

## THE LITURGICAL GUIDE AND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Liturgical Day & Color	July 1-2, 2023 5 Pentecost Proper 8A	July 8-9, 2023 6 Pentecost Proper 9A	July 15-16, 2023 7 Pentecost Proper 10A	July 22-23, 2023 8 Pentecost Proper 11A
Lectionary Readings (Revised Common Lectionary)	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4,15-18 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42	Zechariah 9:9-12 <u>Psalm 145:8-15</u> <u>Romans 7:15-25a</u> <u>Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30</u>	Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65: 9-14 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9,18-23	Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30,36-43
	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Saturday 5:00 p.m.
LEM	Carol Jubinski	Sundy Schermeyer	Virginia Gilmore	John Kern
Lector	Carol Jubinski	Sundy Schermeyer	Virginia Gilmore	John Kern
Altar Guild	Freear Pollard	Freear Pollard	Diane Stewart	Freear Pollard
	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:00 a.m.
LEM	Virginia Gilmore	John Kern	Rob Perdock	Madeline Glover
Lector	John Andren	Matthew Kern	Barbara Pettus	Carol Fitton
Greeter/Ushers	Steve DeCaro Tom Horan	Rich Caccavano Paul Okula	Kurt Hofmann Edie Hofmann	Steve DeCaro Sandy Wyman
Altar Guild	Lee Wadelton Diane Feil	Laura Bott Louise Reeves	Catharine Nobiletti Edie Hofmann	Victoria Garcia Ashley McLean

#### **SERVICES AT SAINT MARK'S**

#### **WEEKENDS (SUMMER SCHEDULE)**

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

#### **THURSDAYS**

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing

Baptisms, Weddings, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation by Appointment

FR. CHRIS JUBINSKI
Office: 631.288.2111
Cell: 410.253.3664
chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org



#### **EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF LONG ISLAND**

www.dioceseli.org

To see the readings for the next two Sundays, click on the links at the top of the schedule on this page

or visit lectionarypage.net

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 4 Pentecost (Proper 7) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	26 Isabel Florence Happaod, Ecumenist, 1928 Parish Office Closed	27	28 Irenaeus of Lyons, Bishop and Theologian, c.202 7:00pm Alanon	29 St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Threshold Singers Chair Practice	30 2:00pm Summer Blood Drive at WHB Firehouse	1 [Pauli Murray, Priest, 1985] 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
2 5 Pentecost (Proper 8) 9:15am Chair Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	3 Parish Office Closed	Independence Day Parish Office Closed 7:00pm 4th of July Fireworks Party	5 7:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Flute Choir	6 [Eva Lee Matthews, Monastic, 1928] 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Threshold Singers Choir Practice	6:30pm Ice Cream Social to meet new Preschool Director	8 [Priscilla and Aquila, Coworkers of the Apostle Paul] 9:00am Men's Breakfast 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
9 6 Pentecost (Proper 9) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	10 Parish Office Closed	11 Benedict of Nursia, Monastic, c.543	12 7:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Flute Choir	13 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Threshold Singers Choir Practice	14 [Argula von Grumbach, Scholar and Church Reformer, c.1554]	15 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
16 7 Pentecost (Proper 10) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	17 Parish Office Closed William White, Bishop, 1836	18	Macrina of Caesarea, Monastic and Teacher, 379 7:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Flute Choir	20 Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Amelia Bloomer, Sojawner Truth, and Harriet Ross Tubman, Social Reformers 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Threshold Singers Chair Practice	21 [Maria Skobtsova, Monastic and Martyr, 1945]	22 St. Mary Magdalene 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
8 Pentecost (Proper 11) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	24  Parish Office Closed Thomas a Kempis, Priest and Mystic, 1471	25 St. James the Apostle	26 The Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Flute Choir	27 William Reed Huntington, Priest, 1909 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holp Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Threshold Singers Choir Practice	28 [Johann Sebastian Bach, Composer, 1750]	29 Mary and Martha of Bethany 5:00pm Mass on the Grass
30 9 Pentecost (Proper 12) 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour	31 Ignatius of Loyola, Priest and Spiritual Writer, 1556 Parish Office Closed	1 Joseph of Arimathaea	2 7:00pm Alanon 7:00pm Flute Chair	3 [Joanna, Mary, and Salome, Myrrh- Bearing Women] 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Hely Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:30pm Threshold Singers Chair Practice	4	5 5:00pm Mass on the Grass

#### **A LION'S SHARE**

The Weekly Newsletter of Saint Mark's Church A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

#### ST. MARK'S CHURCH

40 Main Street P.O. Box 887 Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

> Phone: 631.288.2111 E-Mail:

<u>kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org</u> <u>Website:</u> <u>www.stmarkswhb.org</u>

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

#### **WEEKEND SERVICES**

(SAT.) 500 p.m.—Holy Eucharist (SUN.) 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Livestreamed)

#### THURSDAY SERVICES

11:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing



The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano
Bishop of Long Island
The Rt. Rev. Geralyn Wolf
Assisting Bishop of Long Island
The Rt. Rev. Daniel Allotey
Assisting Bishop of Long Island
The Rt. Rev. William Franklin
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski *Rector* 

Email:

chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org Cell: 410.253.3664



#### **THE WEEK AT A GLANCE**

Monday, 7/17 Parish Office Closed

Wednesday, 7/19 7:00 p.m. Alanon 12 Step Meeting (Atwater Room)

7:00 p.m. Flute Choir (Parish Hall)

**Thursday, 7/20** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study "Women of the Bible" Topic Mary Magdalene part 2.

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing in Rector's Office

12:30 p.m. Threshold Singers in the Atwater Room

Saturday, 7/22 5:00 p.m. "Mass on the Grass" come as you are Holy Eucharist (Columbarium Garden)

**Sunday, 7/23** 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice in the Church

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Church

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

Participating	in Today's Service	Next Week,	July 22 and July 23
Saturday at	Saturday at 5:00 p.m. Saturday at 5:00 p.m.		5:00 p.m.
LEM/Lector	Virginia Gilmore	LEM/Lector John Kern	
Altar Guild	Diane Stewart	Altar Guild	Freear Pollard
Sunday at 10	0:00 a.m.	Sunday at 10	0:00 a.m.
LEM	Rob Perdock	LEM	Madeline Glover
Lector	Barbara Pettus	Lector	Carol Fitton
	barbara i ciros		0 0.1 0.1 1.1 0.1
Ushers	Edie Hofmann, Tom Horan	Ushers	Steve DeCaro, Sandy Wyman

#### Altar Flowers

The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Diane & John Stewart in Thanksgiving for their daughters and by Pamela Sheiffer in loving memory of her parents, Hylda & Maurice Wince MD.

July Birthdays		Servic	e Attendance	
2 Connor Lueck	17 Edward Callahan	Saturo	lay, July 8 2023 5:00 PM	13
3 Hannah Reid	22 Bryn Wolgemuth	Sundo	iy, July 9, 2023 1 <u>0:00 AM</u>	<u>35</u>
9 Allison Martuscello	27 Helen Horton		Tota	l: 48
11 Frances Graham	30 Virginia Connolly			
14 Lois Simson	31 Paige Wolgemuth	( <b>27</b> Ho	ouseholds also prayed with	us online.)
14 Paul Canty				
16 Casey Shea				
		7/07	Ice Cream Social	100
July Anniversaries				
13 Debbie & Rich Cacc	avano	7/13	Bible Study	7
15 Gino & Allison Martu	scello		11 am Holy Eucharist	6
22 Jennifer & Ronald M	arwood			
23 Liz & Tom Horan				
28 Lee & Frank Wadelto	n			

Please Pray for Your Parish Every Day at 12:00 Noon And Remember the People of Ukraine and Sudan too!

#### **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<u>Weeding in front of the church</u>—We are looking for volunteers to come by once in a while and weed the flower beds in front of the church and the parish hall.

<u>COMING SOON: New Photo directory</u>—we are creating an in-house photo directory. Pictures can be taken after church from July 22 through August 13. Alternatively, "selfies" or another favorite photo of you or your family can be sent to <a href="mailto:chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org">chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org</a> for inclusion in the new directory.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Parish picnic at the Rectory on Sunday, September 10th, 4:00 p.m. (rain date 9/17)

Worship During the Summer: Saturdays at 5 p.m. is truly "come as you are" so feel free to dress comfortably. You will also notice that we will be simplifying the liturgy for Saturdays and Sundays by reducing the overall amount of singing we do during the service.

- Gluten Free Communion Wafers are now available during each service. If you require one, please ask Fr. Chris at the communion rail.
- If you are a new parishioner, we would most appreciate your filling out our Parish Survey. There are blanks at the back of the church for your convenience. Completed forms can be returned to the church office. Thank you.
- ❖ Altar Flowers: If you would like to dedicate Altar flowers for the Altar contact Laura Bott at 631-722-4749 or email her at <u>laura.bott17@gmail.com</u> There are vases available in August on the following Sunday's: two vases on the 13<sup>th</sup> and one vases on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Each vase is \$40. <u>Kindly Note:</u> checks should be made out to St. Mark's Church with "Flowers" in the memo section.
- \* Ways to Help the People of Ukraine... A complete list is posted on the bulletin board next to the church office. Please help us collect as much of these necessary items as we can. There is a box for them in the narthex. You can also visit our website at www.stmarkswhb.org for ways to help.
- ❖ <u>Maureen's Haven:</u> "Thank you" for donations to Maureen's Haven. A box for donations, along with a list of suggested items such as individual containers of non-perishable food, is in the office lobby.

We ask that you remember those for whom prayers are requested: Noah Berger (Req. by Jenn Kast), Stan Billie (Req. by Jenn Kast), Deana Chiusano (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), Nancy Fraser (Req. by Ki Nobeletti), Roberta Good (Diane Stewart's Sister), Elaine Hanes (Req by Kate Gabrielsen), Barbara Ireton (Req. by Carol Smith), Cathy Jones (Farmers Market), Stephen Jones (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), Gretchen & Jim Jubinski (Fr. Chris' Parents), Campbell Kast (Req. by Jenn Kast), Cole LoRusso (Marj Kulesa's Nephew), Fred Meyer (Parishioner), Jock McLean (Parishioner), Sean McLean (Req. by Jock McLean), The Reverend Abigail Murphy (Priest in EDLI), Sudie Nostrand (Carol John's Sister), Paul Oele (Parishioner), Cassie Panzarino (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), Joan Petrella (Parishioner), Rosemary Rees (Victoria Garcia's Sister), Betty-Rose & Stuart Richardson (Req. by Victoria Garcia), Jean Scopinich (Parishioner), John Stewart (Parishioner), Sarah Witters (Req. by Victoria Garcia), Jocko Calvez (Req. by Larry Andria), Michael Warner, Louise Reeves, Owen Foster (Diane & John Stewart's grandson), Ursula Ellerkamp (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), Samantha Rigby (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), Thomas Olsen (Req. by Jinny Gilmore) and John Martinelli (Req. by Jinny Gilmore).

If there are any names that can be removed, kindly contact Kate in the church office 631-288-2111.

<u>We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:</u> Amanda E. Degener, Kyle M. Degener, George L. Degener, Jesse Fritz, Nicholas LoRusso, Joshua Rudd, Michael Keegan, Rob Scribner.

## SEEDS OF HOPE

debimazura@seedsofhopetanzania.org

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#### SEEDS OF HOPE TANZANIA

May 30, 2023

Dear Father Chris, Kate, Diane, Chris Adams and the Community of St. Mark's Church,

Our 14th Annual Auction was a huge success due to your generosity of spirit! We raised \$10,548 to continue our projects in Tanzania. This will help us continue to support our school, St. Rose Academy which we opened in 2017. It will enable us to provide funds to support our disabled children who live and go to school at Engilanget Primary School. We will create a cow project to support the sustainability of St. Joseph's Girls High School which has been an educational haven that protects high school girls from being forced into early marriage, sometimes as early as 14 years old.

We will return to Arusha with a small team in late fall to further assess the needs and check on our present and upcoming projects. Your dedication and commitment to our cause helped make our auction the biggest success ever and creates true change in the world! Thank you for being part of our team and sharing your generous spirit.

Grateful thanks,

Debi Mazura

Founder, Seeds of Hope Tanzania

# SEEDS OF HOPE









### Maureen's Haven Homeless outreach

#### We Are Always in Need Of:

#### Personal Hygiene Items (preferably travel-sized):

- Disposable Razors
- Deodorant
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Soap/body wash
- · Toothpaste/toothbrush
- · Feminine hygiene products
- · First aid kit products

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#### Lightly Used or New Clothing:

- Coats
- Boots
- Hats/gloves
- Socks/underclothes
- Jeans

#### Food: (preferably individual sized, non-perishable)

- Coffee/tea/milk
- Canned goods (vegetables, fruits, soups, etc.)
- · Ramen noodle soup
- · Nut butters and jellies
- Microwavable meals
- Snack bars
- Fresh fruit
- · Non-perishable food items & beverages
- · Paper products

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#### COVID-19-Related Items:

- Cleaning products
- Paper towels
- Toilet tissue
- Hand sanitizers
- Masks



#### **Donations in Support of Ukraine**

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church of Riverhead greatly appreciates the support demonstrated since the invasion started and the many inquiries made about how one can help Ukraine and the Ukrainian people.

#### The list below of items they need is from their website as of 6-1-23.

There is a box for donations in the narthex and in the office lobby. You can also visit the St. Mark's website at www.stmarkswhb.org for ways to help.

#### MEDICAL:

Antibiotic creams, all kind of gauzes, any hospital or doctor's office medical supplies, cold medicine, vitamins, any wound care products, blood coagulants, and burn care products, Neosporin, and antibiotic creams, painkillers: acetaminophen (Tylenol), aspirin (Bayer), ibuprofen (Advil) and naproxen (Aleve), Medical gloves.

Water filtration products (specifically to make "dirty" water drinkable/ potable) flashlights, lanterns, blankets, sleeping bags.

We also accept crutches, wheelchairs, and walkers.

#### FOOD:

Ready to eat foods, dry foods (cereals, oats, trail mixes, ramen noodles, energy bars). Cocoa, Tea, Coffee (Plastic containers ONLY!)

**TOILETRIES:** All Kinds for adults and children.

**DIAPERS:** Children's and Adult's, sanitary wipes.

Men's NEW dark color underwear, t- shirts, socks, sweaters, pants.

Children's NEW all sizes and both genders underwear, t- shirts, sweaters, socks

Feminine products and NEW dark underwear

#### NO TOYS OR BOOKS PLEASE!

WE CURRENTLY ARE NOT ACCEPTING WINTER CLOTHING!!! NO DRESS CLOTHING

### Ice Cream Social To Meet Miss Rosanna

Friday, July 7th







Rosanna Davis (Left) will be joining our Parish Staff when she become the new Director of Saint Mark's Bright Beginnings Preschool.



#### July 16, 2023 – Pentecost 7 (A) UTO Awards

More than \$1 million in United Thank Offering grants was designated for 22 projects related to the worldwide incarceration crisis within The Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion. The funds came from the United Thank Offering's 2022 Ingathering, where monies collected in UTO "blue boxes" at Episcopal churches throughout the year are gathered as thank offerings. This year's focus for grant applications was projects addressing the worldwide incarceration crisis, specifically preventative programs and intervention, prisoner support outreach, prison reform work, or post-prison reentry.

"The worldwide incarceration crisis affects us all, whether or not we know someone directly affected by incarceration," said UTO Board President Sherri Dietrich. "Jesus' words in Matthew 25 and the Way of Love encourage us to work for justice in the world and to respect the dignity of every human being, including prisoners and their families. The grants UTO funded this year will create that ministry in new places around the world."







Below are some of the projects funded by the UTO in 2023. Find the whole list at iam.ec/uto2023en.

#### Well Time 2.0: Empowering Reentry

Des Moines, Iowa, \$22,048

Well Time 2.0: Empowering Reentry will recruit/prepare volunteers from churches to provide faith-based support to women recently released from prison through weekly group meetings at the Waterloo Women's Center for Change and through individual reentry teams for women to offer compassionate guidance to overcome personal, societal, and economic barriers.

#### Partner for Success

Elkridge, Maryland, \$31,408

Partner for Success is a faith-based mentoring program designed to help those who are incarcerated make a smooth transition back into society in the greater Baltimore, Maryland, area. Participants are matched with a mentor and a worship community to establish short- and long□ term plans −of action for successful reentry back into society.

#### Sowing Love and Education

Eloy Alfaro, Canton Manta, Ecuador \$79,604.14
Construction of the Child Care Center, which provides comprehensive and integral care to children from 3 months to 5 years old of incarcerated persons. The center will promote integral development of minors and their abilities, guarantee a safe and caring environment, initial education, psychological care, and support for families who take care of them.

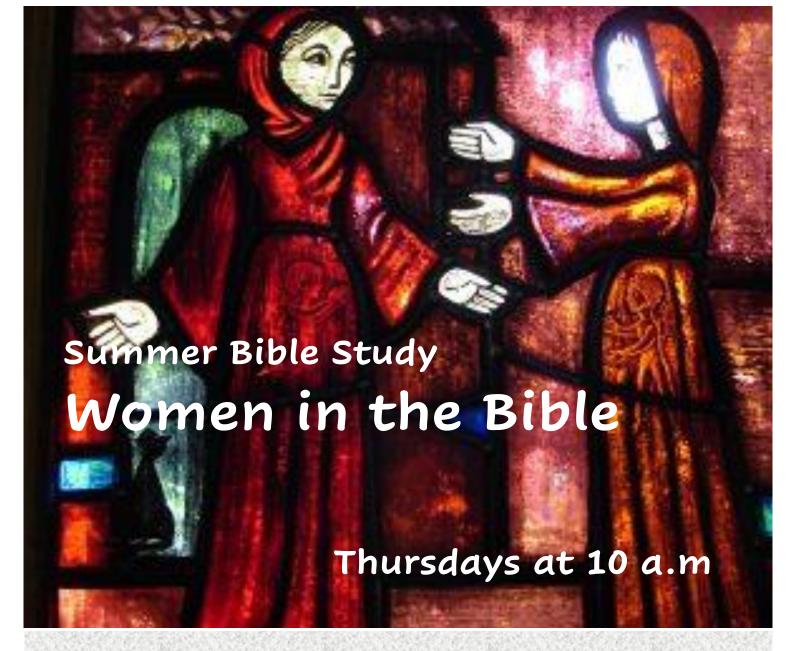
#### Compassionate Anglicans Youth Republic Project of Campo Verde

Missionary District, Brazil: \$55,000

This project is to create the Compassionate Anglicans Youth Republic Project, which will provide support, subsidized housing, and job training/work to a group of 10 young men who have aged out of shelters, are in vulnerable situations, have broken or extremely fragile family ties, and who do not have the means for self-sustenance.

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#### About This Study...

Reading about the women in the Bible reveals a great deal more than simply the stories of a few individuals. Through the women's trials and triumphs, the text offers various (sometimes contradictory) pictures of gender, family life, and relationships. Our modern understanding of gender may not translate directly onto the functions of gender in the Bible.

What are our pre-conceptions about gender in the time of the Hebrew Bible and in the Greco-Roman world? We may imagine that ancient women were universally oppressed or powerless, relegated to their roles as wives and mothers. This unit challenges these pre-conceived ideas as it seeks to understand the many roles women hold in biblical stories. We will read the stories with special attention to the power dynamics, including those surrounding gender, enslavement, and empire.

It is important to remember that these women's stories do not necessarily reveal what was normal or even ideal about gender in the ancient Near East or the Greco-Roman world. Instead, they show us glimpses of those worlds from which the authors of the texts made meaning.

"Women in the Bible" sheds new light on familiar characters like Mary Magdalene in the New Testament and Sarah, Abraham's wife in the Hebrew Bible. It also studies characters who are less well known to many Bible readers, such as the city of Babylon, styled as a whore in the Book of Revelation. Through the stories of these women, discover how gender can inform your reading as you explore how these stories relate to your own faith journey.

# Summer Worship Schedule

At Saint Mark's

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

"Mass on the Gras
Starting June 3"

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Starting Jane 4

Refreshments and fellowship follow each service.



#### Proper 10 (A)

#### Islands [RCL] Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

"No man is an island," wrote the 17th-century English priest and poet John Donne, and although we might agree with this sentiment in principle, we struggle to live into it. Donne desired his hearers to understand their fundamental interdependence even when religious and political conflicts threatened to drive them apart. And although the world looks very different today than it did in Donne's time, the same tendencies toward personal and political fragmentation endure. Spend some time on social media or reading the news and it seems like we live in a world of many, many islands now—with crumbling bridges.

This is among the great social and spiritual challenges of our time: reclaiming a sense of the communal from the wreckage of polarization and exploitation. Longstanding Western notions of individualism have created a social landscape in which, far too often, we experience ourselves as isolated fragments drifting in a vast and uncertain sea, each with our own particular climate, resources, and destiny. This can alternately drive us to defensiveness or to despair. The idea that the earth upon which we stand is, in truth, the very same earth as that of our neighbor—that we are all siblings of the same soil—is something we still too easily forget.

Perhaps we are accustomed to the notion of determining our own fate as if it were something independent of the fates of others, or perhaps we have lost a sense of the complex and life-sustaining blessedness of life lived in communion with earth and neighbor. Whatever the reason, it is tempting for many of us to assume that the cultivation of our lives is a personal affair; that who we are and how we are is somehow separate from the currents and the conditions of the world around us. We are an island in isolated repose; we are a fortress unbreached; we are a field enclosed with a sturdy fence, and the tending of it is a solo effort.

And furthermore, many interpretations of today's teaching from Jesus, the parable of the sower, might seem to reinforce the notion of our lonely individualism. Consider this: how many times have you heard this familiar parable and wondered, immediately: which type of soil am I? How fruitfully have I cultivated the Word? How thorny or rocky have I let myself become?

But these are all questions based in individualism. It's not that they are bad questions to ask oneself.

Indeed, the second part of the gospel reading, Jesus' own explanation of his teaching, suggests that there is

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absolutely a personal dimension to this parable. However, if we are to bridge the spaces between us, then these are not the only questions that can be asked of the text. In a society like ours, malformed by the false virtues of heroic individualism and privatized spirituality, perhaps there are better, more urgent questions to be asked.

For example, rather than wondering which type of soil I am, perhaps I might ask, what are the conditions in my community, in my society, or in the world that inhibit the growth of God's mission?

And as I hear in the parable about the various places where the seeds of the sower fall, I might ask, where have the earth and its inhabitants been so trampled upon by violence or degradation that no seed could ever grow? Where is rootlessness a condition of survival, such that people might not have the safety or stability to live flourishing lives? How have social, economic, and political pressures themselves become thorns that crowd out the vitality of our communities?

Because it does no good to agree that, sure, no person is an island, and yet still interpret the gospel as a purely individualistic concern. Jesus' whole purpose, which is embedded in parables like the one we hear today, is to mend and ultimately transform the social and spiritual landscape shared by all of God's creation. And so, if we are to participate in that mending and transformation—an active process we call the Kingdom of God—we must begin by widening our consideration of the stakes of this proclamation. It is no longer sufficient to wonder whether I am good soil or not; instead, I must ask whether we are contributing to a world in which there is good soil enough for all. It is not enough to ask whether the Word is flourishing in my life; I must ask whether there are the conditions necessary for creaturely flourishing in every life, in every land. For no one is an island.

A communal and holistic consideration of this parable also preserves us from the temptation to judge others for wherever they find themselves in their life of faith. When viewed through the lens of individualism, it would be easy to look at someone else's spiritual fallowness, their lack of growth, and interpret it as the result of laziness or misplaced priorities. It would be tempting to say, "If you tried a little harder, you could make something grow," forgetting that every life is shaped by seasons and circumstances that we know nothing about. Far better, then, far more like Jesus, to remember that our destinies are bound up in each other. Far better, far more like Jesus, to stand alongside one another, even in a ruined field, and ask, how can I belp you clear away the stones? How can I tend the places where the thorns have cut you? What might we do together to heal the land beneath our feet?

And ironically, blessedly, approaching the parable in this non-individualistic way also brings us back to a more deeply informed and merciful consideration of our own spiritual lives, too. For only in recognizing the interconnection of all things can we clearly and adequately assess any barriers to our own fruitfulness. Rather than seeing our discipleship as a labor that demands greater and greater exertion, more force of will, perhaps we will instead bend down close to the soil of our own lives to consider both its richness and its degradation. Perhaps we will remember and appreciate how these things came to be. Perhaps we will notice how overtaxed we are and determine we need a season of rest before things can grow. Or perhaps

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we will realize that we, too, need some help in clearing away the stones and the brambles, and that nobody said we had to figure this out on our own. Perhaps we will be grateful for the rich loam bequeathed to us by the labors of those who came before us. Perhaps we will simply marvel at what is growing there, even if it's not especially big or impressive a harvest just yet. Perhaps we have enough for our daily bread, though. Perhaps we are, ourselves, enough, too.

This is the gift of realizing that in the Kingdom of God, we are never alone. This is the gift of surrendering ourselves and our stories to a larger narrative. Jesus' parable invites us to take our place in the ecology of God's grace, wherein we recognize that all of us—every person, every creature, every plant that springs up from the soil—all of us are bound up in the advent of one bountiful harvest. A harvest in which love is the seed and justice will be its fruit. A harvest in which there will be enough for all, across the whole earth: our island home, where no one is an island.

The Rev. Phil Hooper was ordained to the priesthood in 2019 and currently serves as Curate at Trinity Episcopal Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana. A native of the west coast and a graduate of Church Divinity School of the Pacific (M.Div., 2019), he is passionate about spiritual formation, contemplative prayer, and the ways that these things impact our discipleship. Outside of church, you will likely find him in a local bookshop or on a road trip exploring the Midwest. His sermons and other writings are available at www.byanotherroad.com.

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### Children's Worship Bulletin

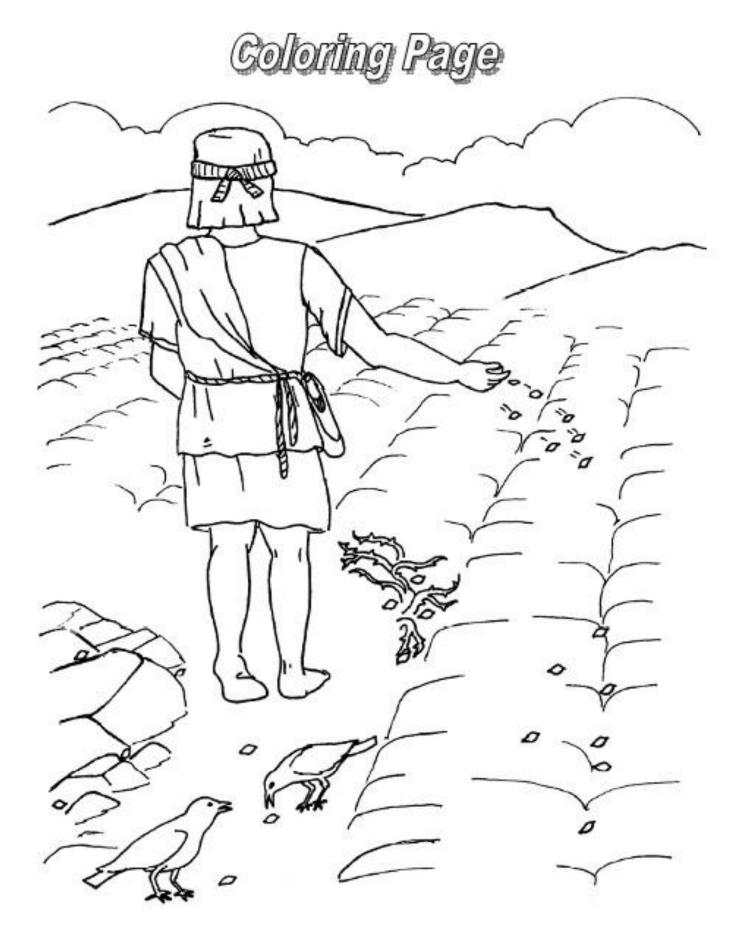
# The Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

# Word Search Puzzle

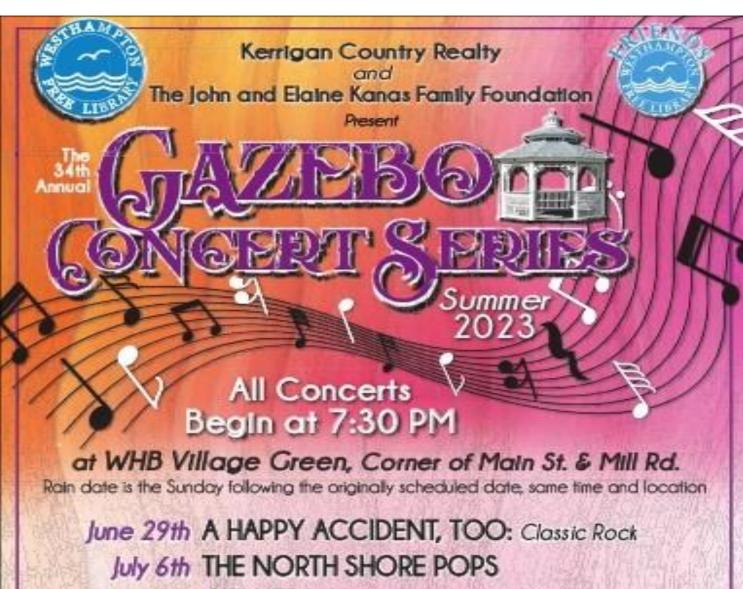
A D N B L P W W C F V B B H L
P L H M S E E D I H A R U R G
R Q D G R A S D O T O R M V G
O W X G P V C T X I H K M L P
O N V O J S A H B S V E E E B
T E R E T D T O J O X J R D R
P C G N W S T R U I X Y O R O
F F A O I E E N V L K O F E M
N L S N I Z R S W C G I K E C
P P B I R D S O O S B Q L H Q
K O W B Z P L R S C A B X T S
P P J S D L Y T R O A E I R L
C A R U A N A L X R F G J L T
Z E T H C G T L A C V O E L M
K Z S H W J R P W H M F Y Y Z

PLANTS	SCORCH	FARMER	THORNS	CROP
WITHER	BIRDS	ROOT	CHOKE	SOIL
FELL	PARABLE	SCATTER	SEED	GREW
ROCKY	SHALLOW	GOOD	SOW	PATH



The Parable of the Sower

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July 13th CITI LITES: The Best of the '60s, '70s, '80s

July 20th THE SOUND SYMPHONY With Soprano Stefanie Izzo

July 27th THE CHICLETTES:

A Tribute To Female Artists Through the Decades

August 3rd SWINGTIME BIG BAND

August 10th PENNY LANE: Beatles Tribute Band

August 17th FAVORITES FROM OPERA & THE BROADWAY STAGE

August 24th SOUL OF MOTOWN

August 31st RHONDA DENET: From Jazz to Soul

September 7th FAST LANE: Eagles Tribute Band

The Gazebo Concerts are made possible with the generous support of.
The County of Suffalk (Legislator Bioget Fiering)
The Town of Southampton - The Khranis Club of Greater Westhampton
The Rotary Club of Westhampton
St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Westhampton

Thank you to the Village of Westhampton Beach, for the use of The Village Green

#### THE BACK PAGE

### Rites of Passage

#### July Birthdays

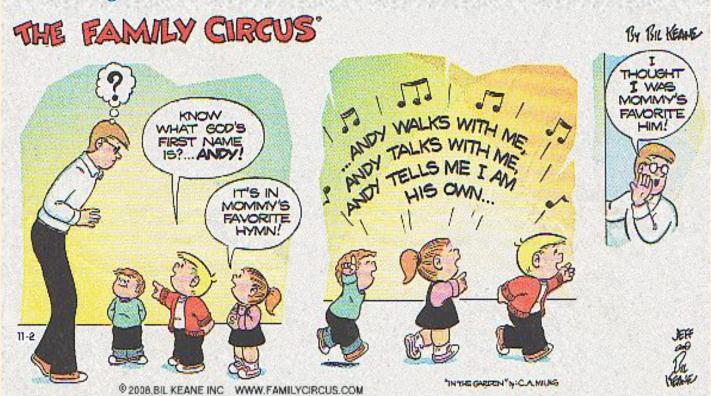
- 2 Connor Lueck
- 3 Hannah Reid
- 11 Frances Graham
- 14 Lois Simson
- 14 Paul Canty
- 16 Casey Shea
- 17 Edward Calahan
- 22 Bryn Wolgemuth
- 27 Helen Horton
- 30 Virginia Connolly
- 31 Paige Wolgemuth

#### **July Anniversaries**

- 13 Debbie & Rich Caccavano
- 22 Jennifer & Ronald Marwood
- 23 Liz & Tom Horan



#### On the Lighter Side...



Parish Office 40 Main Street P.O. Box 887, WHB, NY 11978 Office Phone: 631.288.2111



Parish Office Hours T—F 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org Kate Gabrielsen, Parish Administrator