



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST:

Proper 17

August 23, 2026
8:30 A.M.



St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church
in the Admiral District of West Seattle

*We acknowledge that we are on the unceded traditional land of the Coast Salish people,
including the Duwamish and Suquamish People past and present.*

We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish and Suquamish tribes.

Please know, that wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place at St. John's.

Portions of this service are from the optional expansive-language versions of the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*, as authorized by the 79th General Convention in 2018. The inclusive language version of *Eucharistic Prayer C* is authorized by the Diocese of Olympia.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

At the sound of the church bell all rise as able.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider 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

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 17

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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.**

You may be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Response

Read responsively by whole verse.

Psalm 26:1-8 • Judica me, Domine

- 1 Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.
- 2 **Test me, O LORD, and try me; ***
examine my heart and my mind.
- 3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.
- 4 **I have not sat with the worthless, ***
nor do I consort with the deceitful.
- 5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, ***
that I may go in procession round your altar,
- 7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell ***
and the place where your glory abides.

Second Reading

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Standing as able.

Matthew 16:21-28

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Presider The Gospel of our Savior.

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

You may be seated.

The Sermon

The Reverend Robert G. Stevens

There will be a moment for quiet personal reflection.

The Nicene Creed

Standing as able.

People 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 became truly human.

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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Intercessor Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

God of love, we pray for your church: for Sean our presiding bishop, Phil our bishop, Elise and Robert our priests; for all lay and ordained ministers; and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Church in the Province of the West Indies. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. John's, Snohomish. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world.

God of love,

People **hear our prayers for the church.**

(*The Episcopal Church (TEC) has dioceses in the United States, Taiwan, Micronesia, the Caribbean, Central and South America, as well as the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe.)

Intercessor God of freedom, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: For peace and unity across barriers of language, color, and creed; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred, to actively resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love.

God of freedom,

People **hear our prayers for the world.**

Intercessor God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation entrusted to our care: For the animals and birds, the mountains and oceans, and all parts of your creation that have voices we do not hear, see, or recognize. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources, that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us.

God of justice,

People **hear our prayers for the earth.**

Intercessor God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble, especially _____, and those we name now, silently or aloud. For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons.
God of mercy,

People **hear our prayers for all who are in need.**

Intercessor God of joy, we pray for this community and thank you for all the blessings of this life, especially for _____, and those thanksgivings we offer silently or aloud. For the beauty of the Pacific Northwest, and the splendor of all God's creation. For our local leaders; for our schools and markets; for our neighborhoods and workplaces. Kindle gratitude in every heart. Grow in us a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all.

God of joy,

People **hear our prayers for this community.**

Intercessor God of grace, we pray for those who have died, especially for _____, and those we name now, silently or aloud. For the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Make us faithful to your call to proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light.

God of grace,

People **hear our prayers for those who have died.**

Presider O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession

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

A moment of reflective silence is kept.

Said by 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 our Savior 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 you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Those present celebrate the peace with a bow, hands raised in blessing, or the peace sign.

You may be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

If you wish to make online donations to the ministry of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, please visit <https://SJBWestSeattle.org/give> or use the SJB Venmo QR code. Thank you.



venmo

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

— Ephesians 5:2

Please stand as you are able.

The congregation's gifts of money and donations for the Food Bank and Little Free Pantry are presented and placed on the Holy Table.

Presentation

People All things come from you, O God, and from your own have we given you.

Please remain standing.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C, inclusive language

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider God of all power, Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People Glory to you for ever and ever.

Presider At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People By your will they were created and have their being.

Presider From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People Have mercy, Dear God, for we are sinners in your sight.

Presider Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of Mary his mother, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People By his blood, Christ reconciled us. By Christ's wounds, we are healed.

Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

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.

Please remain standing.

Presider And so, Most Gracious God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Presider God of our kindred and their generation: God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; Deborah, Hannah and Rebecca; God and Father of our Savior Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in your Son's name.

People **Risen and Ascended One, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Presider Accept these prayers and praises, O God, Most Merciful, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

People **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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

You may be seated.

To receive Communion, you are invited to come to the altar rail and stand or kneel at one of the cushions. To receive the bread (wafer), please hold your hands palms up, and the Presider will place a wafer in your hands. Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it. Please indicate this by holding your hands palms down initially. If you do not wish to partake of the consecrated wine from the common chalice, you may consume the wafer at the altar rail or return to your seat to consume it.

To receive the wine, please consume your wafer, and then wait for the Eucharistic Minister to bring the common cup to you at the altar rail. Please do not attempt to intinct (dip) the wafer into the chalice. If you prefer not to partake of the common cup, but would like to receive the words of ministration, simply cross your arms in front of your chest when the Eucharistic Minister comes to you at the altar rail.

Reception of the sacrament in one kind (either bread or wine) is considered a full experience of the sacrament.

If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of communion, when you come to the altar rail, simply cross your arms in front of your chest, and the Presider will greet you and offer God's blessing.

If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.

Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand as you are able.

Presider Let us pray.

People **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Presider Be careful as you go out into God's creation, for it does not belong to you.

Be gentle with yourself and with one another,

for you are the dwelling place of the Most High God.

Be alert and hesitant, for sometimes God is but a whisper.

— author unknown

And the blessing of God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity
be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Serving in Worship This Morning

Altar Guild: Carol Eaton;

Eucharistic Minister/Intercessor: Ken Duvall;

Flowers: Adrienne Haycock, Jessica Sandoval;

Preaching/Presiding: The Rev. Robert G. Stevens;

Reader: Pamela Bradburn;

Ushers: Maria Weber, Paul Weber.

Pastoral Care Phone Number

SJB has a Pastoral Care Line 206-471-9092

Fr. Robert or a member of our Pastoral Care Ministry will carry this dedicated mobile phone when the church office is closed.

If they are unable to take your call, please leave a message, and they will reach out to you at their earliest opportunity.

As always, if you are experiencing a life-threatening emergency, call **911**.

For a mental health emergency, call or text **988**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today at St. John the Baptist

8:30 a.m. Spoken Holy Eucharist in the Church

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Music in the Church and livestreamed on our YouTube channel

11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

Hosting coffee hour after the 10:30 a.m. service is a great way to share hospitality with members and visitors by providing simple snacks, preparing coffee, and offering a smiling face and warm presence on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in providing snacks and hospitality, please sign up on the yellow sheet in the Parish Hall. Hosts serve in teams. Experienced hosts are happy to show newcomers the ropes. Thank you!

Garden Volunteer Opportunity

In addition to the Little Free Pantry, the White Center Welcome Table Meal, and the Lord's Lunch, SJB has sponsored a feeding program for the past 15 years. Volunteers from SJB tend raised-bed gardens on the east side of the church on 42nd Ave SW. The produce is donated to the West Seattle Food Bank year-round: peas, lettuce, and beans in summer and kale in winter. We need additional volunteers, especially from mid-August through September to help with harvest and delivery. For information, contact Lori MacDonald, 206-849-1098, or Carol Long, 206-930-4991.

Spiritual Practices in Small Groups

SJB continues our exploration of Spiritual Practices in Small Groups, on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Robert. robert@SJBWestSeattle.org

Wednesday Evening Prayer

Evening Prayer is a lovely way to wind down the day. At the beginning of the service, everyone chooses a role. The bulletin is displayed on the screen. At the end there is a short social hour. Come join us on Zoom, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/229332884>

Church Office Closed for Labor Day

Our office will be closed on Monday, September 7, to recognize Labor Day. We'll see you again on Tuesday, September 8.

Save the Dates

Tuesday, September 1

The Rev. Cn. Elise Johnstone returns to the office. Welcome back, Canon Elise!

Sunday, September 6

Fr. Robert will return to SJB on September 6 for both services. Don't miss the Coffee Hour celebration wishing him a fond farewell.

Sunday, September 13

Fall Kickoff Sunday, complete with hot dogs, bouncy house, and activities for kids (and the young at heart) located in the church parking lot. We also will welcome our new curate, The Rev. Vince Booth.

Sunday, September 20

SJB welcomes The Rt. Rev. Phil LaBelle, Bishop of the Diocese of Olympia, who will officiate the rites of Baptism and Confirmation.

Sunday, September 27

Fall Adult Sunday Formation begins. Our first topic will be *Keeping Your Daily Devotions Fresh*, with Fr. Peter Wallace.

Final Youth Confirmation Class

The last confirmation class will be September 13, 12:30–2:30 p.m. in the Library. If you have any questions, contact Family Life Minister Jackson Espeut. familylife@SJBWestSeattle.org

Sign Up to Help with Fall Kickoff

Please check the signup sheets in the narthex/lobby for items and help needed to make our Fall Kickoff a success! This fun event is scheduled for Sunday, September 13, following the 10:30 a.m. service. Helping hands are needed for setup and cleanup; and we're looking for delicious side dishes and desserts to accompany our hot-dog stand. Thank you!

Children's Chapel

Children's Chapel will resume on September 27. Activity bags and worksheets are in the children's welcome area next to the ushers' table in the narthex.



St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in the Admiral District of West Seattle

A Note from Our Rector

We are so glad you are worshipping here today!

Visiting?

If you are visiting with us, we would be glad to answer any questions you may have about the Episcopal Church or about St. John's. I'm Elise, the Rector (the priest in charge) of St. John's—I encourage you to reach out to me—I'd love to meet you!

Interested in Baptism?

In the Episcopal Church, we believe that Baptism by water and in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is full initiation into the Body of Christ, the Church—regardless in which Christian tradition you may have been baptized.

If you are interested in Baptism, please reach out to me—I would love to talk with you about this.

As we like to say here, wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you have a place at St. John's!

Welcome!

Elise+

elise@sjbwestseattle.org

If there is a ministry you're interested in knowing more about or getting involved, you can also contact the office
office@sjbwestseattle.org

St. John the Baptist Vestry

Class of 2026

Kitt Gassman
John Hainze
Lurilla Lee
Cathy Thompson,
senior warden

Class of 2027

Linda Barson
Terry Brady
Lauren Cox
Mary Kay Jones,
junior warden

Class of 2028

Sten Crissey
Russ Crosbie
Adrienne Haycock
Becky Kacel

Chair

The Rev. Cn. Elise Johnstone

Clerk

Carol Sutcliffe

Treasurer

Monte Frazier

Would you like to request that our Prayer Chain pray for you or someone you know? Would you like to add a name to the Prayers of the People? Please visit

<https://sjbwestseattle.org/prayers>

St. John the Baptist Staff and Office Information

www.SJBWestSeattle.org

3050 California Ave SW Phone 206-937-4545
Seattle WA 98116 Pastoral emergency 206-471-9092
Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

The Rev. Canon Elise B. Johnstone, *rector*

elise@SJBWestSeattle.org

The Rev. Robert G. Stevens, *curate*

robert@SJBWestSeattle.org

Alexandra Thompson, *interim parish administrator*

office@SJBWestSeattle.org

Thomas Aláan, DMA, *director of music*

thomas@SJBWestSeattle.org

Anita McKay, *bookkeeper*

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Jackson Espeut, *family life minister*

familylife@SJBWestSeattle.org

Nora Jindrich, *nursery and youth assistant*

David O. Ruberg, *bulletin guru*

Thomas T. Dickey, DMA, *interim organist*

Joyce Gibb, *pianist*

If you wish to reach a staff person who does not have an email listed, please contact the office.

office@SJBWestSeattle.org

What's going on at SJB this week

Sunday, August 30 8:30 AM Nave Spoken Holy Eucharist	
Sunday, August 30 10:30 AM Nave Holy Eucharist with Music	
Monday, August 31 6:00 PM Community Room AA Shipwrecked*	
Tuesday, September 1 7:00 PM Community Room AA Into Action*	
Wednesday, September 2 6:30 PM Zoom Evening Prayer	
Thursday, September 3 7:00 PM Community Room AA 12x12*	
Friday, September 4 6:00 PM Community Room AA Shipwrecked*	
Saturday, September 5 7:45 AM Parish Hall, Community Room Al-Anon*	
Sunday, September 6 8:30 AM Nave Spoken Holy Eucharist	
Sunday, September 6 10:30 AM Nave Holy Eucharist with Music	
Sunday, September 6 12:00 PM Parish Hall Sendoff for Fr. Robert	
Sunday, September 6 12:30 PM Choir Room Handbell Rehearsal	
Sunday, September 6 3:00 PM Providence Mt. St. Vincent Worship at The Mount	
*Indicates that a group is renting SJB for this use.	