

ST. JOHN'S

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN PLYMOUTH

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 16TH 2026



8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

10:00 AM SERVICE LIVESTREAMED ON YOUTUBE

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

We are so glad that you are here. Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as God's people. One of the glories of the Episcopal/Anglican Church is its liturgical worship.

Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

It is the work of God's people and our great joy!

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We are in the season after Pentecost. During this season, we meet Jesus during his earthly ministry. We learn of Jesus' teachings and Jesus' call to us. We use this time to learn more about the Messiah so that we can serve and love each other as Jesus did. The season after Pentecost (also called Ordinary Time) is the longest season of the

Church year, stretching from the end of Easter to the beginning of Advent. It stands between two periods of exciting activity: between the joyous celebration of Christ's resurrection and the beginning of the Church year (Advent) in which we begin again to anticipate Christ's birth. The season after Pentecost is a season of growth and refreshment. The vestments worn by clergy are green, suggesting growth and renewal. It is appropriate that

Pentecost spans the agricultural season—just as crops mature during the summer months with the help of sunlight, soil, and rain, so we grow in relation to Christ as we recount Jesus' words and teachings.

(Washington National Cathedral)

WELCOME

We are blessed to be able to record our worship services. By entering and by your presence here, you consent to be filmed and otherwise recorded for our congregation and on YouTube.

See an usher to be seated in a no-video zone if you prefer not to be filmed.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON - Genesis 45:1-15

Reader: A reading from the book of Genesis.

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and

your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 133

J. Vovak



For — there the — Lord has or - dained the bles-sing: life for ev - er - more.

1. Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *when the beloved live together in unity!
2. It is like fine oil upon the head *that runs down upon the hair,
3. Upon the hair of Aaron, *and runs down upon the collar of their robe.
4. It is like the dew of Hermon *that falls upon the hills of Zion.
5. For there YHWH has ordained the blessing: *life for evermore.

THE EPISTLE

ROMANS 11:1-2A, 29-32

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN – “MANY ARE THE LIGHTBEAMS”

Man - y are the light - beams from the one light.
 Man - y are the branch - es of the one tree.
 Man - y are the gifts giv'n, love is all one.
 Man - y ways to serve God, the Spir - it is one;
 Man - y are the mem - bers, the bod - y is one;

Our one light is Je - sus. _____
 Our one tree is Je - sus. _____
 Love's the gift of Je - sus. _____
 ser - vant spir - it of Je - sus. _____
 mem - bers all of Je - sus. _____

Man - y are the light - beams from the one
 Man - y are the branch - es of the one
 Man - y are the gifts giv'n, love is all
 Man - y ways to serve God, the Spir - it is
 Man - y are the mem - bers the bod - y is

light; we are one in Christ. _____
 tree; we are one in Christ. _____
 one; we are one in Christ. _____
 one; we are one in Christ. _____
 one; we are one in Christ. _____

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

It is customary to make the sign of the cross ✙ with the thumb on one's forehead, lips, and heart as the Gospel is announced. This action symbolizes our asking God's Word to rest in our mind, in our words, and in our heart.

The people stand as the Gospel is processed into their midst.

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

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

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of

the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people sit at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

Jennifer Dukarski, Postulant

Following the sermon, we invite you to reflect on how the lessons and the sermon have spoken to us today.

REFLECTION MUSIC

John Vovak, Pianist

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Priest leads the people in an affirmation of faith. Originally the entire service was viewed as our confession of faith. Since the Sixth Century, the church has recited either the Nicene Creed or the Apostle's Creed at the Eucharist. The word 'creed' come from the Latin 'credo' for "I believe" or "I lend my heart to." Creeds tell a deeper 'truth' that goes beyond 'facts.'

We stand and recite together.

The 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively

God of infinite love who hears the cry of the outsider and the desperate parent, we pray for your Church and for all of the world; **That we all may be one.**

We pray that all of those united in your Church may truly and humbly serve you; **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; may they be changed by those they serve, as Jesus was changed by the woman who refused to be turned away. Give them hearts to listen to the cries of the marginalized, the outsiders, and those deemed unworthy by the world;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in our cities, our states and in all of the nations of the world; break down the walls of division in our own community, stand with those whose lives are threatened by violence and injustice, and lead us to share our resources so that no neighbor is left fighting for crumbs; **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

We pray that our biases be broken open and our hearts opened to the strangers and newcomers in our community and lead us to hear the pleas of those seeking refuge, belonging, and a place at your table; **That no one may be a stranger in your house.**

We pray for all who have been told they do not belong, especially those whose gender, sexuality, race, or circumstance has left them outside the doors of welcome; may your church be the place where their persistent cry is not met with silence but with healing; **That all may know themselves as beloved.**

We pray for women and all those whose gender the world has used to diminish or exclude; may your church be the place where their voices are not only heard but sought, where their persistence is

recognized as great faith, and where their children are welcomed without condition;
That all may know themselves as made in your image.

We pray for compassion for those who suffer from grief or trouble, especially those facing mental illness, addiction, homelessness, and systemic neglect; like the desperate mother who cried out to Jesus, hear them and be with them; **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place at your table; let perpetual light shine upon them; **O God, let your loving-kindness be upon them, who put their trust in you.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; may the persistent, bold faith of the Canaanite woman inspire us, and may we too be called people of great faith, not for our certainty but for our persistence in bringing the needs of those we love to your table;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace.

OFFERTORY

"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,
serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." (1 Peter 4:10)

OFFERTORY HYMN – "TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE" #707

Please stay seated during the Offertory

THE DOXOLOGY

Please stand as able

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 1

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love;
you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Celebrant and People – Said at the 8:00 a.m. and Sung at the 10:00 a.m.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, -

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho ly Lord, God of pow'r 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 -

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

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.
You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.
Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all 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.

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. John, and all your
saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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.**

*The Great Amen is printed in all capital letters in our Book of Common Prayer to emphasize the importance of this moment in the liturgy. Say it loud and with meaning!
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THE LORD'S PRAYER

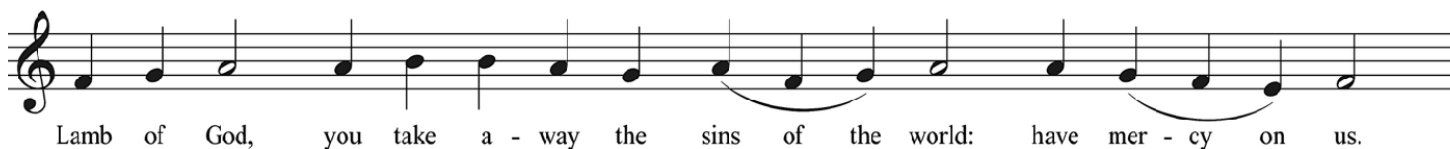
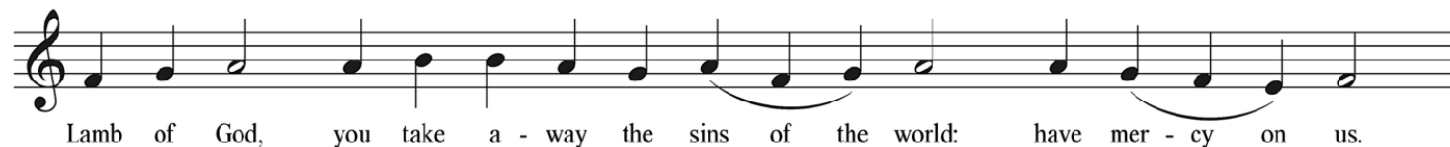
Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**All: 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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

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



Celebrant: These are the gifts of God

People: **and we are the people of God.**

Celebrant: And in union and solidarity with your faithful people who are not able to be present at this table, we pray together:

People: **May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

Celebrant: Behold who you are, and become what you receive.

**WHOEVER YOU ARE – WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH –
YOU ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE IN THIS PLACE – NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Please follow the movement to the altar, the Ushers will guide you.

*At the 8:00 am service, gluten free wafers are available,
just ask the priest when you come forward.*

At the 10:00 am service we use gluten-free communion bread for all.

*Note: the baking mix is produced in a facility that processes nuts and bread is prepared in home kitchens. Those
with severe allergies may wish to receive from the cup only.*

If you do not want to receive you are encouraged to come forward for a blessing from the Priest.

Just cross your arms on your chest when you come up.

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.** The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

COMMUNION MUSIC – “AS GRAINS OF WHEAT”

Verses



1. As grains of wheat are gath-ered in we've come to - geth - er;
2. Each grain must fall and give it - self: it first is bro - ken;
3. From man - y fields the har-vest comes to feed the hun - gry;
4. Your har - vest, Lord, is gath-ered in; we stand be - fore you

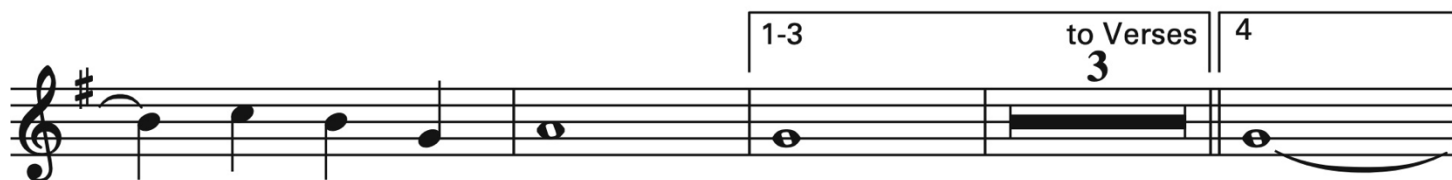


1. from lives a - part we bring our hearts to make one whole.
2. then, joined with oth-ers, makes one bod - y and one bread.
3. the world cries out to taste the good-ness of the Lord.
4. to be your bread, to be your bod - y in the world.

Refrain



For man - y are we, and bro - ken we've come, but



we shall be - come one. one.



one. We shall be one.

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"SHELTER ME O GOD"

Refrain



Shel-ter me, O God; hide me in the shad-ow of your wings. You a-lone

Verses



are my hope.

1. When my foes sur-round me, set me
2. As a moth - er gath - ers her _____
3. Though I walk in dark - ness, through the

to Refrain



1. high a - bove their reach. Hear me when I call your name.
2. young be-neath her care, gath - er me in - to your arms.
3. nee-dle's eye of death, you will nev-er leave my side.

Text: Based on Psalm 16; Psalm 61; Luke 13:34. Text and music © 1984, Bob Hurd.
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THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: 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

You are the children of God, gifted with dreams and visions.
Upon you rest the grace of God like flames of fire.
So may the deep peace of Christ be with you,
The strong arms of God sustain you,
And the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you in every way. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN – “I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD”

Refrain



“I am the Light of the world,” says the Lord,
 “They who fol-low me will have the light of life.”

Verses 1, 2



1. “A - rise,” says the Lord, “Have no fear with -
 2. ♪ “Walk in the light, there is no cause to

1. in you; for in my pres - ence there will be no
 2. stum - ble; ♪ I have come to light the path be -

1. dark - ness. I am the Light of the world.”
 2. fore you. I am the Light of the world.”

to Refrain

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALTAR FLOWERS

In Memory of Ralph Robert Reeves

*This tradition beautifies the altar and is a way to celebrate life's events,
remember loved ones, or give thanks for blessings.*

THE AUMBRY LIGHT

In Memory of Ralph Robert Reeves

*"The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.*

COFFEE HOUR

The Leonard Family

*If you would like celebrate or honor someone by making a donation for the Altar Flowers or the Aumbry Light,
please see the sign up sheet by the mailboxes. Or you can email us at office@stjohnsplymouth.org.*

PRAYER LIST

Arlene McGarry
Barbara Turnbull
Bill Sigmon
Carolyn Notestine
Chesney Wilson and Family
Daphne
Elaine Hovey
Irene Jarrell

Jen Ingram and Family
Jim and Thomas M
Karl Gabrys
Lavonne and Doug Baker
Linda Kubiel
Maria Daugherty
Mark K.
Mary, Ben, Grayson
Matthew Bishop

Megan Scott
Nancy Robinson
Penny Striegel
Rodney Goin
Scott
Sgt. Tanner Temple
Shelley Olexsey
Teresa
Yvonne Allen

**To submit a name to our prayer list, please contact the office. All names stay on the list for four weeks. If your loved one continues to need prayer, please let the office know and we will add them to our long term list.*

For an end to the Israeli-Palestinian war,
that lasting peace may take root where suffering has persisted for generations.

For the people of Ukraine and for an end to the Russian invasion,
now in its fourth year; may safety and sovereignty be restored.

For all refugees and those seeking asylum,
that they find welcome, dignity, and the chance to rebuild their lives.

For the work of Church at Crossroads and for its guests,
that this community may continue to serve those in need with love and respect.

For those without food, shelter, or work, and for those seeking employment;
that basic needs may be met and meaningful opportunities found.

For those troubled by depression, anxiety, or addiction;
that they may find healing, support, and renewed hope.

For all those visiting St. John's and our neighborhood this week,
that they may experience hospitality and belonging.

For an end to gun violence in our communities,
that peace may prevail in our streets and safety in our homes.

For the safety and welfare of our nation, city, and neighborhood,
that we may build a society of justice, compassion, and mutual care

The Ministers of the Parish

The People of St. John's

The Right Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, Bishop
The Very Reverend Christine Fentress-Gannon, Rector
Jessica Rienstra, Parish Administrator
John Vovak, Director of Music
Melanie Draper, Director of Handbell Choir
Janet Sigmon, Nursery Staff
Deborah Chinitz, Nursery Staff
Deborah Taracuk, Senior Warden
Andy Bagnasco, Junior Warden

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In case of a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Chris (734) 632-9808

Visit our website at www.stjohnsplymouth.org

You can sign up for our weekly newsletter on our Home Page.

Scan the QR Code below to Give Online



Give Now

onrealm.org

Worship Service Times: Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. service is livestreamed at <https://sjp.rocks/youtube>

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*IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE PRIEST TO REACH OUT TO YOU
OR WISH TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ST. JOHN'S,
PLEASE FILL OUT THE WELCOME BOOK IN THE NARTHEX
OR THE CARDS IN THE PEW RACK.*