



***St. John's Episcopal Church  
The Feast of St. Francis  
October 5, 2025 ~ 8am***

## **Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Marc Eames**

### **Liturgy of the Word**

*\*The congregation stands as able*

#### **Opening Acclamation:**

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

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

**Collect for Purity:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known  
And from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the  
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily  
magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **The Summary of the Law**

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#### **Gloria:**

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord, thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**The Collect of the Day:** Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*\*The congregation may be seated.*

**The First Lesson Job 39:1-18: Lector: A reading from the book of Job.**

Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you number the months that they fulfil, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch to give birth to their offspring, and are delivered of their young? Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open; they go forth, and do not return to them. "Who has let the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, to which I have given the steppe for its home, the salt land for its dwelling-place? It scorns the tumult of the city; it does not hear the shouts of the driver. It ranges the mountains as its pasture, and it searches after every green thing. "Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Will it spend the night at your crib? Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes, or will it harrow the valleys after you? Will you depend on it because its strength is great, and will you hand over your labour to it? Do you have faith in it that it will return, and bring your grain to your threshing-floor? "The ostrich's wings flap wildly, though its pinions lack plumage. For it leaves its eggs to the earth, and lets them be warmed on the ground, forgetting that a foot may crush them, and that a wild animal may trample them. It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own; though its labour should be in vain, yet it has no fear; because God has made it forget wisdom, and given it no share in understanding. When it spreads its plumes aloft, it laughs at the horse and its rider.

**Lector:** The word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 121** *Levavi oculos*

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

## **The Second Lesson Acts 4:32-35,5:1-11:**

**Lector:** **Lector: A reading from the book of Acts.** The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. But a man named Ananias, with the consent of his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property; with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet. "Ananias," Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You did not lie to us but to God!" Now when Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard of it. The young men came and wrapped up his body, then carried him out and buried him. After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you and your husband sold the land for such and such a price." And she said, "Yes, that was the price." Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." Immediately she fell down at his feet and died. When the young men came in they found her dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of these things.

**Lector:** The word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God

*\*The congregation will stand as able and turn towards the Gospel book.*

**Deacon:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

**People:** Glory be to thee, O Lord.

**The Gospel: Luke 12:13-21:** Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

**Deacon:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** Praise be to thee, O Christ.

**The Homily:** Rev. Marc Eames

**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 Prayers of the People:**

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**The Confession:** Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. Forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in the newness of life, to honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Absolution**

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### **The Peace**

## **The Holy Eucharist**

*\*The Congregation will stand as able.*

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And with thy spirit.

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them unto the Lord.

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**People:** It is meet and right so to do.

**Eucharistic Prayer 1:**

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**Sanctus & Benedictus:**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*\*The Congregation will stand or kneel.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

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**The Fraction:**

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

**People:** Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

**Prayer of Humble Access:** We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

**Communion** \* *The Congregation may be seated.*

**[All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion when you will be offered a wafer and wine. Gluten-free wafers are available - just ask the priest. If you prefer to receive a blessing only, simply cross your arms over your chest.]**



### **Post Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

*\*The congregation may stand or kneel.*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### **The Blessing**

### **The Dismissal**

*\*The congregation will stand as able.*

**Participants in the 8:00 am Eucharists:**

**Celebrant & Preacher** Rev. Marc Eames

**Deacon:** Rev. Deacon Scott J. Stevens

**Minister of Communion, Intercessor, Lector(s):** Andrea Burr

**Acolyte:** Harry Perry

**Altar Guild:** Sue Douglass, Marsha Francis, Margaret Mullen

*Two restrooms and a baby-changing area are in the undercroft (basement) of the church, which can be reached by the stairs in the church entryway. Two handicap restrooms are located on the upper level of the church office building next door to the church.*

Rector: The Rev. Marc G. Eames

Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Scott J. Stevens

Director of Music: Zoe Vandermeer

Parish Administrator: Christina Morin

Sexton: Ray Brookes

Vergers: Dwight Feenstra

Retired Clergy: The Rev. Bennett A. Brockman, Ph.D.,

The Rev. Bill Byers

The Rev. Deacon Karen Fedorchak

Email: [cmorin@stjohnsvernont.org](mailto:cmorin@stjohnsvernont.org)

Phone: (860) 872-0517

[www.stjohnsvernont.org](http://www.stjohnsvernont.org)

**2025 Vestry**

**Sr. Warden:** Skip Sutcliffe

**Jr. Warden:** Bill Francis

**Clerk:** Loretta Symons

**Treasurer:** Kevin Fenner

**Assistant Treasurer:** Gene Marinelli

**Vestry Members**

Elaine Anderson, Meghan Birdseye, Mary Davis, Jim Hutton,  
Betsy Ibsen, Joanne Palica, Bruce Perry, Polly Schaefer, Sarah Tierinni