



Christ Episcopal Church
Norwalk, Connecticut
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 2026

Prelude: In Remembrance James Southbridge

Processional Hymn: # 556 Rejoice Ye Pure In Heart
V. 1-2-3-6

The Book of Common Prayer, Page 355:

All standing, the Celebrant says:

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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.*

Gloria: S 280 Powell

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

First Reading

Old Testament: Isaiah 25:1-9

1 O Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

2 For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.

3 Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

4 For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

5 the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

6 On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

7 And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;

8 he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

9 It will be said on that day,
“See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

³He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Second Reading

Epistle: Philippians 4:1-9

¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn: # 664

**My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
V. 1 & 2 Before the Reading**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.

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

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sequence Hymn: # 664

**My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
V. 3 After the Reading**

Sermon: Reverend Meg Finnerud

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:
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.

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For our Presiding Bishop, our Bishops and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation:

Especially for: Suzanne, Joan, Ron, Blaize, Shannon, Kelly, Albert, Bruce, Heath, Alan, Ruth, Mary, Linda, Tracy, Kyle, Barbara, Craig, Marilyn, Keith, Sandy, Michael, Trisha, Al, Rose, Kenny, Bob, Nico, Barbara, Jesse, Lloyd, Cookie, Lee, John, Julie, Chris, Bill, Karen and Amanda.

ECCT CYCLE OF PRAYER: With the Episcopal Church of Connecticut, today we pray for:

St. John's, Vernon; St. Paul's, Wallingford; St. John's, Washington

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: Together with the Anglican Communion throughout the world, today we pray for:

The Anglican Church of Burundi

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jack and Marjorie Hughes by the Pratt Family.

VIGIL LIGHT: The vigil light burns this week in loving memory of Joan West from her family.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

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

Silence may be kept.

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.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

The leader of Prayers of the People remains at the podium during the collect

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.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Peace

Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn: # 405

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Doxology

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

The people remain standing.

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 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 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: S 129 Powell

The people remain standing

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 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 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei: S 163 ... Powell

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.

ALL THE BAPTIZED ARE WELCOME TO COMMUNION.

Communion Hymn: # 317 This Is The Hour of Banquet and of Song

V. 1

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**

Final Blessing

Closing Hymn: # 408

Sing Praise To God

Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude: Sinfonia J.S. Bach

WHAT'S NEW AT CCEN?

BOOK BUNCH:

Our October selection is *Second Glance* by Jodi Picoult and we are meeting on October 21.

These are the upcoming selections for the next few months:

Thank You for the Shoes by Raffaella Marie Rizzo on November 18.

Comfort and Joy by Kristin Hannah on December 16.

Theo of Golden by Allen Levi on January 20.

Please join us for one of our discussions!

ANGEL FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:

Please consider volunteering your time to help us staff the food pantry more regularly.

We appreciate all donations and helping hands too!

If you want to donate any items, we can use rice, boxes or cans of evaporated milk, canned meats (tuna, chicken, SPAM), canned vegetables or fruits, pasta sauce, pasta, peanut butter, bar soap, toothpaste, deodorant and shampoo at this time.

We have been supplying people in need that have contacted us and appreciate all your donations which allows us to help the community. If you know of someone in need, please contact Lisa Helwig in the church office at 203-866-7442 or by email at secretaryccen@gmail.com

THE CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH FAMILY WELCOMES YOU!

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Vestry

George Helwig Senior Warden, Frank Ross Junior Warden
Debbie Ross Treasurer, Liz Conti Clerk of the Vestry
Kim Harris Vestry Member, Debbie Bloom Vestry Member
Organist: Betty Belcher

What is the mission of the Church?

The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. *Book of Common Prayer, Page 855*