Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 9, 2023
10:30 AM   Morning Prayer
PRELUDE

Please rise, in body or in spirit.

OPENING HYMN  H657  Love divine, all loves excelling

Leader: Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Psalm 43:3

CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

Leader: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. AMEN.

Leader: O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.
People: And your glory all the day long.

All: Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. AMEN.

Please be seated for the the Psalm and the Readings.

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved!
    Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
    bounding over the hills.
My beloved is like a gazelle
    or a young stag.
Look, there he stands
    behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
    looking through the lattice.
My beloved speaks and says to me:
"Arise, my love, my fair one,
    and come away;
for now the winter is past,
    the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth;
    the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
    is heard in our land.
The fig tree puts forth its figs,
    and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
    and come away."
A READING FROM Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

The servant said to Laban, "I am Abraham’s servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.’

“I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,” and who will say to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your camels also” — let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master’s son.’

“Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms.
Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.” Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-elahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

Lector:  Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People:  Thanks be to God.

All:  Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. AMEN.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus said to the crowd, “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Lector:  Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People:  Thanks be to God.

SERMON  Claire Cody

JAZZ RESPONSE
A musical response to the sermon

Please rise, in body or in spirit.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.  AMEN.

Leader:  The Lord be with you.
People:  And also with you.

Leader:  Let us pray.
**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**O**r 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.**

**P**adre nuestro

que estás en los cielos
Santificado sea tu Nombre
Venga tu reino
Hágase tu voluntad
En la tierra como en el cielo
Danos hoy el pan de este día y
perdona nuestras deudas
como nosotros perdonamos
nuestros deudores
y no nos dejes caer en el tentación
sino que líbranos del mal.

Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la
Gloria, ahora y por siempre. **AMEN.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**  
*BCP, p. 230*

**O** God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

God of our ancestors, your people trusted you in all endeavors when seeking new lands, families and homes. May we be so trusting in your generous love and care for all peoples. We will make your name to be remembered,

**Therefore nations shall praise you.**

All knowing God, be with your churches throughout the world, especially the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, that we might trust in your Word and your direction for your church to move forward, so we might be truly your people in our corner of the world. We will make your name to be remembered,

**Therefore nations shall praise you.**

God of Creation, the climate emergency is here, whether we notice the smog from Canadian fires or floods that wreak havoc around the world. May we be mindful of our part in this
ongoing upheaval and do what we can to monitor our use of the earth’s resources. We will make your name to be remembered,

**Therefore nations shall praise you.**

Compassionate God, we remember those on our prayer list, especially The Morgan Family, Greta, Mary Jane, Matt, Nanci, Nancy, Jean & Dick, Bruce & Ann and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. Please offer other names silently or aloud.

We remember those who have died, Susan Sapp. May she rest in peace. We remember the family who mourns her loss.

We will make your name to be remembered,

**Therefore nations shall praise you.**

Loving God, you came to bring peace among people, yet this message has been lost among the warring factions in Sudan, Syria, Yemen, Israel and Palestine. Ukraine fights for a democracy and their homeland. We pray for the people caught in the midst of these struggles and those forced to flee. We will make your name to be remembered,

**Therefore nations shall praise you.**

Leader: Almighty God, may we put our faith and trust in you alone. Jesus showed us that loving trust to the point of death upon the cross. Yet, he rose to new life and invites us to the same. We ask this, O God, through Jesus, your son and together with your life giving spirit, our Triune God. **AMEN.**

**THE PEACE**

*Celebrant:* La paz del Senor sea siempre con ustedes.  
*People:* Y con tu espíritu.

*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**

**BIRTHDAY PRAYER**

O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, especially Suzy McDowell as she begin another year. Grant that she may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen her trust in your goodness all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

**OFFERTORY**

*Leader:* But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.  
*(Hebrews 13:15, 16)*
OFFERTORY HYMN  
We’ll understand it better by and by

Please rise, in body or in spirit.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM
Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. AMEN.

Leader:  Let us bless the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.
CLOSING HYMN  H482  Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
   whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy,
   be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
   your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2 Lord of all carelessness, Lord of all faith,
   whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
   be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
   your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3 Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
   whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
   be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
   your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
   whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy,
   be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
   your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.


DISMISSAL
Leader: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.
People: AMEN.

POSTLUDE

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ST. PJS COVID-19 POLICY

Beginning June 11, masking will be optional at St. PJs worship services, meetings, and events. This decision was made by the leadership of the parish after carefully weighing public health recommendations as well as the ongoing needs and desires of the parish. St. PJs remains a “mask-friendly” environment. Please respect everyone’s personal decisions whether or not to wear a mask.

In addition, please be aware that by attending church, you are participating in our live stream, which means you may appear in a video which is streamed and archived on our YouTube or Facebook page.
WELCOME TO ST. PJ's!

If you’re visiting St. PJ’s for the first time, or for the first time in a while, we extend a special welcome to you. Whether you are joining us in the building or via Facebook, we’re so fortunate to be together. Know that whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on life’s journey, and whatever questions dwell in your heart, you are welcome here. Whatever your race, class, sexuality, beliefs, or talents, we hope that you join us in the radical hospitality of God’s table.

If you are worshipping with children today, welcome! And please don’t worry – crying, laughter, and wandering little feet don’t bother us! If you need help finding the bathrooms or a changing table please ask an Usher.

Finally, we invite you to consider signing one of our guest books, located at the front and back of the church. This will allow us to keep you up-to-date on all the “goings on” around St. PJ's.

________________________________________________________________________________________

FUNERAL FOR SUSAN SAPP

Long-time member and former Parish Secretary of St. PJ's, Susan Sapp, died on Monday, July 3, 2023. A Funeral for Susan and Internment of Remains in the Columbarium will be held at St. PJ's on Tuesday, July 11 at 4 p.m.

________________________________________________________________________________________

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you someone who wishes to write the Prayers of the People once a month? If interested, please see Marilyn Bergen or text me at 203 605-2811 or email: mjb.bergen@gmail.com

________________________________________________________________________________________

SUMMER EVENTS WITH YOUNG ADULT EPISCOPALIAN (YAE)

Sunday June 25th @ 5pm - House Church - Wooster Square Neighborhood (Host: Barbara Lamb, Trinity parishioner)

Saturday, July 15 @ 9:30am - Poetry Breakfast with Arepas - Near Downtown (Host: Diana Nunez)

Sunday July 23 @ 5pm - House Church - East Rock Neighborhood (Host: Lizzy Lee)

Sunday Aug 27 @ 5pm - House Church - Hamden Neighborhood (Host: Whitney Batson)

Saturday Sep 9th @ 6:10pm - Yard Goats Baseball Night - Hartford (10 tickets available - email yaeforjesus@gmail.com now to reserve a ticket!)

SHARE A PRAYER

People say that walking on water is a miracle, but to me, walking peacefully on the earth is the real miracle.

(Thich Nhat Hanh)

________________________________________________________________________________________

NEW OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESS

As we move to streamline some of our office systems, we are transitioning our office email system to a new email address. The new email address is office@stpaulstjames.org.

Please note the old email address will continue to receive email for the time being, but will be checked less frequently. Please update your digital address book.

________________________________________________________________________________________

TO DONATE TO ST. PJ's

If you wish to donate to St. PJ's, via Venmo, Paypal or Credit Card, please scan the QR code below:

![QR code image]

________________________________________________________________________________________

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![QR code image]
PRAYERS & THANKSGIVINGS

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

Susan Sapp (7/3)

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

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

Suzy McDowell (7/3)

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  Edd Eldridge  Emerson
Charles Harris  Misha  Ralph Magwood
Presiding Bishop  Andrew, Anastasia & Bruce & Ann Levison
Micheal Curry  Katherine Oghy
Gary Sapp & Family  Herman Mukwaya
Gwen Chapin  Isaiah Colville
Hanne Howard  Michael
Nanci Perez  Nanci Perez
Leota Tucker  Tim Barnes

Martha  Julie
Tiras Jaske  Marilyn Bergen
Alene Tate  Jean & Dick Sayre
Edwina Johnson  Natalie
Marcia Smith  John DeRosa
Theresa Kovacs  Cynthia King

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Hanne Howard  Michael
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OUR STAFF

The Rev. Stacey Kohl, Priest-in-Charge
William Cleary, Director of Music
Dylan Rowland, Associate Music Director
Susan Yates, Liturgist
Monifa Atkinson, Program Assistant
Samuel Rodriguez, Sexton
The Rev. Steve Crowson, Priest Associate

OUR VESTRY

Wardens: Claire Cody, Bill Evans
Treasurer: David Hill
Clerk: Maggie King

Marilyn Bergen  Lynne Severance  Isaac Mukwaya
Maggie King  Vanessa Gonzalez-Rivera  Roni Holcomb