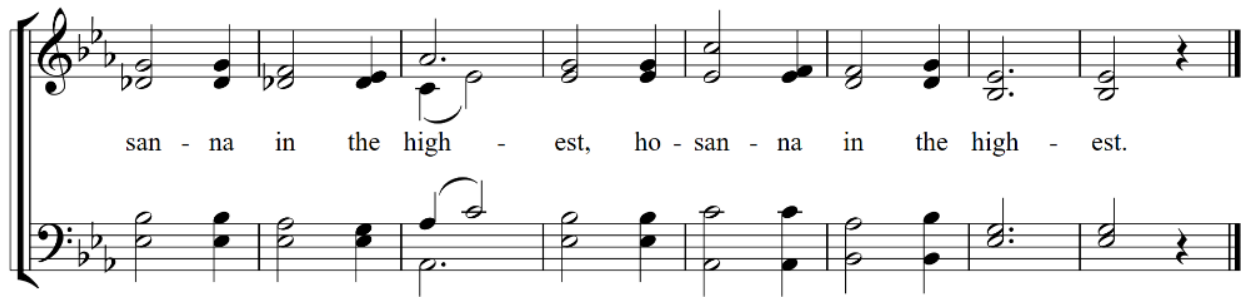
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, —

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, —

hea - ven and earth are full, — full — of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes — in the name of the Lord. — Ho -



The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death
and to reveal the riches of your grace,
you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,
that she might conceive and bear a son,
Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us.
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.

He yearned to draw all the world to himself
yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
the sacrifice of his life,
and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:
“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”
As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,
gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you:

This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,
with St. John and St. Stephen and all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
to feast at the banquet prepared
from the foundation of the world.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

People and Celebrant

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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

Communion Hymn 1: H707 – Take my life

1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;

take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

Take my hands, and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.

take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Communion Hymn 2: Taize – Oh Lord hear my prayer

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 72. The score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the next two lines. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: Em, C6, D, G, C, Am6, B in the first system, and Em, C6, D, G6, Am, B, Em in the second system. The lyrics are written below the staves. The first system ends with a comma, and the second system ends with a double bar line and the word 'fine'.

♩ = 72

Em C⁶ D G C Am⁶ B

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me. O
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God. The

Em C⁶ D G⁶ Am B Em *fine*

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O
Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well - spring of life. The

fine

Post Communion Prayer

Please stand

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Compassionate and loving God,
through your Son Jesus Christ you have fed us,
and reconciled your people to yourself.
May we who have shared in this holy meal
know your forgiveness in our lives,
bring your reconciliation to others,
and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.
Following Christ's example of fasting and prayer,
may we obey you with willing hearts
and serve one another in holy love. Amen.**

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Birthday Blessing: Watch over your birthday *children*, O Lord; as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Blessing: O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The world now is too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone. Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor. May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love. May your feet be so blessed you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, your love, changes everything. And may the blessing of the God who Created you, Loves you, and Sustains you be with you now and always. **Amen.**

Mission Song: H344 – Lord, dismiss us

The musical score is written for three voices (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a clear harmonic structure. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion for thy Gos - pel's
3 so that when thy love shall call us, Sa - vior, from the

joy and peace; let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound: may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
 glad thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to thy truth may we be found;
 may we ev - er reign with thee in end - less day.

The Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Birthdays this week: Jayne Perryman

Mark your calendar:

- Wednesday Book Group, every Wednesday morning at St. John's, 11am
- Tuesday, September 3 – Ending of Pastoral Relationship, Bishop Lucinda presiding, 4pm at St. Stephen's

Parish announcements:

- Community Solutions always needs diapers and wipes.
- We are also collecting full sized toiletries and cleaning supplies. Please drop off your donations at the church.
- Our new website is **sjdmh.org**. The QR code to the website is:



If you are a visitor to St. John's and are interested in learning more about us, or would like to receive our weekly newsletter, please sign the visitors book near the entrance or email Rev. Karen at revkaren.sjd@gmail.com.

Vestry Members

John Feret, *Senior Warden* • Jim Blessing, *Junior Warden* •
Bethan Bath • Terre Chocholaty • Mary Ludwick