

# St. Bernard's Church

88 Claremont Road, Bernardsville, NJ 07924

## THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 8, 2024

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist



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*Welcome to St. Bernard's Episcopal Church. Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. We also welcome our Zoom worshippers. This week we welcome back the St. Bernard's Choir.*

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### PRELUDE

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN 432

O praise ye the Lord!

1 O praise ye the Lord!  
Praise him in the height;  
rejoice in his word,  
ye angels of light;  
ye heavens, adore him  
by whom ye were made,  
and worship before him,  
in brightness arrayed.

2 O praise ye the Lord!  
Praise him upon earth,  
in tuneful accord,  
all ye of new birth;  
praise him who hath brought you  
his grace from above,  
praise him who hath taught you  
to sing of his love.

3 O praise ye the Lord!  
All things that give sound;  
each jubilant chord  
re-echo around;  
loud organs, his glory  
forth tell in deep tone,  
and sweet harp, the story  
of what he hath done.

4 O praise ye the Lord!  
Thanksgiving and song  
to him be outpoured  
all ages along!  
For love in creation,  
for heaven restored,  
for grace of salvation,  
O praise ye the Lord!

#### OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

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

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

#### COLLECT FOR PURITY

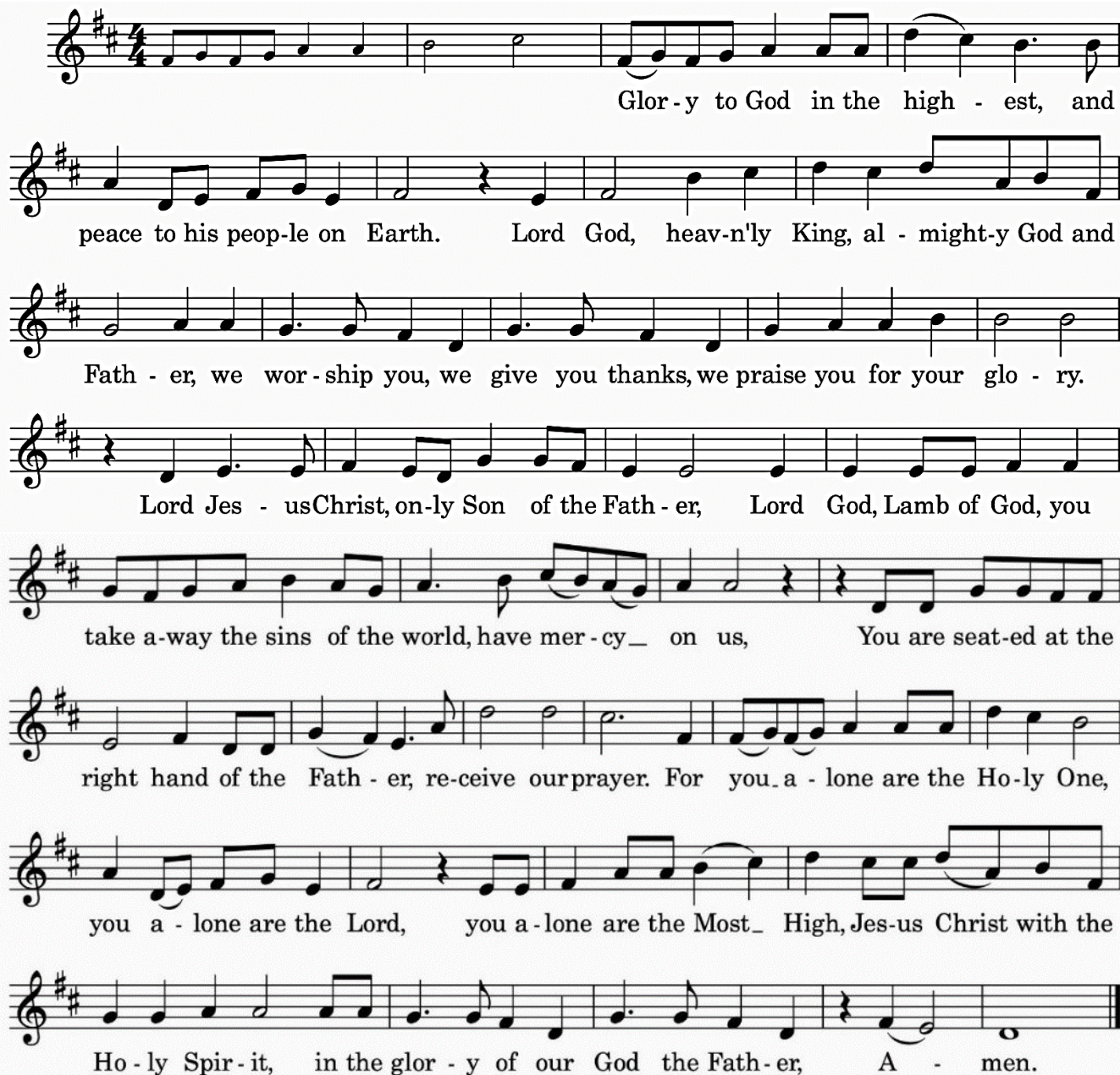
BCP p. 355

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

*sung by all*

St. Bernard's Service



Glor - y to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peop-le on Earth. Lord God, heav-n'ly King, al - mighty God and  
 Fath - er, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.  
 Lord Jes - usChrist, on-ly Son of the Fath - er, Lord God, Lamb of God, you  
 take a-way the sins of the world, have mer - cy\_ on us, You are seat-ed at the  
 right hand of the Fath - er, re-ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most\_ High, Jes-us Christ with the  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glor - y of our God the Fath - er, A - men.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Let us pray. God, whose love streams like fresh water into the deserts of our hearts, you turn us from greed and partiality to healing and justice. Make us companions of those who long for your deliverance, and give us safe passage at the last into the land of your shalom. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

*read by Paul Edwards*

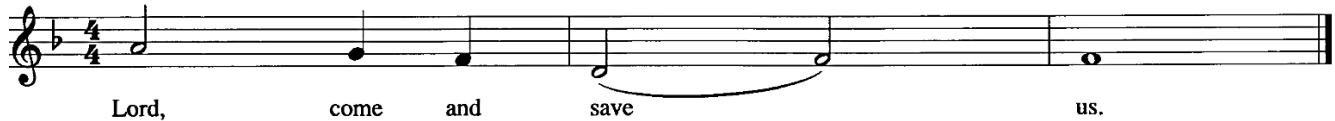
*Lector* A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Antiphon**



*The Lord God keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets captives free. **Antiphon***

*The Lord gives sight to the blind; the Lord raises up those who were bowed down. The Lord loves the just; the Lord protects strangers. **Antiphon***

*The fatherless and the widow he sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The Lord shall reign forever; your God O Zion, through all generations. **Antiphon***

**SECOND READING:** James 2:1-10, 14-17

*read by Michele Esposito-Edwards*

*Lector* A Reading from the Letter of James.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL HYMN 482**

Lord of all hopefulness

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,<br/>whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could<br/>destroy,<br/>be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,<br/>your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the<br/>day.</p> | <p>2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,<br/>whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and<br/>the lathe,<br/>be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,<br/>your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of<br/>the day.</p> |
| <p>3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,<br/>your hands swift to welcome, your arms to<br/>embrace,<br/>be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,<br/>your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the<br/>day.</p>        | <p>4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,<br/>whose voice is contentment, whose presence is<br/>balm,<br/>be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,<br/>your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the<br/>day.</p>           |

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37**

*Please remain standing as you are able for the Gospel.*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

*We encourage you to listen to the Gospel. To read along, the Gospel can be found in the pew Bible on pp. 874-875.*

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE SERMON**

The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino

**THE NICENE CREED**

BCP p. 358

**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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and CONFESSION**

Form VI, BCP p. 392

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

*led by Pamela Hull*

Leader For all people in their daily life and work;

People **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those are alone.**

Leader For this community, the nation, and world;

People **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Leader For Michael our Presiding Bishop and Sally our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

People **For all who serve God in his church.**

Leader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *(The Prayer List is read.)*

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Leader Hear us Lord;

People **For your mercy is great.**

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

*Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

Leader We will exalt you, O God our King;

People **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**



*Leader* 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.*

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

*Leader* 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.**

*Celebrant* May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People* **And also with you.**

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*During the Offertory Anthem an offering is collected for God's mission and ministry. Thank you for your generosity.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** Christ, the Master Healer Kevin Pace

**PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS** *All stand as able and sing* *Old 100<sup>th</sup> (Hymn 380, stanza 3)*  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** Eucharistic Prayer 2, *Enriching Our Worship* 1 pp. 60-62

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

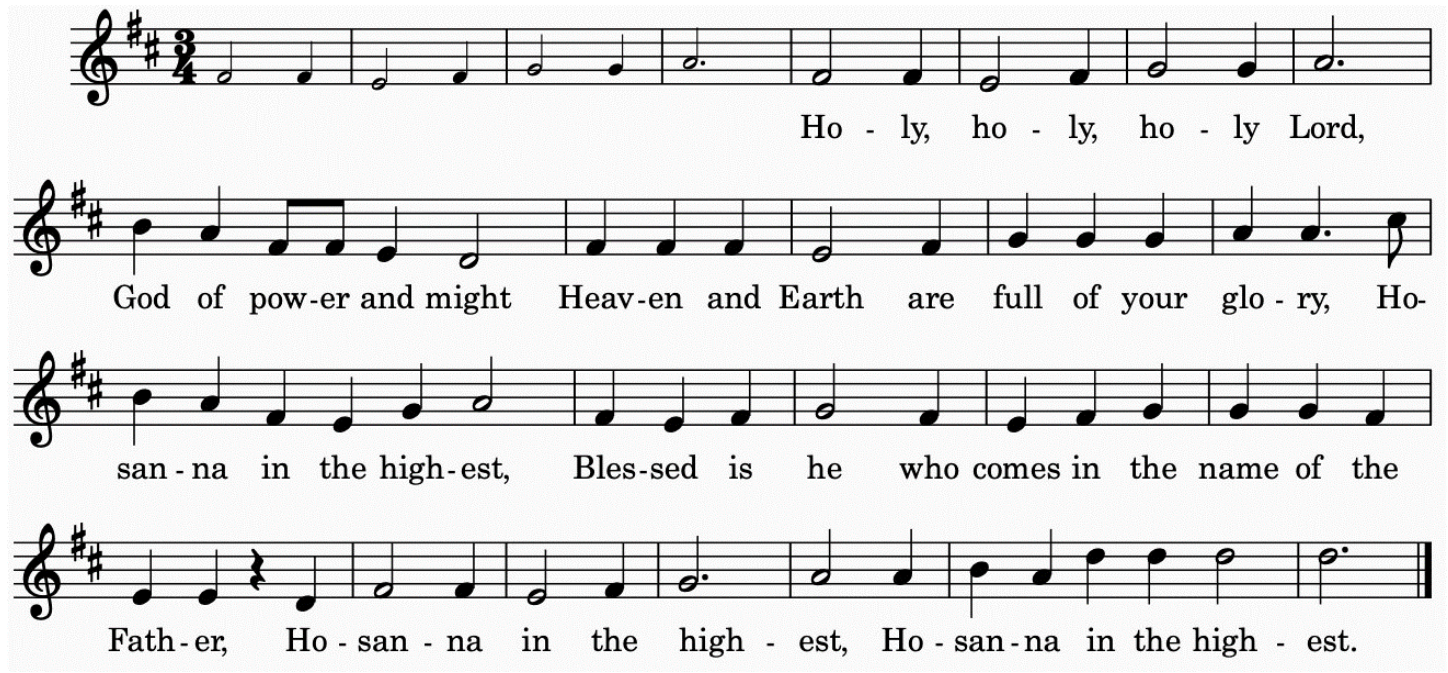
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 God of pow-er and might Heav-en and Earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho-  
 san - na in the high-est, Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the  
 Fath-er, Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san-na in the high - est.

*Celebrant* Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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:

*Celebrant and People* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. 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 LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 364

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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. Silence is kept.*

## FRACTION ANTHEM

St. Bernard's Service

Christ, our pass-ov - er is sac - ri-ficed for us,\_\_\_

There-fore let us keep\_\_\_ the feast. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Come and meet the Risen Christ.

*You are welcome to say A Prayer for Spiritual Communion found below during Communion.*

### A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*(Diocese of Oxford, England)*

Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock.

You wait for me and only I can let you in.

I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence.

Feed me with your Body and unite me in your Blood,  
that I may be your blessing to a world in need. **Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 365

*Celebrant* Let us stand and pray.

**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

**RECESSIONAL HYMN 344** Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;<br>fill our hearts with joy and peace;<br>let us each, thy love possessing,<br>triumph in redeeming grace:<br>O refresh us, O refresh us,<br>traveling through this wilderness | 2 | Thanks we give and adoration<br>for thy Gospel's joyful sound:<br>may the fruits of thy salvation<br>in our hearts and lives abound:<br>ever faithful, ever faithful,<br>to thy truth may we be found; |
|   | 3  |   | so that when thy love shall call us, Savior, from the world away,<br>fear of death shall not appall us, glad thy summons to obey.<br>May we ever, may we ever, reign with thee in endless day.         |

## THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

## POSTLUDE

<b>ASSISTING TODAY AT OUR SERVICE</b>		<b>ST. BERNARD'S WARDENS AND VESTRY</b> Christopher Thomas, Paul Edwards, <i>Wardens</i> Michael Myers, <i>Treasurer</i> ; Linda Engleby, <i>Clerk</i>  Linda Engleby, Anne Fritts, Pamela Hull, Taylor Hwong, Meg McKee, Jennifer Moss, Michael Myers
<i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</i>	The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino	
<i>Deacon</i>	The Rev. Karen B. Lewis, Deacon	
<i>Music Director</i>	Dr Martin A. Sedek	
<i>St. Bernard's Choir</i>		
<i>Lectors</i>	Paul Edwards, Michele Esposito-Edwards, Pamela Hull	
<i>Chalicerist</i>	Denise Thomas	
<i>Usher</i>	Frank Curtis	

**ANNOUNCEMENTS - September 8, 2024**

**WORSHIP AND COMMUNITY**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Wednesday, Sept. 11, 5:30 pm	<i>Zoom Evening Prayer resumes every other Wednesday</i>
Sunday, Sept. 15, 10:15-11 am	<i>Confirmation Class begins at St. John on the Mountain, Parish House meeting room, twice a month</i>
Thursday, Sept. 26, 7-8 pm	<i>Book discussion group resumes discussing Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices, chapters 17 &amp; 18. Held on Zoom, Thursdays, 7-8 pm, concluding on Oct. 24.</i>
Sunday, Sept. 29, 1-3 pm	<i>Fall Festival celebrating 1 year of affiliation held at St. Bernard's (see announcement)</i>
Sunday, Oct. 6, 11 am service	<i>Feast of St. Francis: Blessing of the Animals (see announcement)</i>
Sunday, Oct. 6, 5 pm JOY! service & meal	<i>JOY! service for families with young kids followed by a fellowship meal. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, alternating parish locations. Oct. 6: St. John's Chapel, Nov. 3: St. Bernard's</i>
Sunday, Oct. 20, <b>10 am joint service</b>	<i>Joint service with St. Mark's and St. John on the Mountain at 10 am at Ross Farm in Basking Ridge</i>

**Fellowship and refreshments after our services**

Refreshments will be available after worship today hosted by our Vestry members. All parishioners are invited to host Coffee Hour which without volunteers we are unable to hold. A sign-up sheet is available in the Parish Hall. Thank you!

**HONEY SALE AT COFFEE HOUR-\$20 per jar!**

The Ross Farm bees have been busy! Jars of honey from the Ross Farm apiary will be available to buy this Sunday, Sept. 8, during our coffee hour. \$20 per jar, all proceeds go towards God's Giving Garden.

**Altar Flowers**

All parishioners are invited to sponsor flowers on any Sunday of your choice. You can dedicate them in memorial of *or* in thanksgiving of *or* in celebration of, or you may just want to sponsor the flowers! Dedications are included in the bulletin that week and mentioned before the Eucharist. Suggested donations are \$75, but you are welcome to give what you are able. After the service the flowers are taken by parishioner Carmen Paul to the VA Medical Center to be enjoyed there by the patients. To sponsor flowers please contact Alison, our Parish Administrator: [admin@stbernardsnj.org](mailto:admin@stbernardsnj.org) or tel: 908-766-0602.

**SAVE THE DATE: Fall Festival on Sunday, Sept. 29, 1-3 pm, at St. Bernard's**

Come celebrate one year of affiliation with St. John on the Mountain in a **Fall Festival: a gathering of family, faith & fun**, on Sunday, Sept. 29, from 1-3 pm held at St. Bernard's in the main parking lot, church, and hall. We hope to have food trucks, music, crafts, and games and welcome parishioners and the broader Somerset Hills community. More details to follow.



### **St. Francis' Day: Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, Oct. 6: two opportunities**

We will celebrate Blessing of the Animals for the Feast of St. Francis on Sunday, Oct. 6. You can submit photos of your pets for the blessing slide show and/or bring your pet or stuffed animal in person to the 11 am Holy Eucharist at St. Bernard's. Or alternatively if you'd prefer, bring your pet or stuffed animal to a brief outdoor Blessing of the Animals service held at St. John on the Mountain at 1:30 pm. All are welcome to either service. We hope you will invite friends and neighbors.

### **GOD'S GIVING GARDEN**

The garden is still going strong, with over 2700 lbs. delivered. Hours are back to 9-noon Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. We continue to harvest tomatoes, beans, okra, tomatillos, and the winter squash is getting ripe! Contact Cathy Ferrara to volunteer: Email - [cathyhf2@gmail.com](mailto:cathyhf2@gmail.com)

### **OUTREACH**

#### **Desperate Needs at the Food Bank of Somerset County!**

Sadly the lines at the Food Bank are long, and specific items are in desperate need: *Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, maple syrup-plastic containers only please; no glass; also canned soup (with pull tabs on top) such as Progresso or Campbell's Chunky; jars of peanut butter; cans of corn; cans of sliced peaches; and bags (or cans) of black beans.* Other non-perishable items are also always welcome.

Donations can be brought to church on Sundays or placed in our food donation tote outside the church. Thank you!

#### **Angel's Closet**

St. John on the Mountain and St. Bernard's are welcoming community donations for a new outreach effort called Angel's Closet. Donations will support local families in need for shopping-style distribution at Bernards High School twice a year in December and May. Donations of good condition (gently used) clothing for all ages/sizes, coats/jackets, accessories, footwear, toys, stuffed animals, dolls, children's books, games, puzzles, bedding, duffle bags, tote bags, and sports equipment will be accepted. More info: [www.sjotm.org/outreach](http://www.sjotm.org/outreach). Collection will take place at both parishes, with storage at St. John's. This effort is being led by Kathy Tober, Co-Chair of St. John's Outreach Committee.

### **EVENTS**

#### **SAVE THE DATE: October 14 Bishop's Cup Golf Outing for Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Trenton**

Mercer Oaks Golf Course, West Windsor, NJ: Registration begins at 8:30 AM

You are invited to the Annual Bishop George E. Connell Memorial Golf Outing on Monday, 10/14!

Golfers of all ages and skill levels will play one of two iconic courses, and foursomes from parishes may compete for the prestigious Bishop's Cup. Pickleball offered as well! A reception and repast will follow. This annual event is the largest fundraiser for Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Trenton.

### **MUSIC IN THE SOMERSET HILLS**



#### **MusikGarten classes for babies to toddlers (0-4 years) starting September 10**

Music in the Somerset Hills is again offering music classes for babies and toddlers on Tuesday and Wednesdays in the St. Bernard's Parish Hall, adding a Mixed Age Pajama Class for ages 1-4! Classes: Family Music for Babies and Toddlers (0-3) - Tues & Weds, 9-9:30 am; Cycle of Seasons (3-4) - Tues & Weds at 9:45-10:30 am, also at 1-1:45 pm; and Mixed Age Pajama Class (1-4) - Weds at 6:45-7:15 pm. For costs, more info and to

register go to: <https://www.musicsh.org/music-classes-for-children-ages-0-4>