“Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”
Mark 9:50

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 26, 2021
10:30 AM   Jazz Eucharist
PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

LEVAS 194

*Please stand as able*

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**Celebrant:** Blessed be the One, Holy, Living God.

**People:** Glory to God for ever and ever.
COLLECT FOR PURITY (said together)

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.

SONG OF PRAISE

Glory, Glory Hallelujah

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.
The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me— that is my petition— and the lives of my people— that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Remain seated for the Psalm and say in unison.

THE PSALM Psalm 124 Nisi quia Dominus

1 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;
2 If the LORD had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;
3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;
4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;
5 Then would the raging waters *  
    have gone right over us.
6 Blessed be the LORD! *  
    he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *  
    the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
8 Our help is in the Name of the LORD, *  
    the maker of heaven and earth.

SECOND LESSON  
James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Lector:  The Word of the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.

All stand and sing before and after the Gospel is read.
Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 9:38-50

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON Tudy Hill, Minister of Spirituality & Aging

JAZZ RESPONSE
A musical response to the sermon

THE NICENE CREED
Standing, as able

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for the whole Church; strengthen your people wherever they work and witness in the world. We lift up the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, praying especially for Christ Church, Stratford; Trinity, Tariffville; St Peter’s/Trinity, Thomaston; and Trinity, Torrington. In the worldwide Anglican Communion, we pray for The Church of the Province of Uganda. 
Our help is in the Name of the Lord, 
The maker of heaven and earth.

We pray especially for the young girls and women in Afghanistan, deprived of an education and the opportunity to work in their chosen professions. 
Our help is in the Name of the Lord, 
The maker of heaven and earth.
We pray for migrants seeking to enter the United States along its southern border. May they perseverence as this nation struggles to develop a just and honorable immigration policy.
Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
The maker of heaven and earth.

In this time of changing seasons, as we admire the fall colors may we renew our efforts to protect our environment.
Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
The maker of heaven and earth.

God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. We remember Alyce, Andy and Tim Barnes; Bill; Brenda Jaske and her family; Charles Amore; David; Hanne Howard; Kassie; Mary; Stephen; and all on our prayer list.

We celebrate with those having birthdays or anniversaries this week, especially Suzy & Dwayne McDowell on the occasion of their anniversary. May the grace of God strengthen their love to endure forever.
Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
The maker of heaven and earth.

Give comfort to those who mourn, including parish members who grieve the loss of a loved one; people everywhere who have lost loved ones to Covid-19; migrants repatriated to countries that are unsafe.
Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
The maker of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or conceive, by the power that is already at work in and among us, be glory through the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all ages. AMEN.

CONFESSION
Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.
Celebrant 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.
ABSOLUTION  
_Celebrant:_ 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:_ La paz del Senor sea siempre con ustedes.  
_People:_ Y con tu espiritu.  
_Celebrant:_ The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
_People:_ And also with you.  
The people greet one another with a sign of God’s peace and then are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR A BIRTHDAY  
O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

PRAYER FOR AN ANNIVERSARY  
Gracious and everliving God, look mercifully upon Suzy & Dwayne McDowell as they celebrate the anniversary of their marriage. Grant them your grace that they may so love, honor, and cherish one another, in faithfulness, patience, wisdom, and truth that their life together is a witness to your unfailing love and forgiveness. Through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.

OFFERTORY  
_Celebrant:_ Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERTORY MUSIC


**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**  
*Eucharistic Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer*

**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.

The Celebrant continues  
It is right, and 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:

**Celebrant and People:**  
**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**
The Celebrant continues
We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,
Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues
And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Paul, St. James, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

The Great AMEN.
THE LORD’S PRAYER
Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

O ur Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your Name,
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,
and the power, and the glory
are yours, now and for ever.
AMEN.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept.

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. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Celebrant: 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 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 BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN    H347

1 Go forth for God; go ______ to the world in peace;
2 Go forth for God; go ______ to the world in love;
3 Go forth for God; go ______ to the world in strength;
4 Go forth for God; go ______ to the world in joy;

be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;
to serve God's people every day and hour,
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,
help the afflicted; richly from above render to no one evil; Christ at length
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
till in thy kingdom we ______ behold thy face.
thy love supplies the grace ______ and power we seek.
shall overcome all darkness with his light.
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.

DISMISSAL
Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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We continue to livestream our Sunday morning service at 10:30 a.m.

Please note that you cannot access the Sunday morning service via Zoom. Go to our web site: www.stpaulstjames.org or our Facebook page.

You can, however, use Zoom to participate in our Compline services every Tuesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. by clicking the following link: St. PJ's Compline
Alternatively, you can go to Zoom.com, click on “Join a Meeting”, and enter meeting #: 962885125 and passcode 5700, if prompted.

Our Wednesday Noonday service will be conducted in person in the Chapel at 12:20 p.m. every Wednesday during September. Masks Required.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join our ECCT Region Missionaries, Rev. Rachel Thomas, Dylan Mello, and Maggie Breen for a series of hour-long conversations around “The Way of Love.” It is more than a program or curriculum, it is an intentional commitment to a set of practices. It’s a commitment to follow Jesus: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest. The second session meets on Tuesday, September 28th at 12 Noon. To register, please visit: https://www.episcopalct.org/ECCTCalendar/2021/09/28/ecct-stories-along-the-way-of-love-1/
**PRAYERS & THANKS**

We pray for the souls of the faithful departed and their families and friends.

We remember our loved ones who have died.

Blessed are they who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit for they rest from their labors.

- Revelations 14:13

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

We give thanks for the birthdays and anniversaries of members, friends, and supporters of the St. PJ’s community.

Suzy & Dwayne McDowell (9/28)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing...

- Romans 15:13

**ST. PJ’S PRAYER LIST**

The list reflects prayer requests for those who are homebound, or who have long-term concerns. During the Prayers of the People we read aloud the names of those who are experiencing acute illness or distress.

- Charles Amore
- Charles Harris
- Chris and Leslie
- Jennifer Nelson
- Ebenezer Caine
- Gary & Susan Sapp
- Gwen Chapin
- Hanne Howard
- Henry Noyes
- Alyce, Tim & Andy Barnes
- Nihal de Lannerolle
- Ralph Efird & Teresa Zichichi
- Maxine Dunlop
- Julia
- Kathie Silvey
- Krista Fanelli
- Laura Luzzi
- Leota Tucker
- Lisa Layman
- Martha
- Mary Creaser
- Revs. Barbara & Dexter Cheney
- Kassie
- Tiras, Isis & Eileen Jaske
- Jill Strawn
- Maxine Dunlop
- Julia
- Kathie Silvey
- Krista Fanelli
- Laura Luzzi
- Leota Tucker
- Lisa Layman
- Martha
- Mary Creaser
- Revs. Barbara & Dexter Cheney
- Kassie
- Tiras, Isis & Eileen Jaske
- Jill Strawn
- Olivia Rose
- Pam Sayre
- Alene Tate
- Sally Edwards
- Stephen Lett
- Brenda Jaske
- Vanetta Lloyd
- Inge Osborne
- Wilma & Thurmon Whitley
- Jarrell Evans
- Thomas Alumasa
- Bill

**OUR STAFF**

The Rev. Harlon Dalton, Priest-in-Charge
William Cleary, Director of Music
Andrew Fermo, Assistant Director of Music
Tudy Hill, Minister of Spirituality and Aging
Susan Yates, Liturgist
Crystal Gooding, Parish Administrator
Samuel Rodriguez, Sexton

The Rev. Steve Crowson, Priest Associate
The Rev. Nathan Empsall, Priest Associate

**OUR VESTRY**

Wardens: Brian Fillmore, Claire Cody
Treasurer: David Hill
Clerk: Maggie King

Bill Evans
Sally Fleming
Jeff Lange
Maggie King
Nate Solberg
Agatha Zichichi-Evans
Max Clayton
Lynne Severance
David Tate

Olivia Rose
Pam Sayre
Alene Tate
Sally Edwards
Stephen Lett
Brenda Jaske
Vanetta Lloyd
Inge Osborne
Wilma & Thurmon Whitley
Jarrell Evans
Thomas Alumasa
Bill

Nanci Pabon Perez