

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
11:00 AM**

WELCOME!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today. You bless us with your presence. We hope you will join us again. We invite all of our visitors to fill out a visitor card located in the pew and place it in the narthex.

The mission of St. John's Episcopal Church is to be a community of God's people who heal brokenness, build bridges, and exemplify borderless kindness.

This service is broadcast online and recorded on YouTube.

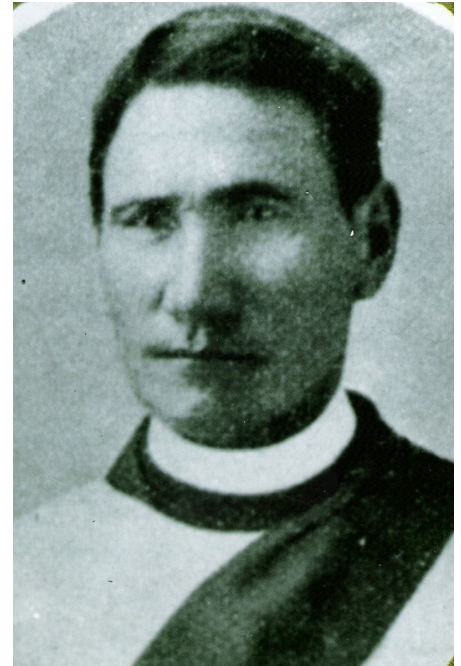


Please turn off Cell Phones. Thank You.

Por Favor, apagar los teléfonos celulares. Gracias.

David Pendleton Oakerhater

“God’s warrior” is an epithet by which David Pendleton Oakerhater is known among the Cheyenne Indians of Oklahoma. The title is an apt one, for this apostle of Christ to the Cheyenne was originally a soldier who fought against the United States government with warriors of other tribes in the disputes over Indian land rights. Born around the year 1851, by the late 1860s Oakerhater had distinguished himself for bravery and leadership as an officer in an elite corps of Cheyenne fighters.



In 1875, after a year of minor uprisings and threats of major violence, he and twenty-seven other warrior leaders were taken prisoner by the U.S. Army, charged with inciting rebellion, and sent to a disused military prison in Florida. Under the influence of a concerned Army captain, who sought to educate the prisoners, Oakerhater and his companions learned English, gave art and archery lessons to the area’s many visitors, and had their first encounter with the Christian faith. The captain’s example, and that of other concerned Christians from as far away as New York, had a profound effect on the young warrior. He was moved to answer the call to transform his leadership in war into a lifelong ministry of peace.

With sponsorship from the Diocese of Central New York and financial help from a Mrs. Pendleton of Cincinnati, he and three other prisoners went north to study for the ministry. At his baptism in Syracuse in 1878, he took the name David Pendleton Oakerhater, in honor of his benefactress. Soon after his ordination to the diaconate in 1881, Oakerhater returned to Oklahoma. There, he was instrumental in founding and operating schools and missions, through great personal sacrifice and often in the face of apathy from the church hierarchy and resistance from the government. He continued his ministry of service, education, and pastoral care among his people until his death on August 31, 1931.

Half a century before, the young deacon had told his people: “You all know me. You remember when I led you out to war I went first, and what I told you was true. Now I have been away to the East and I have learned about another captain, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he is my leader. He goes first, and all he tells me is true. I come back to my people to tell you to go with me now in this new road, a war that makes all for peace.”

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, Rite II

Prelude

Hymn 525: “The Church’s One Foundation”

Opening Prayer

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

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.*

Gloria in Excelsis S 280 -Powell

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9

A reading from Deuteronomy:

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

Chanted by Choir and Congregation

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?**
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.**
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.**
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.**
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.**
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**
- 7 Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.**

The Second Reading: James 1:17-27

A reading from James:

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 8: “Morning Has Broken”

The Gospel: Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

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

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

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon - The Reverend Victoria Mason

Renewal of Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

The Prayers of the People

(Adapted from: "Morning Prayer August 17, 2024." Prayer and Worship - Daily Prayer, Church of England, 17 Aug. 2024.)

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace that comes from God alone; for the unity of all peoples and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

For the Church of Christ, for our bishops and clergy and for the whole people of God, let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

For the nations of the world, for the leaders and public servants who strive for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

For this election season as we vote for people to work on behalf of ourselves and our communities. Help us to vote for people and ballot initiatives that will improve our community and our world to reflect the values that Christ taught us, let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

For our local communities, for our neighbors and our friends, let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

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

Lord have mercy

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, for the sick and suffering and for all in any need, let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

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

Lord have mercy

For the dying, for those who mourn, for the faithful whom we entrust to the Lord in hope, as we look forward to the day when we share the fullness of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord

Lord have mercy

The following prayers may be said after the Prayers of the People:

David Pendleton Oakerhater Prayer

O God of unsearchable wisdom and mercy; Liberate us from bondage to self, and empower us to serve you and our neighbors, that like your servant David Oakerhater, we might bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; through Jesus Christ, the captain of our salvation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Labor Day Prayer

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The clergy offers special intercessions for those listed on the prayer list. A brief period of silence is provided for the congregation to offer their own petitions.

Concluding Collect

Rejoicing in the communion of the Saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and all our life to God. *Amen.*

Commissioning and Recommissioning Ceremony

Lay ministers will be asked to stand.

Celebrant: You have been called to a ministry in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Lay Ministers: I will

Celebrant: Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Lay Ministers: I will

Celebrant: May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in this, and in all things, you may do God's will in the service of the kingdom of his Christ. Amen.

In the name of this congregation I commend you to serve in your ministries, and pledge you our prayers, encouragement, and support.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor upon these persons who have now affirmed or reaffirmed their commitment to follow Christ and to serve in his name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world, and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements

Offertory

*To support St. John's ministries please
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At the Offertory: “Everlasting Arms”

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:
Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:
Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
Leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:
Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the everlast-

Hymn 380, Verse 3: “The Doxology”

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**** Words of consecration . . .*

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:

WLP 858: "Sanctus" *-Buchanan*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel

**** Words of consecration . . .*

... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.**

Then the Celebrant continues

**** Words of consecration . . .*

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

WLP 863: “Great Amen” -*Maultsby*

The Lord’s Prayer

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

Fraction Anthem: “My Flesh Is Food Indeed” -S 91 Urwin

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them.

My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.

Celebrant 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.

During Communion WLP 830: “Laudate Omnes Gentes”

Laudate omnes gentes, laudate Dominum.
Laudate omnes gentes, laudate Dominum!
(Repeat)

During Communion WLP 827: “O Lord Hear My Prayer”

O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.
(Repeat)

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.*

Blessing

Dismissal

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Final Hymn 625: “Ye Holy Angels Bright”

After the service, you are invited to enjoy coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall.

St. John's Episcopal Church

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The Reverend Minerva Camarena Skeith, *Rector*
The Reverend Victoria Mason, *Deacon*
Ms. Maria Angie Hernandez, *Parish Administrator*
Mr. Philip Riley, *Choirmaster and Organist*
Mr. Alfonso Hernandez, *Spanish Music Leader*
Ms. Noreen McMahon, *Treasurer*

VESTRY

Mr. Brian McGiverin, *Senior Warden*

Mr. Kevin Flegal, *Junior Warden*

Ms. Mary Cree, *Clerk*

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>
Kevin Flegal	Carlos Lugo	Brian McGiverin
Patricia Mata	Henry Welles	Mary Cree
		Sarahi Giron

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
11:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (in person and Zoom)
1:00 PM Santa Eucaristía Rito Dos

THE PARISH OFFICE IS IN THE CHURCH NARTHEX
OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 PM-3:00 PM



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