



Photo by Alison Hartwell

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 20

September 20, 2026, 10:00 AM

Join the Path Forward

Our Mission as St. James Episcopal Church; 1750 – Today

We are a welcoming community that invites all to share God's light and beauty through music, liturgy and action; to seek the sacred and to walk in love with all creation.



Service Participants

CELEBRANT:	Rev. Judy Ferguson
DEACON-IN-TRAINING/HOMILIST:	Susannah Leighton
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR:	Michael Mulder
LAY READER:	Jen Upchurch
LECTOR:	Susan Romanski
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:	Josh Leicht
USHER:	Suzanne Volpe
ACOLYTE:	Tank Schneck
SUNDAY SCHOOL:	Jeremy Zhang-Rhizor/Parent
COFFEE HOUR HOST:	Roe Intrieri and Chris Megerdichian

St. James Episcopal Church

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Rev. Judy Ferguson, Priest-in-Residence; revjudy@stjamesns.com 914-329-1743

Services live streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesnorthsalemny/videos>

Sr. Warden: Tom Stratman (203) 482-3405 **Jr. Warden:** Michael Mulder (212) 243-0615
Vestry: Philip Anderson Margaret Eaton Robert Herzberg Jeremy Zhang-Rhizor
 Jen Upchurch Carolyn Young

Music Director: Michael Mulder (914) 485-1128
Pledge Recorders: Dawn Irizarry (914) 617-8241 Josh Leicht (914) 669-6743
Treasurer: Kipp Good (646) 641-9286

HOLY EUCHARIST: Rite II

WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Ye Holy Angels Bright arr. Dan Forrest

Michael Mulder

Opening Hymn

Ye holy angels bright

Hymnal # 625

Opening Sentence

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Gloria

LEVAS # 243

Glo - ry,

Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry,

Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. —

1. Glo-ry to God — in the high-est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth. —

2. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, — we give you thanks, — we praise you for — your glo-ry.

Unison

3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, Glo-ry,

Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry,

Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. — 4. You

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, 5. You are

seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive_ our_ prayer. 6. For

you a - lone_ are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are_ the Lord,

Unison

7. You a - lone_ are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the

glo-ry of the Fa - ther. Glo-ry, Glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we

praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we

Women

Praise your Ho - ly name.

Men

Praise your Ho - ly name.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray. Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

Old Testament Reading

A Reading from the Book of Exodus [16:2-15]

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the

land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45 *Confitemini Domino*

Psalms for All People V1.2

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the Name of God; *
make known the Lord's deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to the Lord, sing praises to the Lord, *
and speak of all God's marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in the holy Name of God; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and the strength of the Lord; *
continually seek God's face.
- 5 Remember the marvels God has done, *
the wonders and the judgments God has spoken,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham, servant of the Lord, *
O children of Jacob, God's chosen.
- 37 You led out your people with silver and gold; *
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, *
because they were afraid of them.
- 39 You spread out a cloud for a covering *
and a fire to give light in the night season.
- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, *
and you satisfied them with bread from heaven.

- 41 You opened the rock, and water flowed, *
so the river ran in the dry places.
- 42 For you remembered your holy word *
and Abraham your servant.
- 43 So you led forth your people with gladness, *
your chosen with shouts of joy.
- 44 You gave your people the lands of the nations, *
and they took the fruit of others' toil,
- 45 That they might keep your statutes *
and observe your laws. Hallelujah!

New Testament Reading A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians [1:21-30]

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Lay Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn Glorious things of thee are spoken Hymnal # 522

Deacon-in-training: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [20:1-16]

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not

agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Deacon-in-training: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Ms. Susannah Leighton

Profession of Faith (South Indian), *said together, standing*

Celebrant and People:

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.**

**And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.**

We believe in everlasting life in God.

**And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.**

Prayers of the People

Form I

BCP 383

Reader: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy." For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For Sean our Presiding Bishop; Matthew and Allen our Bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For the towns of North Salem and Brewster, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially:

People: Mary Pat, Randy, Michael, Ginny and family, Marissa, Rich, Janet, Kathy, John, Ann Marie and children, Alan, Jean, Paula, Bob and Deb, Maureen, Mike T., Bro, Susan, Sarah, Chris T., Family and friends of Claudia, Venezuelan and Columbian people, Haitians and Syrians affected by TPS, those who have lost their jobs; those who have been taken and put into detention centers;

Reader: and watch over those who care for them; that they may be delivered from their distress. We pray for guidance for the:

People: resolution of conflicts around the world, all those who suffer injustice and violence in the US and abroad, mitigation of the effects of climate change, those who suffer from mental illness, and our Community Ministries. May those who govern, especially Donald our President, do so for the good of their people and with the respect and gentleness you show to those who are most weak and vulnerable.

Reader: Almighty God, send down upon Katherine Daniels, who is running for Town Supervisor, the spirit of wisdom, service, and justice; that with steadfast purpose she may hear your will and the will of the people of North Salem, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: In the communion of blessed St. James; John Coleridge Patteson, *Bishop*, and his companions, *Martyrs* (1871); Matthew, *Apostle and Evangelist* (1st. Cent.); Philander Chase, *Bishop* (1852); Thecla of Iconium, *Proto-Martyr Among Women* (c. 70); Anna Ellison Butler Alexander, *Deaconess and Teacher* (1947); Sergius of Radonezh, *Monastic* (1392); Lancelot Andrewes, *Bishop* (1626); and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People: To thee, O Lord our God.

Reader: O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those

who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

BCP 360

Deacon-in-training: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. 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 *All stand.*

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

People: And also with you.

Announcements

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. 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

You shall have a song by Harriet Ziegenhals

St. James Choir

Doxology (same tune/words, new rhythm)

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.

Great Thanksgiving **Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP 361

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

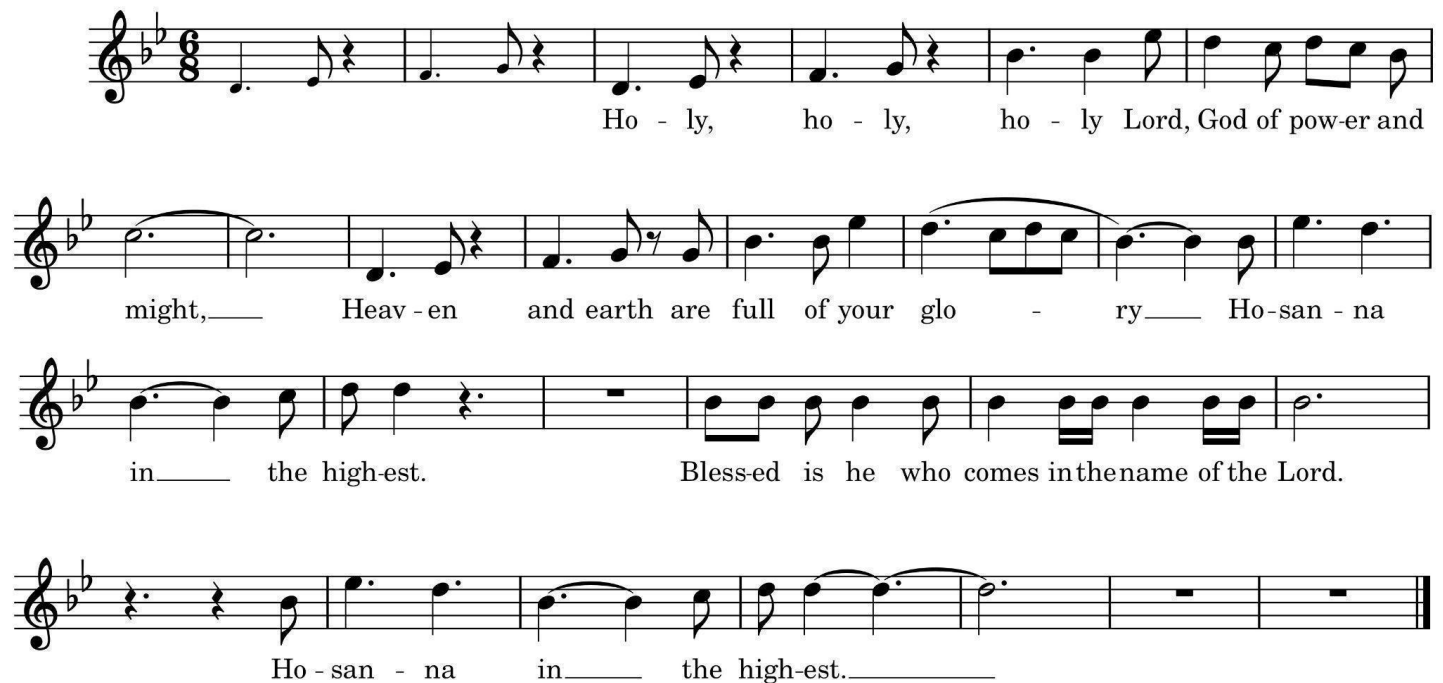
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 *Holy, holy, holy*

LEVAS II # 254



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. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Deacon-in-training: 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.

Celebrant: 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."

Deacon-in-training: 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."

Celebrant: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Deacon-in-training: 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.

Celebrant: 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 blessed James and 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.

Deacon-in-training: 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. **AMEN!**

Deacon-in-training: 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music

I want Jesus to walk with me

St. James Choir

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant and People:

**God of abundance, you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people
in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim
your redeeming love to the world and
continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Blessing

Celebrant: O God, by the pulse of your presence, by your brightness about us; by the spur of spiritual longing after holy praise of you, after the image of your Son; move us onward and upward with a song, and melody in our hearts.

People: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Rock of Ages

Hymnal # 685

Postlude

Dismissal

Deacon: Grace and peace remain with you, and keep you in the love of Christ!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Anna Ellison Butler Alexander, Deaconess and Teacher (1947) was the youngest of 11 children, born to recently emancipated slaves Aleck and Daphne Alexander on Butler Plantation in McIntosh County, Georgia, in 1865. Her parents were devout Episcopalians, and they also instilled in their children a love of learning. Anna became a teacher, and eventually the only African American to be consecrated as a deaconess in the Episcopal Church. Anna dedicated herself to working for the education of African American children in poor communities. First she helped to found and to run St. Cyprian's School at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church in Darien, and in 1902 she founded a school at Good Shepherd Church in rural Glynn County's Pennick community, where she taught children to read—by tradition, from the Book of Common Prayer and the Bible—in a one-room schoolhouse. The school was later expanded to two rooms with a loft where Anna lived. In 1907, she was consecrated as a deaconess by Bishop C. K. Nelson. Deaconess Alexander served in difficult times, however. The Diocese of Georgia segregated its congregations in 1907 and African American congregations were not invited to another diocesan convention until 1947. However, her witness—wearing the distinctive dress of a deaconess, traveling by foot from Brunswick through Darien to Pennick, showing care and love for all whom she met—represents the best in Christian witness. The poor white residents of Glynn County also trusted Deaconess Alexander. When the Depression hit the rural poor, she became the agent for government and private aid, and Good Shepherd Mission served as the distribution center. Locals remember that no one ever questioned her as she served the needs of both races in a segregated South. Strictly religious, strictly business, Deaconess Alexander commanded respect. White men took off their hats when she passed. Deaconess Alexander wrote, "I am to see everyone gets what they need . . . some folk don't need help now and I know who they are. The old people and the children, they need the most . . . when I tell some they can't get help just now . . . that others come first, they get mad, a little, but I don't pay no mind and soon they forget to be mad." She ministered in Pennick for 53 years, leaving a legacy of love and devotion that is still felt in Glynn County.

Continuing Prayer List

Jackie, Rebecca, Teddy and Jeff, Morgan, Jeanette, Dean, Bennett, Ann, Joanne and Marie, Sue, Jeff, Robert and family, Sister CG, Stephanie, Will and family, Kristin and family, Ben, Rob K., Sheryl and family, Sara, Walter and family, Eileen, Barry, Ross, Annie, Bill, Kathleen, Robert, Lee, John, Pam, Joyce and Douglas, John and Susan, Abdul and Mohammed, Nina, Ann and Jeannie, Biran, Chris, Betsy, Abu, Jeffrey

Upcoming Services & Events



September 27: **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 21:** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall

October 4: **St. Francis of Assisi Day: Blessing of the Animals;** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall

October 11: **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 23:** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall

October 18: **Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 24:** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall

October 25: **Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 25:** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall

Dick Button Pet Adoption Day

Saturday, October 3, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
115 June Road, North Salem
(lower barn entrance, at "Dig Farm")

Pet adoptions in connection with
ROAR-Ridgefield Operation Animal Rescue



Blessings of the Animals

Bring your: dog, cat, horse,
hamster, frog, fish, turtle, bird...