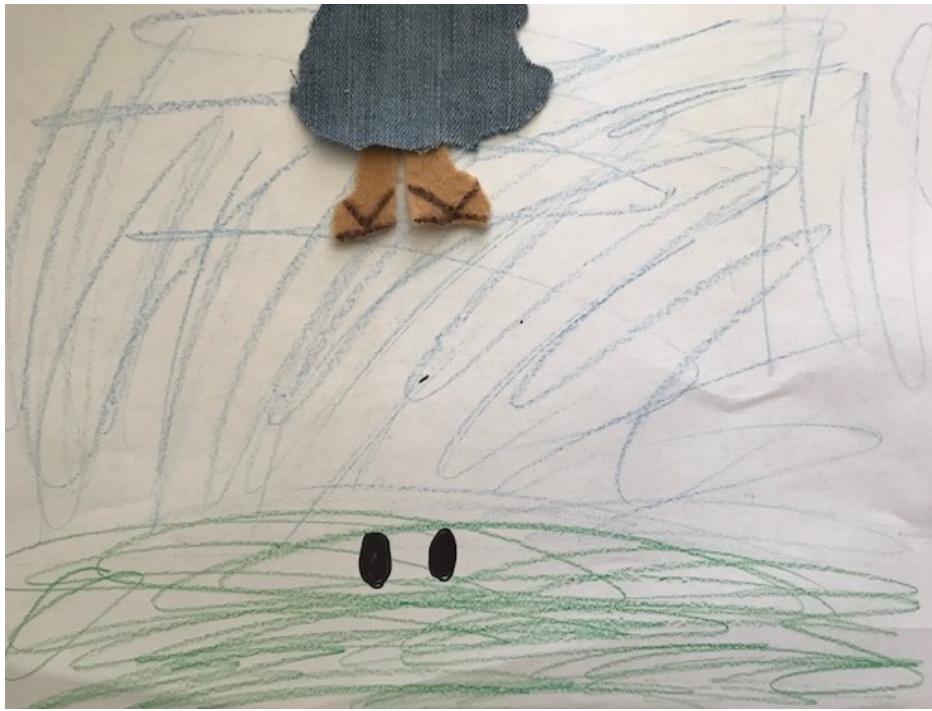


St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

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The Ascension of Christ by Eden Baker

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

May 24, 2020

10:30 a.m.

Service broadcast online via livestream video

THE VOLUNTARY Prelude and Fugue in C, BWV 846

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Christa Rakich, clavichord

THE OPENING HYMN 460, vv. 1 & 3 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

HYFRYDOL

All are invited to sing or read along.

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
 *2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
 *5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scap - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
 5 scap - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how; though the
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898)

Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811–1887)

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Let us pray. 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.

People **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:6–14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has

come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalms 68:1–10, 33–36

The people say the text in bold.

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 **Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; ***
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 **Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;**
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 **God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; ***
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 **The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,**
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 **Your people found their home in it; ***
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.

- 34 **He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; ***
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; *
 his majesty is over Israel;
 his strength is in the skies.
- 36 **How wonderful is God in his holy places! ***
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 315, vv. 1 & 2 Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pray

SONG 1

All are invited to sing or read along.

Unison or harmony

1 Thou, who at thy first Eu - cha - rist didst pray
 2 For all thy Church, O Lord, we in - ter - cede;
 3 So, Lord, at length when sac - ra - ments shall cease,
 that all thy Church might be for ev - er one,
 make thou our sad di - vi - sions soon to cease;
 may we be one with all thy Church a - bove,

grant us at ev - ery Eu - cha - rist to say
draw us the near - er each to each, we plead,
one with thy saints in one un - bro - ken peace,

with long - ing heart and soul, "Thy will be done."
by draw - ing all to thee, O Prince of Peace;
one with thy saints in one un - bound - ed love;

O may we all one bread, one bo - dy be,
thus may we all one bread, one bo - dy be,
more bless - ed still, in peace and love to be

through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.
through this blest sac - ra - ment of u - ni - ty.
one with the Trin - i - ty in U - ni - ty.

Words: William Harry Turton (1856–1938)

Music: Song 1, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958), alt.

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THE GOSPEL

John 17:1–11

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received

them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

**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

A period of silence is kept. The people say the words in bold.

For the church, its members, and its mission. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the followers of God everywhere, and for love and peace. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our governors, our president, and other government workers: We pray for their health and that they will be strong leaders. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the welfare of the world, that through your love the global community can come together even as we stay apart. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all our parishioners, as we miss seeing each other in person. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our teachers, students and parents who are doing the best they can as this school year winds to an end, especially for our seniors who are missing their special moments and celebrations including prom, award nights, music concerts and graduation ceremonies and parties. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the charities, businesses, and all people of this community who are struggling to keep their doors open because of this pandemic. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who are suffering from Covid-19: We pray especially for those who are confined to nursing homes, and for nurses and health care staff who work tirelessly to care for those who are sick and need medical care. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the departed, that through your mercy their souls may be delivered into your hands, and for their families and loved ones, that you are with them in their mourning when they cannot gather together. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those whose homes were damaged or destroyed, those who were injured and those who lost loved ones in the Michigan floods and the cyclone in India and Bangladesh: We pray that they will receive timely aid, abundant support, and lasting hope. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the courageous women and men of our armed forces who made the ultimate sacrifice to secure our freedom and relieve the suffering of innocent victims of war: We pray that God will comfort their loved ones, and inspire us to honor their memory by serving our neighbors and the common good. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Almighty and merciful God, you made us in your loving image and call us to share that love with the world. Hear our prayers, have compassion on your children, and give us the peace that only you can give; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

THE WELCOME

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Eternal Father, strong to save John B. Dykes, 1861; William Whiting, 1860
John Church, baritone

Eternal Father, strong to save,
 Whose arm does bind the restless wave,
 Who bids the mighty ocean deep
 Its own appointed limits keep;
 O hear us when we cry to Thee
 For those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word
 The winds and waves submissive heard,
 Who walked upon the foaming deep,
 And calm amid the rage did sleep;
 O hear us when we cry to Thee
 For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r,
 Your children shield in danger's hour;
 From rock and tempest, fire, and foe,
 Protect them where-so-e'er they go;
 Thus, evermore shall rise to Thee
 Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O lord of all; presenting to you, not bread and wine, because we cannot be together this day to share them, but our lives, our world, our concerns, our hopes, and all of creation.

We pray you gracious God, to accept our offering of ourselves and to transform us as Jesus did the bread and wine when he took them from his disciples, broke, blessed, and gave them once again as a sign of their new life in him.

Take us, bless us, open us, and make us new. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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 FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant The communion we receive is the unbroken communion of love, acceptance, and inclusion made known to us through the life of Jesus, who is among us this day. We are fed today by and in community, gathered together by our host, the Lord of love.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in this gathering of the community he formed. 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

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN 719, vv. 1 & 3 O beautiful for spacious skies

MATERNA

All are invited to sing or read along.

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - riot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
 thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and crown thy good with bro-ther-hood from sea to shin-ing sea.
con - firm thy soul in self-con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
and crown thy good with bro-ther-hood from sea to shin-ing sea.

Words: Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929), alt. Music: *Materna*, Samuel Augustus Ward (1848-1903)

THE DISMISSAL

The Minister dismisses the people, and the people respond. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE VOLUNTARY Prelude in C Major, BWV 545

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Margie Baker

Preacher: The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

Organist: Scott Lamlein

Assisting Keyboardist: Christa Rakich

Soloist: John Church

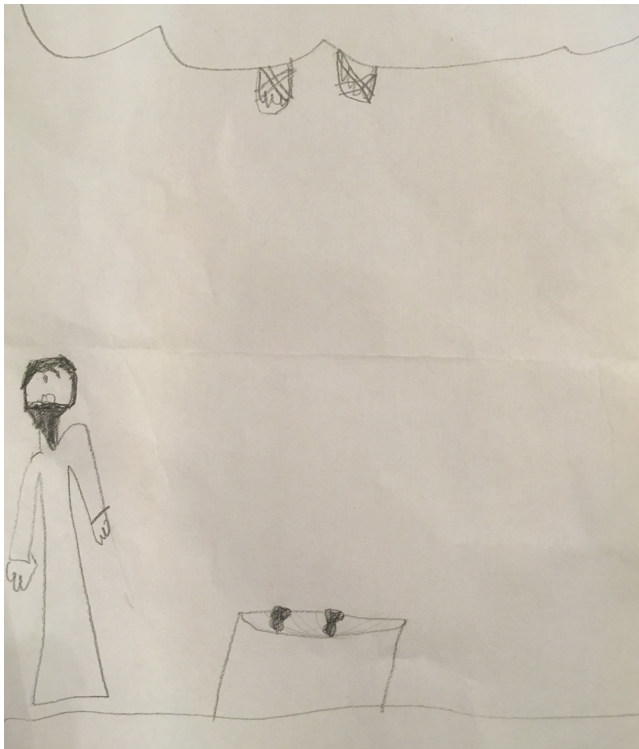
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The Prayers of the People (minus a few additions included this week) were written by the St. John's EYC (youth group) for Youth Sunday on May 17.

The Eucharistic prayer is adapted for a special need in a special time. It draws on the wisdom and creative path of Tielhard de Chardin's Mass on the World, which begins, "Since once again, Lord...I have neither bread, nor wine, nor altar, I will raise myself beyond these symbols, up to the pure majesty of the real itself; I, your priest, will make the whole world my altar and on it will offer you all the labors and sufferings of the world."

Today's bulletin cover is an illustration of the ascension of Christ, as imagined by Eden Baker. Ascension Day was Thursday, May 28. Here are some other Ascension Day pictures from our Sunday School students. Top left: Virginia Eikel. Top right: Frances and Bobby Eikel. Bottom center: James Baker.



In your prayers this week, please pray for:

Peace in our world, for those serving our country in the armed services, and for all victims of war and violence.

The parish of Santa Cruz del Norte, our companion parish in Cuba, and Saint Sauveur School, Les Cayes, Haiti.

Séminaire de Théologie d'Église Épiscopale d'Haïti (STEEH), the Episcopal Seminary in Haiti.

Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster; the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford; and the Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Our postulant, Michael Corey.

All those whose hurts, burdens and fears are unspoken or unknown.

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Jim Evans	Susan	Michael	Whitney Lynch
Kim Green	Edith Connolly	Beth	Lee
Janet Ray	Sue	Chris	Lonnie
Susan Murray	Gwain Gillespie	Ellie Brown	Tom Moore
Brad Babbitt	Nikki	Helen Moore	Patricia
Billy Ulrich	Andree	Prakash & Sue Huded	Bob Skeelee
Alex	Marnie Mueller	Bob Mueller	

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Anne Hayes	Sarah Faude
Jacob Tummescheit	Hope Eakins
Ben Bainbridge	Jeanne Winkleblack
Betty Knorr	Tom Lincoln
Mary Jo Keating	Amy Manise

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Paul Shaker and Cleveland Williams

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Paul & St. James, New Haven; St. Thomas', New Haven; Trinity, New Haven; St. James, New London; and for environmental ministry networks, eco-justice work and community gardens.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for all members of the Anglican Communion around the world.