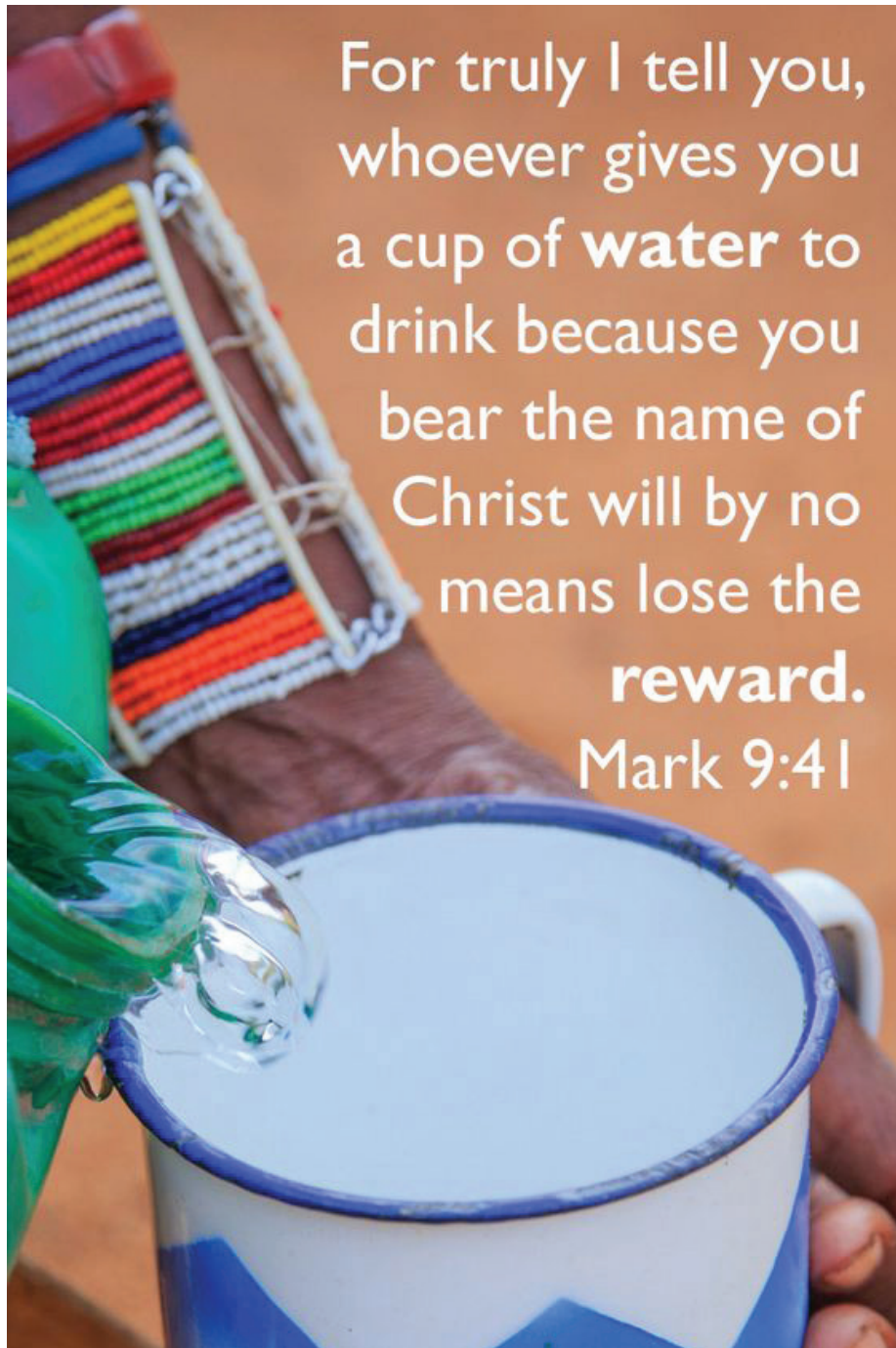


GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 29, 2024 • 5 p.m.

Welcome! We are glad you are here.

- If you are a visitor or new attendee, we invite you to fill out a welcome card, found in your pew, and place it in the offering plate or complete the form online. Use this QR code to access the form.
- If you need a hearing assistance device, please ask an usher. Instructions to connect via Bluetooth are on the back table.
- Gendered restrooms are available in Founders' Hall. A non-gendered, accessible restroom is available at west end (rear) of the Cathedral.



Service Notes

- Please rise, as able, for portions of the service marked with an asterisk (*).
- Donations may be placed in the offering, made through the Cathedral website: kccathedral.org, by scanning the QR code to the right or by texting "GIVEtoGHTC" to 73256. *Thank you for your generosity.*



HOLY EUCHARIST



VOLUNTARY: "Pièce Modale

George Baker

The Order for Evening

* OPENING ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR LIGHT

page 109

Cantor  *People* 


Light and peace, in Je - sus Christ our Lord. Thanks be to God.

The presider adds a prayer for light.


* O GRACIOUS LIGHT *Phos hilaron*: 25



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O



you the Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
lamps are lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
Son of God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through



blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of *O Gracious Light*. Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585). All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

The Word of God

* COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Lesson: Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

Lector The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you."

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!"

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



Cantor The law of the LORD is perfect and revives | the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wis|dom to the innocent.

All The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice | the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives | light to the eyes.
The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for | ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and | righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, more than much | fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than | honey in the comb.
By them also is your servant en|lightened, *
and in keeping them | there is great reward.
Who can tell how often he | offends? *
cleanse me | from my secret faults.
Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent | of a great offense.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in | your sight, *
O LORD, my strength | and my redeemer.

Second Lesson: James 5:13-20

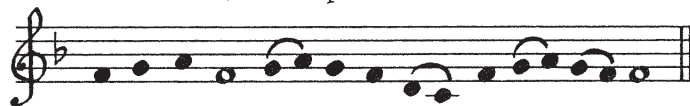
Lector Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

* ALLELUIA VERSE *Cantor; then People*



Al-le-lu-ia, al - le-lu-ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Cantor



Your word, O Lord, ▲ is truth; * consecrate us / in the truth.

All repeat the three alleluias.

* THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-50

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

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

Gospeller John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

* THE NICENE CREED

page 358

All **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.

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

from *Hear Our Prayer: Prayers of the People for the Revised Common Lectionary*

Intercessor God of peace, we offer ourselves, heart and soul and mind, to you. Respond to our prayers as we say,
 Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.
 Help your church to face the world with grace, humility and love. Let us be a beacon of hope and a
 sanctuary of peace.
 Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Give your wisdom to the leaders of the nations that they might work together for the good of the whole
 world.
 Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Draw us close to you, that we might be renewed by your love and emboldened to carry out the ministry
 of Christ in our own community.
 Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Bestow upon us a reverence for your created world and hearts that ache to care for it.
 Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Wrap all who know pain or sickness into your healing embrace, give them courage and perseverance
 and remind them that you are with them in their suffering. We especially pray for those on our
 Cathedral prayer list, and for any others you wish to name either silently or aloud,
 Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Shower the dead with your love that they might be at peace and free from the tribulations of this life;
 and at the dawn of your new age, reunite us with those whom we love but are now beyond our reach.
 Lord in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider Almighty God, who was and is to come, bestow your blessings upon us and answer our prayers as may best for us, and all this we ask through your Son, Jesus Christ, who is our redeemer and savior. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

page 360

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All 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.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

* THE PEACE

page 360

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION PRAYER

All O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as *they* begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BISHOP SEARCH PRAYER

All O Creator God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on us in the Diocese of West Missouri and guide us as we discern our call of a new bishop. O Jesus, be present in our discernment, and lead us to a shepherd who will invite us to live out the Gospel every day. O Holy Spirit, inspire us with your wisdom, and kindle our hearts with the fire of your love, that we may be renewed as we prepare to welcome the ministry of our next bishop. This we ask trusting in You. **Amen.**

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

page 376

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

* OFFERTORY HYMN: 509 "Spirit divine, attend our prayers"

1 Spi - rit di - vine, at - tend our prayers, and make this house thy home;
2 Come as the light; to us re - veal our emp - ti - ness and woe,
3 Come as the fire, and purge our hearts like sac - ri - fi - cial flame;
4 Come as the dove, and spread thy wings, the wings of peace - ful love;
5 Spi - rit di - vine, at - tend our prayers; make a lost world thy home;

1 de-scend with all thy gra - cious powers, O come, great Spi - rit, come!
2 and lead us in those paths of life where - on the right - eous go.
3 let our whole soul an of - fering be to our Re - deem - er's Name.
4 and let thy Church on earth be - come blest as the Church a - bove.
5 de-scend with all thy gra - cious powers; O come, great Spi - rit, come!

Words: Andrew Reed (1787-1862). Music: *Nun danket all und bringet Ehr*, melody att. Johann Cruger (1598-1662). All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

Presider Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

S119: The Lord's Prayer

All



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Music: *Plainsong*; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

Presider 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.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

For gluten-free bread, cross your hands palms down.

For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest.

On the first Sunday of each month, prayer for healing is offered at the prayer desk until the close of worship.

Presider 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.

DISMISSAL

Presider The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us
all evermore. Amen.

Following the dismissal,

People Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN: 609 "Where cross the crowded ways of life"

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on sha - dowed
 3 The cup of wa - ter given for thee still holds the
 4 O Mas - ter, from the moun - tain side, make haste to
 5 till all the world shall learn thy love, and fol - low

1 cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 2 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 3 fresh - ness of thy grace; yet long these mul - ti -
 4 heal these hearts of pain; a - mong these rest - less
 5 where thy feet have trod; till glo - rious from thy

1 self - ish strife, we hear thy voice, O Son of Man.
 2 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of thy tears.
 3 tudes to see the true com - pas - sion of thy face.
 4 throngs a - bide, O tread the ci - ty's streets a - gain;
 5 heaven a - bove, shall come the ci - ty of our God.

Words: Frank Mason North (1850-1935), alt. Music: Gardiner, from *Sacred Melodies*, 1815; arr. William Gardiner (1770-1853). All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710278.

VOLUNTARY: Prelude and Fugue in C minor, BWV 549

Johann Sebastian Bach

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Barbara Wegener
Lector & Eucharistic Minister	Trish Lambert
Cantor	Dr. Kelli Van Meter
Organist	Dr. Lucas Fletcher

Diaper Drive

for **happybottoms**TM

diapers for families in need

not having a clean diaper can really stink

- Diapers are not covered by government safety net programs like food stamps, Medicaid, and WIC.
- An estimated 21,000 children in our metropolitan area need diaper assistance (US Census 2020)
- Families with young children experiencing diaper need report missing an average of 5.1 workdays per month because they did not have the required number of diapers for their child to attend daycare.

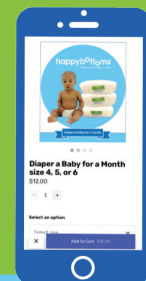
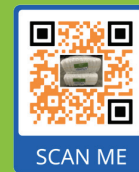


1 in 2 families in KC can't afford diapers!

Bring diapers to the barrel in the cross hall or to the basket in the Tower

OR

Donate diapers directly through the happybottoms.org site



Donate packages of diapers

Sizes 4, 5, 6 needed most



Use group name:
GRACE & HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

help babies in Kansas City!

Cathedral Prayer List

Pray for: LaGreta Gitta; Phineas Gitta; Anne Huston Hayes; Sandra Fuhrman; Sunita Williams and Barry Wilmore; Ann Ryder; Donna Knoell; Bennett and Beckett Twenter; Sonya Kittrell; Eliza; Kenny Cabean; Nancy Riley; Necia; Joyce Morrow; Theresa Gasper; Wayne Alexander; Carolyn and Harold; Jan and John Bacchus; Joyce and Jim Buford; Joyce Gillespie; Claudia Brown; Nigel Jones; Robert Dean Melton; Diego Garcia; Lenette Johnson; All families affected by gun violence; All those fighting cancer; Bonita White; Charlotte Colburn; Doyle White; First Responders; Gloria Stocks; Jim Royer; Jinny McCoy; Larry McMullen; Mike Barzee & Family; Phyllis & James Shaffer; Thaddeus Samuel Withers

Comfort and Peace: the family and friends of Judy Lafferty; the family and friends of Carl Schneider; the family and friends of Larry Kehoe ; the family and friends of Lee McCaffree; Janel Mosley and the Kinderman family; the family and friends of Kris Kemper; the family and friends of Pat Leive; the family and friends of Nick Vaughn; all families affected by gun violence

Pray for the Departed: Judy Lafferty; Carl Schneider; Larry Kehoe; Lee McCaffree; Mary Frances Kinderman; Kris Kemper; Pat Leive; Nick Vaughn; for all those lost in war; for all who have died from gun violence

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Lee's Summit—The Rev. Meg Rhodes, Rector; Diocesan Curacy Program

For the complete prayer list: kccathedral.org/prayers

To place a person on this prayer list, please contact Deacon Barbara Wegener, bwegener@kccathedral.org. Requests are held in prayer for 90 days.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

September 29

Brenda Colburn
Margo Galus
Jonathan Sternberg
Anya & Brent Miller

September 30

Vaughn Hemingway
Patricia Miller
Ric Sweeting
John & Vangie Rich
Cheryl & Mike
McDonald

October 2

Charlie Caringer
Nova Kretsinger
Rebecca Rezaei

October 3

Janet & Ric
Sweeting

October 4

Gibraltar Hemingway

October 5

Zach Janky
Bryant Johnson
Karen Meek
Jimmy Sparks
Stephanie &
Chris Newton

Today's Flowers

are given to the Glory of God and ...

- in celebration of Ric Sweeting's birthday—Janet Sweeting & Devon Sweeting

Donations of any amount toward the weekly flowers can be given by anyone who wants to acknowledge special events or people in their lives.

See kccathedral.org/flowers for more information or contact Julie Toma, jtoma@kccathedral.org.



Please contact the Cathedral office if we have omitted your birthday or anniversary: jtoma@kccathedral.org or 816.474.8260.

Cathedral Staff: The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse, *Dean*; The Rev. W. James Yazell, *Associate Priest*; The Rev. Barbara Wegener, *Deacon*; Dr. Paul Meier, *Director of Music*; Dr. Lucas Fletcher, *Associate Organist*; Clare Stern-Burbano, *College, Youth & Children's Minister*; Julie Toma, *Cathedral Administrator*; Melissa Kilpatrick, *Communications Coordinator*; Holly Campbell, *Events Coordinator*; Steve Berman, *Finance Coordinator*; Dr. Joan Bergstrom, *Sacristan & Volunteer Coordinator*; Angie Graham, *Facility Manager*; Bianca Jackson, *Assistant Facility Manager*; The Very Rev. Peter J. DeVeau, *Dean Emeritus*; Canon John Schaefer, *Canon Musician Emeritus*

The Vestry: Steve Moore, *Senior Warden*, smoore@rdm.law; Valerie Johnson, *Junior Warden*, johnson_jb@hotmail.com; Chip Buckner, *Treasurer*; Blain Lagergren, *Clerk*; Julie Brogno; Sharon Cheers; Sara Copeland; Pat Decker; Nigel Jones; Paula Livingston-Lewis; Mathias Nichols; Charles Shipley; Michael Thomas

Youth

Weekly Youth Opportunities Sundays

Youth Formation at 9:15 a.m.

with light breakfast

Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Youth Group at 6 p.m.

Dinner is provided!

Questions? Contact Clare, cstern@kccathedral.org



Confirmation Retreat • October 5 • St. Mary's

This retreat will complement and enhance the preparation done at the parish level by providing time and space away from the pressures of everyday life for intentional prayer, reflection, and conversation about what we believe and what it means to live out those beliefs in the world with others undergoing the same preparation around the diocese.

Register for both events at kccathedral.org/youthformation.

Children

Formation Class • 9:15 a.m.

Join us for formation hour and wonder about God with your friends and teachers and hear sacred stories as told with the help of Godly Play resources! **There will be no formation today, September 29.**

Cathedral Kids • 10:30 a.m.

Cathedral Kids meets during the first half of the 10:30 a.m. worship service and during this time we weave together our sacred stories and our Episcopal identity with the Weaving God's Promises curriculum! Children attending Cathedral Kids will meet their parents or guardians inside the tower doors during the passing of the peace.

Questions? Contact Clare, childrensformation@kccathedral.org for more information.

Family Worship Weekend

Today, September 29

There are pew boxes at the back of the Nave that contain items to enhance the children's worship experience.

Adult Formation

Sunday

The Path

Sundays • 9:15 a.m. • Multipurpose Room

NO CLASS TODAY, 9/29. CLASSES RESUME NEXT WEEK, 10/6.

New attendees welcome at any time!

In our Adult Formation this year we will take a journey using Forward Movement's *The Path*, an excerpted version of the Bible that covers most of the major stories chronologically. Through *The Path*, we will become familiar with the grand overarching narrative of the entire Bible. We will learn the story of God's extraordinary and unrelenting love for us in its many dimensions. Copies of *The Path* are available in the Cathedral Bookstore if you would like to own a personal copy. Each chapter will be printed out weekly and made available so that everyone can follow along.

Tuesday

GHTC's Virtual Cafe • 7:30 a.m.

Please join us for our weekly conversation in GHTC's Virtual Cafe! Tuesday mornings from 7:30–9 a.m. For details, visit kccathedral.org/other-activities.

Women's Bible Study • 12:30 p.m.

Conversation is lively, thought-provoking, and often irreverent. All are welcome. Visit the WBS page, kccathedral.org/adultformation/wbs for more information.

Lectionary Bible Study • 6:45 p.m.

We study the lessons for the upcoming Sunday. Join the Lectionary Bible Study group in Realm or visit the LBS page, kccathedral.org/adultformation/lbs for more details.



Food & Friends Groups are a great way to better get to know the people in the pews around you in a casual way. Groups meet about once a month at a time and place that is convenient for the members. The group meeting period is November–March. You will be matched with other parishioners in a group of 6–8 people. Everyone is welcome to sign up to be in a group! Signup sheets are in the back of the Nave or signup online: forms.office.com/r/FEU3FzQJKc

Announcements

Today's Focal St. John's Bible Illumination: "Esther" (Esther 7:1-9:22)

The Book of Esther has been problematic to biblical scholars (both Jewish and Christian) throughout the centuries. It is noted for the fact that neither God, the Torah, Jerusalem, the temple, ritual purity, the Sabbath, nor dietary laws are mentioned at all while the king of Persia is referenced 190 times. Several attempts were made in the past by both Jewish and then Christian scholars to make this book more palatable theologically by adding words to "improve" the religious tone of the writing. None of those efforts has been preserved in reputable biblical translations. Yet, Jews globally observe the Feast of Purim, which is mentioned only in the Book of Esther. It is "the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a day of celebration." (Esther 9:22)

Often classified as historical fiction, Esther relates the story of an orphaned Jewish girl living as an exile in Persia who receives the king's favor and becomes queen. She eventually uses her position to influence the deliverance of her people from the genocidal plans of a Persian official (Haman), resulting in his execution and the thwarting of his accomplice's violent intentions.

In today's focal illumination, Donald Jackson draws attention to Esther's dual identity. Utilizing a portrait of Adele Blocher-Bauer by painter Gustav Klimt as his model for Esther, the illuminator emphasizes the enormity of what Esther stands to lose should her rescue effort fail. Thus, the turmoil of Esther's decision is highlighted. On the right side of the illumination Esther is portrayed as a Jewish woman with Jewish values. She is crowned by the menorah and by a pattern reminiscent of Elijah's mantle. On the left side she is adorned with images associated with her status as a Persian queen. Symbols of Persian opulence are seen in her jewelry and cosmetic treatments and by her crown with the lion of Babylon and rich Persian rugs. These images are inspired by Turkmen (Afghan) traditional bridal gifts. Also, on the lower left side of the illumination is the image of the hanged man, whose sinister machinations are pivotal to the Esther story but who here appears almost as an afterthought.

The Saint John's Bible "Historical Books" volume was published in 2010, after a decade of wars and military conflicts following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City. In this illumination the perceptive viewer is invited to contemplate the violence of the first decade of the 21st century and beyond. The image of the hanged man (Haman) is based on images of public executions in Saudi Arabia from that period. How does this image stir your thoughts and feelings about violence?

What does the "secular" nature of the Book of Esther suggest to you? Why should this book be included in the biblical canon? Do you think it might intend to communicate something about God's hidden providence? If so, what might it say to our world today?



The Emergency Food Assistance PROGRAM

In partnership with St. Paul's on Main, we have been invited to a new volunteer

opportunity once a month on Saturday mornings at St. Paul's from approximately 9:30 a.m. to noon. This is to assist with distribution of TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program).

TEFAP dates the next few months are October 19, November 16, and December 21. For additional information on TEFAP, please visit kccathedral.org/outreach.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Deacon Barbara 816.739.8032 or bwegener@kccathedral.org.

Calling all ringers!

The Trinity Handbell Ensemble will be meeting for three to four rehearsals before ringing at a service in the fall. If you have ever wanted to ring handbells, this is a great time to try it out! For more information, please contact Paul Meier at pmeier@kccathedral.org or 816.214.9928.



Announcements

Christian Discussions about When Personhood Begins

Wednesdays, Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9
6:30-7:45 p.m.

Dr. Gary Armstrong, Professor of Political Science at William Jewell College

The question of when we should say human personhood begins has long been important. We have seen startling technical changes in assisted human reproduction. We are all hearing important discussions about crucial legal changes since the end of Roe v. Wade. Missouri may vote on a constitutional amendment in November. This course will survey some important contemporary Christian thinking about personhood. It will use some of the same discussions from Gary Armstrong's Core Curriculum Capstone "Birth By Any Means? The Ethics of Assisted Reproductive Technology" at Jewell. We will explore a seminal analysis from a Roman Catholic theologian who thinks we cannot say personhood begins at conception for scientific and theological reasons and examine an important response. We will follow a Protestant theologian wrestling with classic Scripture passages that bear on abortion while trying to develop a standard about whether Christians can ever cooperate in good conscience with abortion; we will consider applying the same standard to genetic screening of early embryos.

Get more details about the partnership:
kccathedral.org/william-jewell-partnership.

Registration is required.

Use the coupon code **GRACE** to register for free.



Blessing of the Animals Saturday, October 5 • 11 a.m.



Bring your dog, cat, rabbit, turtle or any other pet to our annual Blessing of the Animals!

Please make sure your pet is appropriately leashed/restrained.

HYMN SING

Sunday, October 6 • 3:30 p.m.
Join us to sing your favorite hymns!

Choose your favorite hymn(s) to submit (use QR code or visit our website). We will compile the list and sing our way through it. (Only hymns from *The Hymnal 1982* and *Wonder, Love, and Praise*, please.)



Submit your favorite hymn(s) here

Chandeliers Available

As construction is set to begin in the Common Room, we will have six chandeliers available. Any parishioners who would like them are welcome to give them a new home. They are free to take, although a donation would also be welcome. If interested, please call the office at 816.474.8260 or email Holly at events@kccathedral.org.

