

# St. John's Episcopal Church

*A place to discover connections with God and one another*

[www.sjparish.net](http://www.sjparish.net)



*The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

*September 10, 2017*

*10:30 a.m.*

## *An Autumn Message from the Rector*

As we enter the fall season, we are still in the midst of what we call “ordinary time” on the church calendar. Many Sundays have passed since Trinity Sunday last spring, when we started to count the number of Sundays after Pentecost, the Church’s birthday. We will continue to do so until we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, which concludes this liturgical year before we begin anew on the first Sunday of Advent in early December. In autumn, we feel a shift in time, in both our bodies and our calendars, as we fall in step with the pace of a new season. As the weather cools and the foliage takes on brilliant hues of red, orange and yellow, we are invited to take time to ponder what God is up to in the world, the neighborhood, and in our individual lives. During worship services, our faith forums, study groups, retreats and Church School, we will explore ways to tell our individual stories and how they are connected to God’s story. Through these shared stories, we see that God is always beckoning us, no matter where we are on our spiritual journey, drawing us closer as God’s beloved.

If you are with us for the first time, please make yourself comfortable. We look forward to meeting you. If you would like to learn more about the church, please fill out a card (hanging in each pew), put it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or member of the clergy, and we will be in touch. It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you should need to participate in the service is found here, in this bulletin and in the blue hymnal in the pew rack. Hearing assist devices are available from the ushers. Nursery care is available in the Education Wing for children from birth to age 5, and children are also invited to participate in “Word Alive” during a portion of the 10:30 service, where they will hear today’s lectionary scriptures in a child-friendly way. An acolyte will lead children out of the nave for “Word Alive” before the sermon; children will return to their families at the Peace. Please feel free to ask the ushers for assistance or more information. Again, welcome.

Photo credit: © Virginia Kemp



## ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY	Tocatta and Fugue in minor, BWV 565	J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
	Meditation on <i>Peace like a river</i>	Sondra Tucker, 2006

*While the voluntary is instantly recognized as “phantom of the opera” spooky music, this stereotyped association tends to obscure the brilliance of the composition. Long before it was used in films, video games and ringtones, it was transcribed and arranged for orchestra, band, piano, brass and other instruments (even marimba!). A theory exists that it may have been an arrangement by Bach of a lost violin piece; since the 1980s, scholars have been debating whether it is even by Bach at all. Various stylistic departures from the rest of Bach’s output are generally explained by it being an early work, based on the improvisatory forms of North German composers much studied and admired by Bach. Even if the music is by one of his predecessors, a listener can in any case imagine a teenage Bach pulling out all the stops and having fun with the massive chords, virtuosic use of the pedals, echo effects and startling dissonance.*

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 518	Christ is made the sure foundation	WESTMINSTER ABBEY
<i>All stand and sing.</i>		

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* 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 GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
 peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-  
 might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
 praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
 on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
 5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For  
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the  
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of  
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

## THE FIRST LESSON

*Ezekiel 33: 7-11*

*All sit.*

**Y**ou, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALTER

*Psalms 119: 33-40*

*The people read aloud the words in **bold** and sing the antiphon as indicated.*

Make me go in the path of your com-mand-ments, for that is my de-sire.

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, \*  
and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34 **Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \***  
**I shall keep it with all my heart.**
- 35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, \*  
for that is my desire.
- 36 **Incline my heart to your decrees \***  
**and not to unjust gain.**

37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \*  
give me life in your ways.

38 **Fulfill your promise to your servant, \***  
**which you make to those who fear you.**

39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, \*  
because your judgments are good.

40 **Behold, I long for your commandments; \***  
**in your righteousness preserve my life.**

*Antiphon*

#### THE EPISTLE

*Romans 13: 8-14*

**O**we no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

#### THE SEQUENCE HYMN 581 Where charity and love prevail

CHESHIRE

*All stand and sing. An acolyte will lead the children to the education wing for the Word Alive program. The children will return at the Peace.*

#### THE GOSPEL

*Matthew 18: 15-20*

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

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

**J**esus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

*Minister* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

#### THE SERMON

The Rev. 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

*The people say the words in bold.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

Let us pray, remembering those who died in the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and all who are at peace in your heavenly Kingdom. Grant patience and trust to those who grieve, lift up your countenance upon them, and give them peace. **Arise, O Christ, and help us.**

Give succor to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit: the sick and shut-in, the lonely and the bereaved, victims of war and violence, and those whose lives have been damaged by storms' ravages. We pray especially for those affected by Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma. **Arise, O Christ, and help us.**

Give wisdom to all who make, administer, and interpret the laws of our land. Guide those who take counsel for the nations of the world that through their work, mutual understanding and common endeavor may flourish. **Spirit of God, we put our hope in you.**

Make our Church School and all schools lively places of sound learning; grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth. **Spirit of God, we put our hope in you.**

Bless the staff and people of St. John's parish, bless our Vestry, our Altar Guild and lectors, our ushers and acolytes, our chalice bearers, church school teachers and musicians, that through them, the world may hear the Good News of your love. **Spirit of God, we put our hope in you.**

When in grief or anger, hurt or ignorance, we turn against you and against one another, **Merciful God, forgive and heal us.**

When we speak unjustly, when we blame unfairly, when we withdraw or lash out, **Merciful God, forgive and heal us.**

When we seek revenge rather than reconciliation; when we wage war rather than seek peace, **Merciful God, forgive and heal us.**

For men and women who have given their strength and their lives for this country, and all who offer themselves to rescue and protect others who are in danger, **We thank you, Lord.**

For crops that are ripening, for vacations and family reunions, for safety in storms, for new beginnings.  
**We thank you, Lord.**

*Celebrant* Teach us, O Lord, the way of your statutes and incline our hearts to your decrees that we may serve you all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

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

*All* **And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of Christ.*

## THE WELCOME

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM The Spirit of the Lord

Philip Stopford (b. 1977)  
 Words from Isaiah 61

The spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
 Because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor.  
 He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives  
 And recovering of sight to the blind, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord,  
 To give unto them that mourn a garland of ashes, the oil of joy for mourning,  
 The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness,  
 That they might be called trees of righteousness,  
 The planting of the Lord that he might be glorified.  
 For as the earth bringeth forth her bud,  
 And as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth,  
 So the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before the nations.

*Philip Stopford is a contemporary English composer who began his career as a youth chorister at Westminster Abbey, singing under Simon Preston and Martin Neary. His music is equally popular with American choirs as it is with English ones, due to his accessible yet thought-provoking compositional style. Our Youth Choir (along with the choir of St. James's Church) will be premiering a new work by Philip at the Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival in October.*

### THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise him, all creatures here below;  
 Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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:

### THE SANCTUS

Ho - - - - - ly, ho - - - - - ly.

ho - - - - - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - - - - - ry. Ho-san-na in the

high - - - - - est. Bless - - - - - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Title: *The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus*  
 Music: *William Mathias (1934-1992) Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.*

*All remain standing or kneel.*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues.*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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. **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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy on

us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

*Title: The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei*

*Music: Gerard R. Near (b. 1942) Copyright © 1985 Aureole Editions, Dallas, Texas.*

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*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.

*Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion at St. John's.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the clergy at the communion rail.*

*If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.*

*If you would like to receive Healing Prayers, go to the baptismal font at the rear of the nave after receiving Communion.*

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM Bread of the world, in mercy broken John Abdenour (b. 1962)  
 Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), found at Hymn 301

### THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*All stand or kneel.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### THE BLESSING

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

### THE CLOSING HYMN Shall we gather at the river

AT THE RIVER

1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod; —  
 2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, Wash - ing up its sil - ver spray, —  
 3. Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, Lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down; —  
 4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, Soon our pil - grim - age will cease, —

1. With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?  
 2. We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, All the hap - py gold - en day.  
 3. Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, And pro - vide a robe and crown.  
 4. Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er With the mel - o - dy of peace.

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.

## THE DISMISSAL

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

## THE VOLUNTARY Toccata Brevis

Daniel Gawthrop, 1985

*The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God's Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say Amen at the end of the voluntary as a conclusion to our worship.*

## THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

**Celebrant and Preacher:** The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

**Assisting:** The Reverend Bill Eakins, the Reverend Helen M. Moore

**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney

**The St. John's Youth and Adult Choirs**

**Organist and Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein

**Layreader:** Christoph Stretz

**Ushers:** John Amamoo, Shirley Blean, Bette-Jane Hardersen,  
Sarah Kieffer, Philip Chapman

**Acolytes:** John O'Brien, J.P. Evans, Claire O'Brien, Genella Evans

**Healing Prayers:** Buffy Cech

**Altar Guild:** Audrey Walker, Janet Willard

## At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center

**Layreader:** Bess Amamoo

**Musician:** Joyce Burke

*Today is the final service at St. John's for parishioner Mike Corey, a postulant for ordination in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. Mike will be serving as an intern at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in East Haddam. We will say a prayer of blessing and send-off for Mike at the Peace, and continue to pray for him as he continues and expands his ministry. Please offer him your thanks and well wishes if you see him today.*

**And there was light!** Did you find it a little easier to read your bulletin today, or maybe the clergy vestments seemed particularly colorful? The lights in the nave have been upgraded for improved effectiveness and energy efficiency. This project involved much more than just replacing a few light bulbs. Sexton Dwight Latif and Music Director Scott Lamlein have spent hours of work researching and consulting with an ecclesiastical lighting expert, electrical engineers, architects (including our very own Buffy Ineson, warden), and electricians to get us to this point. The upgraded nave lighting is the first phase in a multi-phase project to improve lighting throughout the building and grounds.

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

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**In your prayers this week, please pray for:**

Peace in our world, for those serving our country in 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.

Séinaire 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, and our missionary in Haiti, Dr. Lucinda Mosher.

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

**Those in need of healing:**

Jim Evans	Jim Tracy	Kristen Elizabeth	Chas
Kim Green	Cheryl Trahan	Bob Connolly	Gwain and Janet
Carol Grieco	Andrew Lee	Jay	Kevin
Janet Ray	Susan Murray	Susan	Meg
Ida McKenney	Mary Stoughton	David	Paige Carter
Jim and Nancy	Peter	Barbara Proft	

**Those celebrating birthdays this week:**

Carol Fiske-Davis  
Daaé Ransom  
Cabot Rosen  
Chris Byrd  
Joy Pond

**Those celebrating anniversaries this week:**

Susan Murphy and Paul Thaxton  
Katy Hart and Bill Uricchio  
Sam and Trig Cooley

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the Province of the Indian Ocean.

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for St. John's, Stamford; Calvary, Stonington; St. Mark's, Storrs; and the Province of New England: The Dioceses of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Western Massachusetts; their bishops, clergy, parish and diocesan staff, and congregations; Provincial Synod; and all Provincial Networks.



There are two ways the Kattoubs, the Syrian refugee family we cosponsor, really need our help: We need **drivers** to take family members to medical appointments, biweekly grocery shopping, and soccer practices/games. If you can help drive, please contact Jessica Henning at [jess.henning@gmail.com](mailto:jess.henning@gmail.com). We also need **someone who can help coordinate the children's soccer activities**. Knowledge of local youth soccer is a plus but not necessary. If you can help, please contact Sarah Kieffer at [kieffer2468@gmail.com](mailto:kieffer2468@gmail.com).

Also, Arabia and Anas Kattoub are expecting a baby this fall! If you are able to purchase a new item for the family, or donate a gently used version of the item, we would very much appreciate your support and participation! If time is tight, we can always use diapers, wipes, and

Amazon gift cards to pool resources for larger items. A full list of needed items is listed on [www.myregistry.com](http://www.myregistry.com) — search for “Arabia Kattoub.” **If you can provide the item, please mark it “purchased” on the site with your name and contact information.** Alternatively, please email or call Barbara Rua via [Barbara.RuaBusse@gmail.com](mailto:Barbara.RuaBusse@gmail.com) or 203-895-6642 to do so. Please use this information to also coordinate drop offs, online orders, or ask questions! **All items are to be collected by September 30th.**

We could use a few more volunteers on our **altar flower delivery team**. Team members deliver altar flowers after the 10:30 Sunday service to one or two homebound or sick parishioners. Volunteers are assigned to one or two Sundays per program year, and also asked to help deliver poinsettias and Easter lilies after holiday services, if possible. This ministry is very much appreciated by those who are not able to be at church. Contact Ellen in the parish office to add your name to the list.

**Many donations are still needed for our fall “Blessing Bags” project.** At the September 24 Fall Ministry Fair, all are invited to help put together Blessing Bags for people in need who come to St. John's, containing basic toiletries, small clothing items (socks, gloves, hats), snacks, bus passes, a drug store gift card, and a resource list of agencies that can help with other needs. **Between now and next Sunday, September 17, please bring in the items listed below, and put them in the labeled bins in Hubbard Hall.** Gift cards should be handed directly to a staff member or dropped off at the office. You may also make a cash or check donation to the Community Service Fund to help purchase bus passes, additional gift cards, and other supplies for this project.

**The goal is to make 50 bags**, personalized for men and women. For consistency and efficiency, each bag will contain the same things, so please, no value- or bulk-size containers, food requiring preparation, toiletries or gift cards other than those listed, etc.

- ✓ \$10 gift cards to Walgreens or CVS
- ✓ Small or travel-size shampoo and conditioner
- ✓ Small or travel-size toothpaste
- ✓ Soft adult toothbrushes
- ✓ Deodorant (for men & women)
- ✓ Small or travel-size body wash
- ✓ Small packs of wet wipes
- ✓ Warm socks (for men & women)
- ✓ Gloves/mittens (for men & women)
- ✓ Winter hats (for men & women)
- ✓ Single-serve, nonperishable nutritious snacks, such as cracker packs, trail mix, dried fruit, ready-made protein drinks, granola bars.
- ✓ **We already have plenty of bar soap.**

## How to Help Victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma

Mike Corey, who is a member of St. John's and of the ECCT Disaster Response Ministry Network, offers this advice for those who want to help hurricane victims:

*When disasters strike we all want to help in some way. All too often the desire to help becomes a secondary disaster - items get donated that are not needed, volunteers arrive that are unattached to an organization, or organizations that no one has ever heard of start asking for contributions. The best thing you can do is to help in a smart way, here's how:*

**Help financially** - You can make a donation through Episcopal Relief and Development at [www.episcopalrelief.org](http://www.episcopalrelief.org).

**Do not self deploy** - If you would like to volunteer to do relief work in Texas or Louisiana, do so through one of the disaster response organizations, such as Episcopal Relief and Development. You may contact me at [mpcorey@gmail.com](mailto:mpcorey@gmail.com) to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

**Avoid scams** - Unfortunately disasters often bring out those who will take advantage of the suffering of others. If an individual or organization asks for a contribution, check them out. Feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or questions.

**Donation of items** - It is best to make a financial contribution to the relief effort, as that can be used for a wide variety of needs. Only donate items that are specifically requested by a relief organization.

**Pray** - Please continue to hold up in your prayers the disaster survivors, those lost, those responding, and the families near and far waiting to hear from their loved ones.

**Donate to Episcopal Relief and Development at [www.episcopalrelief.org](http://www.episcopalrelief.org).**

# Save the Date

## **TODAY – Welcome Back Sunday and Youth Night**

- Please stay after the service for a special coffee hour hosted by the Vestry.
- Middle and high school youth will gather for a movie and snacks from 4 to 6 p.m.
- The Worship Committee will meet at 5 p.m. Anyone who would like to help plan worship is welcome.

## **The “Women Together” book group – Starts September 12**

This group will meet weekly on Tuesdays from 3 to 4:15 p.m., starting on September 12. Led by the Rev. Helen M. Moore, this informal discussion and fellowship group is open to all women from St. John's, St. James's, and Trinity churches — and friends! The next Bible/book study will cover the book of James along with Howard Thurman's book *Jesus and the Disinherited*. Thurman writes of the contemporary tendency to isolation and the subsequent threat of moral nihilism. The author advocates from his vision for unity and reminds us to look deeply into the work of God in our lives. If interested, please contact Helen Moore at 860-331-1127 or helen@sjparish.net. (Please bring Thurman's book and a Bible to the group.)

## **Weekly Drop-in Bible Study – Starts September 13**

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton will resume weekly Bible studies at noon on Wednesdays, starting September 13. This is a drop-in event — all are welcome!

## **Community Block Party, September 17**

All are invited to the second annual Block Party on September 17, after the 10:30 service, which will be held outdoors and include a baptism and music from the Hartford Steel Symphony. The block party features food trucks where you can purchase lunch (or bring your own picnic!), music by local folk duo The Nields, a bounce house and games for kids, and tours of the church.

## **Palestinian Film Festival, September 19**

St. John's will host the opening night of the Palestinian Film Festival, sponsored by the Tree of Life Educational Fund. Join them for two documentary films about Palestinian life — *My Neighborhood* and *5 Broken Cameras* — and a performance by Urban Thunder Native Drummers. This event, 6 to 8 p.m. on September 19, is free and open to the public. Children age 15 and up are welcome.

## **Fall Ministry Fair, September 24**

Start off the new program year by learning more about the many ministries here at St. John's, from those that serve the congregation (such as ushers and the Altar Guild) to our community partnerships with local schools, feeding ministries, housing organizations, ESOL programs, and more. Find something new to get involved in this year! The Ministry Fair will take place between the services on September 24, at 9:30 a.m.

## **Mission Trip Informational Meeting, September 24**

An informational meeting about the youth mission trip to the Dominican Republic in July 2018 will take place on Sunday, September 24, from noon to 12:30 p.m. in the St. John's Room. Please stop by to learn more about St. John's first international mission trip!

## **Choral Evensong with St. John's Adult Choir, September 24**

The “Music at the Red Door” series continues with the first Choral Evensong of the year at 5 p.m. on September 24. In the ancient service of Evensong, the clergy, choir and congregation offer music, scripture, and prayer to the glory of God alone, that it might make the day we have just shared holy and perfect, and prepare us for the week ahead.

### **Celtic Contemplative Service, October 1**

The new monthly Celtic service, a joint endeavor of St. John's and St. James's, centers on contemplation, silence, connections to the earth, and healing and transformation through meditation and prayer. The service is held the first Sunday of the month, October through June, at St. John's. A period of silence starts at 4:30 p.m., and the service will begin shortly after. For those who would like to learn more about Celtic spirituality, the Rev. Molly Loudon is teaching a six-week course at St. James's. See the flyer on page 19 for dates and times.

### **National Acolyte Festival in Washington, DC, October 7**

Join acolytes from around the country for a special program at the Washington National Cathedral. St. John's is arranging for a group of acolytes to go down together. **Interested acolytes and their parents should speak to Janet Babbitt ASAP if they haven't already.**

### **"Dine Around" with St. John's, October 20**

Come have dinner and socialize with other parishioners in their homes on Friday, October 20. Dine Arouns will be an opportunity for us to spend an evening enjoying the company of other St. John's friends, getting to know each other better and enjoying a good dinner and good conversation! All adults are welcome — married, single, old, young, long-time parishioners and newcomers. We'll have a number of different dinners happening at the same time; don't miss this fun evening! Call or email the church office to sign up, or look for a sign-up sheet in the parish hall in September. The Dine Around committee will match you up with a host and then the host will let you know what you can bring to contribute to the dinner! Sign up by October 15th so we can arrange the various dinners. If you have any questions please contact Kim Byrd, 860-558-9916. Also let Kim know if you would like to host, we need a few more!

### **Women's Retreat, October 21**

Join author/speaker Jennifer Grant for a **women's retreat on Saturday, October 21, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, about the power of storytelling for making sense of our lives and seeing God at work in them. We will talk about the stories of women in the Bible and share some of our own stories as well, looking for how they reveal insights about ourselves, our families and communities, and God. Grant is the author/editor of several highly regarded books, an experienced retreat leader, and an Episcopalian from the Chicago area. Her most recent books are *When Did Everybody Else Get So Old?: Indignities, Compromises and the Unexpected Grace of Midlife* and the children's book *Maybe God is Like That Too*. The retreat is open to ALL women – invite a friend! It is suggested, but not required, that participants read *When Did Everybody Else Get So Old?* ahead of time. Ms. Grant will also have books available at the retreat for those who would like to purchase a signed copy. Registration is \$15 if tickets are purchased ahead of time\*, and \$20 at the door. Lunch is included. To register, go to [www.sjparish.net/events/retreat](http://www.sjparish.net/events/retreat) and click on the Eventbrite button. \*Pre-registration ticket price is \$13.82 plus \$1.72 Eventbrite fee = \$15.

### **The St. John's Center for Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Direction**

The Rev. Helen M. Moore (priest associate and director of the St. John's Center) has limited space available for new pastoral counseling and/or spiritual direction clients. All are welcome, regardless of faith background or affiliation, to take part in this extraordinary ministry, provided free of charge thanks to grant funding. Pastoral counseling helps people deal with challenges in their relationships, health, work, family, or other areas, and includes conversation about how God and one's faith can be part of healthy strategies and perspectives. Spiritual direction involves having a companion in conversation about seeing and responding to God at work in your life. If you or someone you know might benefit from meeting with Helen, please contact her at 860-331-1127 or [helen@sjparish.net](mailto:helen@sjparish.net).

**FREE ADMISSION! All are welcome**  
**Community Block Party**  
**at St. John's**

**Sunday, September 17, 12-3 p.m.**

- Bring a picnic or buy lunch from food trucks
- Bounce house and fun for kids
- Tours of our historic church

*Featuring live music:*  
**The Hartford Steel Band (11:45)**  
**The Nields (1:00)**  
**Rain or Shine!**



**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
679 Farmington Ave. (near Prospect)  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
[www.SJParish.net](http://www.SJParish.net) [www.RedDoorMusic.org](http://www.RedDoorMusic.org)

Please pick up a lawn sign to help advertise our upcoming

## Community Block Party!

We want to spread the word about this free, public event. If you're willing to put a sign in your yard — particularly if you live within a mile or two of St. John's and/or on a well-traveled street — please pick one up in Hubbard Hall today! Thank you!



Please join us at St. John's

# Fall Ministry Fair

Featuring St. John's community partners and parish ministries.

Help compile "Blessing Bags" to give to people in need.

Learn, connect, and serve!

**Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.**



**SAINT JOHN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

679 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
860.523.5201 [www.sjparish.net](http://www.sjparish.net)

## Everybody has a story... What is yours? Where do you see God in it?

The events of our lives, our relationships, our bodies and the lines on our faces – they tell a story. What is your story? How can telling and reframing our stories help us see God at work? What story is God telling in your life? Join author Jennifer Grant for a dynamic day of storytelling, conversation and reflection. Grant, an Episcopal writer and speaker from the Chicago area, is author of *When Did Everybody Else Get So Old? Indignities, Compromises and the Unexpected Grace of Midlife*. Reading the book ahead of time is recommended but optional; signed copies will be available for purchase at the retreat.

### Women's Retreat with author Jennifer Grant

Saturday, October 21  
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

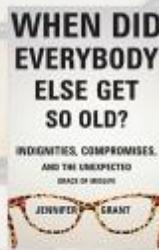
\$15 pre-registration

\$20 at the door

Lunch included

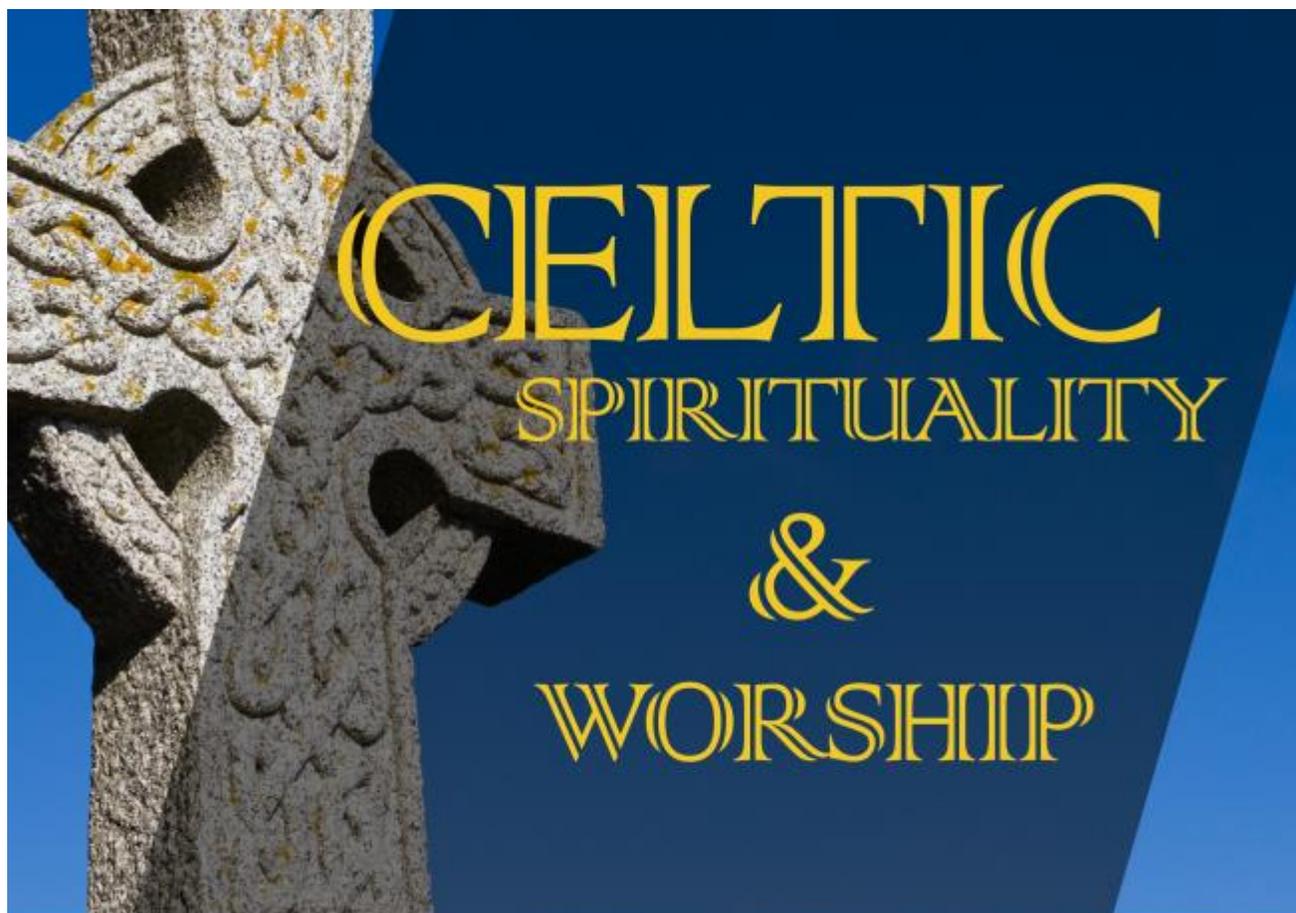
Register at

[www.sjparish.net/events/retreat](http://www.sjparish.net/events/retreat)



St. John's Episcopal Church  
679 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
860.523.5201  
[www.sjparish.net](http://www.sjparish.net)

Come and bring a friend.  
All are welcome!



**LEARN** an ancient and relevant way to understand God and Jesus in this six-week course in Celtic spirituality:

**SEP 17 & 24; OCT 8, 15, 22, & 29 at 4:30pm**

*St. James's Episcopal Church  
1018 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford*

**WORSHIP** in this ancient tradition. All are welcome.

**MONTHLY on the FIRST SUNDAY, OCTOBER-JUNE at 4:30pm**

*St. John's Episcopal Church  
679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford*



[stjameswh.org](http://stjameswh.org)



[sjparish.net](http://sjparish.net)

# St. John's Episcopal Church

*A place to discover connections with God and one another*

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119

860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning

5:00 p.m. Evensong on selected last Sundays of the month

4:30 p.m. Celtic contemplative service on the first Sunday of the month, October - June

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer each Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Christian Education: Sundays at 9:30 a.m. September – May

## CLERGY and STAFF

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@sjparish.net) .....	Rector
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net) .....	Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney* (walter@sjparish.net) .....	Deacon
The Rev. Hope Eakins* (hope@sjparish.net) .....	Priest Associate
The Rev. William Eakins* (bill@sjparish.net) .....	Priest Associate
The Rev. Helen M. Moore* (helen@sjparish.net) .....	Director of Pastoral and Spiritual Ministries
Janet Babbitt (janet@sjparish.net) .....	Director of Religious Education
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net) .....	Parish Manager and Assistant to the Rector
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net) .....	Sexton
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net) .....	Financial Administrator
Mary Scripko (mary@sjparish.net) .....	Religious Education Assistant
Ralph Valentine .....	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

*\*These positions are non-stipendiary. These clergy give generously of their time and expertise to support St. John's mission and ministries.*

## VESTRY

Buffy Ineson .....	Warden
Wes Winterbottom .....	Warden
Beth Grieco and Chris Byrd .....	Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar .....	Clerk

2015-17: Courtney Bass, Jan Hickcox, John Roche, Heather Simson

2016-18: Bess Amamoo, Tim Goetz, Ginny Kemp, Will Smith

2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Douglas Hyland, Virginia Van Dyk, Andrew Worrell

## ST. PAUL'S DEAF CONGREGATION

Sundays, 10:30 a.m., in the church

Lay leaders: Victoria Crosta – text: 860-478-6524; Melissa Render – text: 860-983-4606