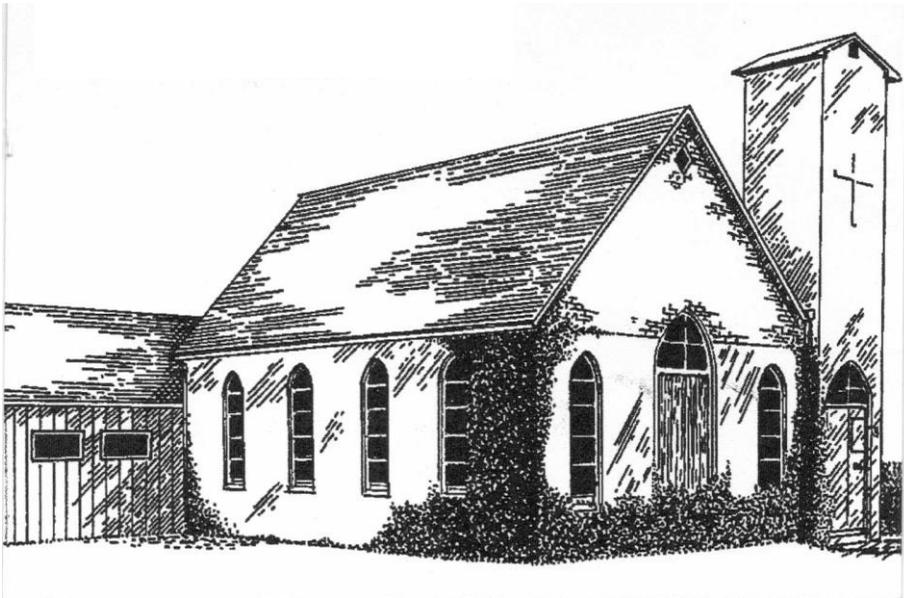


# St. John's Episcopal Church

## The Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

November 16, 2014



The Rev. Rebecca Myers, Priest-in-Charge  
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## **A Note on Today's Readings**

*Proper 28: Sunday closest to November 16—Year A*

Welcome to our parish. Our attention today is again turned toward the subject of Christ's return and the Day of Judgment. In the parable of the talents (a monetary unit worth fifteen years' wages in the first century), we are taught that what God has given us is to be used productively and ultimately returned to God enhanced by our use of those gifts.

The Bible's story of the people of Israel continues with their settling in the Land of Promise. Surrounded by enemies, their next years were filled with struggle. A number of leaders arose (called Judges). One of the greatest was Deborah, who rallied the people to fight off the Canaanites.

Today we conclude reading through 1 Thessalonians. In his final words to this early congregation, confused because the Lord has not yet returned, Paul tells them that Jesus' return cannot be predicted. In addition, he tells them, and us, to live in preparation all the time with the confident certainty of those who live in the light of God's self-revelation in Jesus Christ.

In historical periods of social confusion (such as our own time), popular religion often focuses on the most negative and pessimistic aspects of the biblical message of judgment. The central message of Holy Scripture, however, is not God's wrath but God's love and the promise made to us of salvation. As we gather in the Eucharist, we again hear that message of the loving God and are equipped to go forth to proclaim it to the world.

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# Holy Eucharist

Ordinary Time, Proper 28

Sunday, November 16, 2014

## Liturgy of the Word

### Hymn

*O Jesus, I have promised*

Hymnal 655

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

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

*People*        Glory to God for ever and ever.

*The Celebrant says*

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.*

*The following is sung, all standing*

### *Opening Anthem*

S 280

- 1    Glory to God in the highest,  
      and peace to his people on earth.
- 2    Lord God, heavenly King,  
      almighty God and Father,  
      we worship you, we give you thanks,  
      we praise you for your glory.
- 3    Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
      Lord God, Lamb of God,
- 4    you take away the sin of the world;  
      have mercy on us;
- 5    you are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
      receive our prayer.

- 6 For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
7 you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* God be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

### **First Reading**

Judges 4:1-7

*All sit.*

A Reading from the book of Judges.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm**

*Remain seated.*

### **Psalm 123**

BCP p. 780

### **Second Reading**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

## Sequence

*All stand.*

*O Christ, the Word Incarnate*

Hymnal 632

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

*All stand.*

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

*After the Gospel is read, the people respond as follows:*

*Priest*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## Sermon

The Rev. Rebecca Myers

## Nicene Creed

*All stand.*

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**

*All remain standing.*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Today we especially pray for Aiden, Les, Erin, Thalia, Aaron, Juanita, Jerry, Brenda, Leroy & Mary Ann, Katie, Calvin, Bill, Raymond & Elaine, Mary, Craig, Elaine, Jack, Linda, Fred, Peter, Dorothy, Avery, Nellie, Michael, Mason, Daphne, Rob, Wayne, Fay, Katrina, Teresa, Barbara & Logan, and Clay.

According with the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Province IV of the Episcopal Church, Canon Richard E. Miller, President and The Rt. Rev. Clifton (Dan) Daniel, III, Bishop of East Carolina, Vice-President.

We pray for all who serve in the Armed Forces, especially Silvestre.

We pray in thanksgiving for all the blessings in our lives. We especially pray for those celebrating birthdays this week; Allen Freeman and Dot Smith.

As an expression of gratitude we also pray in thanksgiving for the people of St. John's.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sin**

*All kneel.*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence.*

*Minister and 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.

*The Priest stands and says*

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.*

## **Peace**

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*        The peace of Christ 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.*

## **Announcements**

*Announcements may be made at this point in the service.*

## **Holy Communion**

*The Celebrant says*

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

## **Offertory Hymn**

*I want to walk as a child of the light*

Hymnal 490

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

## **Great Thanksgiving**

*The people remain standing.*

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
 Lift up your hearts. 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.

*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*

S 130

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.

*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:

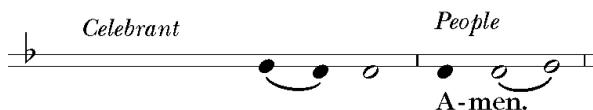
*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

*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.



*The Celebrant then continues*

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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

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

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

# Communion Hymn

*Brother, sister, let me serve you*

Voices Found 124

1 Bro - ther, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as  
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav'1 - lers  
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night - time  
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll  
5 When we sing to God in hea - ven, we shall find such  
6 Bro - ther, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as

Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to  
on the road; we are here to help each o - ther  
laugh with fear; I will hold my hand out to you,  
har - mo - ny, I will share your joy and sor - row  
Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant too.  
walk the mile and bear the load.  
speak the peace you long to hear.  
till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
of Christ's love and a gon - y.  
let you be my ser - vant, too.

Capo 2 play D

Words and Music: Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham © 1977 Scripture in Song (admin. Integrity Music/ASCAP, c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Loving God,  
we give you thanks  
for restoring us in your image  
and nourishing us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.  
Now send us forth  
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;  
that we may proclaim your love to the world  
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## **Blessing**

*The priest blesses the people, saying*

The Wisdom of God the Love of God and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. *Amen.* (source: *Celtic*)

## **Postcommunion Hymn**

*Come, thou fount of every blessing*

Hymnal 686

## **Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.



## News & Notes

**Rebecca's Schedule:** Rebecca will be at St. Agnes' House Monday, November 16, through Thursday, November 20. Her Sabbath Day will be Friday, November 21. You can get a message to her by calling the church office at 606-528-1659 or by e-mailing priest-in-charge@stjohnscorbin.org

**Weekday Morning Eucharist** will be available Wednesday, December 3, 9am, in the Sanctuary.

**Adult Forum:** The Adult Forum meets each Sunday at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall. Vicky Prince from Hospice of the Bluegrass will be with us next week to discuss how to talk to your family about your end-of-life wishes.

**Sunday School - Godly Play:** The Godly Play program is for children is offered each Sunday morning at 10:00 am. All children are invited to participate in this special form of spiritual development.

**Thankoffering Sunday is today, November 16.** Put your Thankoffering boxes in the offering plate and pick up another one for the spring ingathering.

**Daughters of the King** meets the third Wednesday of each month at 4:30pm. The next meeting is November 19. If you have special prayer requests or would like to join this prayer ministry, please contact Shelia Phillips.

**Game Night, Friday, November 21, 6:30-8:30. Pizza provided. Bring your favorite drink.** The Young Adults of the church are hosting a game night! Let Blythe Swinford, TJ or Jason Beams-Jackson, or James Partin know what card and board games you'd like to play! Everyone is invited!

**We will celebrate Native American Heritage Month** at our service on Sunday, November 23. Ken and Shelia Phillips will lead our observance. We are reminded that the worship of The Episcopal Church is in many languages and traditions each and every week of the year.

**Advent Lessons and Carols, November 30, 4pm.** Begin Advent with this special evening service of Scripture and hymns

**Chocolate Fest, Saturday, December 6, 9am – 3pm.** If you can contribute something to the fest, please turn in your donation form by November 23.

**Rotary Club of Corbin** is collecting 500 new winter coats, especially for boys and girls ages 3-9. Coats will be distributed at the Empty Stocking Fund party on December 22. If you'd like to donate a coat, bring it to church and give it to Rebecca. You can also make a financial contribution to Empty Stocking Fund and give it to Rebecca.

**Kroger Rewards:** St. John's is now registered with the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Please register your Kroger card at <http://krogercommunityrewards.com>. Our NPO number is 47782.

**The Vestry has voted to donate \$25 each month to Everlasting Arm Homeless Shelter.** If you'd like to contribute, put your donations in the collection box by the guest register or mark your donation and put it in the collection plate.

**Thank you to the 20 families and individuals who have made pledges totaling \$35,012** towards the mission and ministry of St. John's Church in 2015. If you haven't done so, you can still make a commitment to this mission and ministry by placing a pledge card in the offering plate.

**Flowers for the altar:** Donations for flowers for the altar are accepted for any Sunday of the year. Please place your donation in the envelope, marking whether they are in honor of or in memory of someone.

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**Hymn Selection Group** If you'd like to choose hymns for services, join this group. You will choose hymns for an upcoming service and then meet with the entire group to confirm the final selections. See Billy Hibbitts if you are interested.

**Would you like to write Prayers of the People?** If you are interested in writing these prayers (there are resources that can help with this task), please let Rebecca know by phone or email [priest-in-charge@stjohnscorbin.org](mailto:priest-in-charge@stjohnscorbin.org).

**United Thank Offering.** Remember to get your box for your thank offerings for this ministry of The Episcopal Church. The next collection will be in the spring.

**Are you interested in assisting with the Sunday service?** Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Crucifers, Altar Guild Members and choir members are all important for each Sunday service. If you're interested in serving, please let Rebecca know by phone 859-429-1659 or [priest-in-charge@stjohnscorbin.org](mailto:priest-in-charge@stjohnscorbin.org).

**Serving Our Neighbors** – See baskets in the parlor.

- Everlasting Arms, Corbin's shelter for people who are homeless, is in need of men's and women's razors, gloves, deodorant and socks.
- The Food Pantry at Corbin Presbyterian Church is always in need of nonperishable food items. Vegetables are especially appreciated.