

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

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



*The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II WITH THE BAPTISM OF

Abigail Marie Stretz

*September 17, 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.

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## ORDER OF SERVICE

### THE VOLUNTARY

The Hartford Steel Symphony

### THE OPENING SONG Haleluyan

CREEK INDIAN CHANT

*All stand and sing.*

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

*People* **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* There is one Body and one Spirit;

*People* **There is one hope in God’s call to us;**

*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

*People* **One God and Father of all.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray. O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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

*Genesis 50: 15–21*

*All sit.*

**R**ealizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## THE PSALTER

*Psalm 103: 8–13*

*The people read aloud the words in bold.*

- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 **He will not always accuse us, \***  
**nor will he keep his anger for ever.**
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 **For as the heavens are high above the earth, \***  
**so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.**
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 **As a father cares for his children, \***  
**so does the Lord care for those who fear him.**

## THE GOSPEL

*Matthew 18: 21–35**All stand.**Minister* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**P**eter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

*Minister* The Gospel of the Lord.*All* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Rev. William J. Eakins

*All sit.*

## THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

*The Celebrant says*

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and Godparents* I present Abigail Marie Stretz to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.*Celebrant* Will you be responsible for seeing that she is being brought up in the Christian faith and life?*Parents and Godparents* I will, with God’s help.*Celebrant* Will you by your prayers and witness help her to grow into the full stature of Christ?*Parents and Godparents* I will, with God’s help.*Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents, who speak on behalf of the child.**Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?*Answer* I renounce them.*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*The Celebrant addresses the Congregation saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Abigail in her life in Christ?

*People* **We will.**

*Celebrant* Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

*All stand.*

*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, the 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 FOR THE CANDIDATE

*Celebrant* Let us now pray for Abigail who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.  
*Leader* Deliver her O Lord, from the way of sin and death.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**  
*Leader* Open her heart to your grace and truth.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**  
*Leader* Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**  
*Leader* Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**  
*Leader* Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**  
*Leader* Send her into the world in witness to your love.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**  
*Leader* Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**  
*Celebrant* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE BAPTISM

*The Celebrant says to the candidate*

Abigail Marie, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

*Then the Celebrant places a hand on the child's head, marking on her forehead the sign of the cross and saying*  
You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.

All **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

All **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

## 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 MUSIC

The Hartford Steel Symphony

### 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. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*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.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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 prayer volunteer, who will be standing behind the congregation, after you receive Communion.*

THE COMMUNION MUSIC Bless the Lord, my soul

TAIZÉ CHANT

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

## 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 SONG Amen

IONA CHANT

## THE DISMISSAL

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

## THE VOLUNTARY

The Hartford Steel Symphony

*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:** The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

**Preacher:** The Reverend Bill Eakins

**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney

**Layreader:** John Hardy

**The Hartford Steel Symphony**

**Song Leader:** Scott Lamlein

**Ushers:** Jeff Verney, Brad Babbitt, Edwin & Giselle Genece,  
Annabel Clapp, Eleanor Barnes

**Acolytes:** Gus Murchie, Britt Emerick, Kiley Murphy, Teddy Babbitt

**Healing Prayers:** Paul Shaker

**Altar Guild:** Ginny Kemp, Michael Wilkinson

**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center**

**Layreader:** Doug Engwall

**Musician:** Steve Metcalf

**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	Rowena Kemp
Janet Ray	Susan Murray	Susan	Meg
Ida McKenney	Mary Stoughton	David	Paige Carter
Jim and Nancy	Peter	Barbara Proft	John McCain
Toby Aguiar			

**Those celebrating birthdays this week:**

Phoebe Carlisle	Mac Mahoney
Lisa Farrell	Katie Mahoney
Maggie Mahoney	Helen Cooke
Abigail Brunjes	Bradley Crocker
William Smith	Margaret Babbitt
Ted Whittemore	Trilli Parsons

**Those celebrating anniversaries this week:**

Jim & Julia O'Brien

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the Province of Sodor and Man, Church of England.

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Christ Church, Stratford; Trinity, Tariffville; St. Peter's/Trinity, Thomaston; Trinity, Torrington; for children and children's ministries; and for Rhythms of Grace, Grace2Go, and other ministries for children with special needs.



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)
- ✓ 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 and winter hats.**

# Save the Date

## **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**

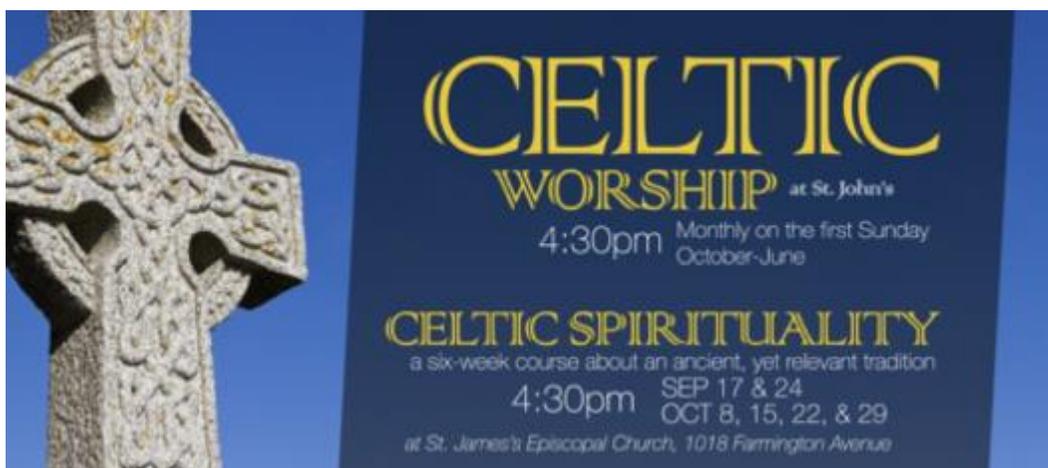
The "Music at the Red Door" series continues with the first Choral Evensong of the year at 5 p.m. on September 24. In the ancient service of Evensong, the clergy, choir and congregation offer music, scripture, and prayer to the glory of God alone, that it might make the day we have just shared holy and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

## **Celebrate St. Francis and the Goodness of Creation, September 30 and October 1**

The annual Heublein Tower hike will be Saturday, September 30, at 8:30 a.m. You're invited to bring your dog along to receive a blessing in honor of St. Francis's feast day. The Sunday 10:30 service on October 1 will also focus on St. Francis by honoring all of God's creation. You may bring your pet (leashed or crated for everyone's safety!) for a blessing — that includes stuffed or toy pets, or a photo of a pet from your past, as well!

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

The new monthly Celtic service, a joint endeavor of St. John's and St. James's, centers on contemplation, connections to the earth, and healing and transformation through meditation and prayer. The service, featuring brief readings and reflections, beautiful music from a variety of traditions, and prayers, will be the first Sunday of the month, October through June, at St. John's. The service begins at 4:30 with a period of silence for reflection and preparation. 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. The class will focus on the book *Listening for the Heartbeat of God* by John Phillip Newell. You may purchase a copy from the office for \$10.



### “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.



**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)

If you have a Block Party lawn sign home, please return it to the church,  
 as we can change the date and reuse them next year!



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.

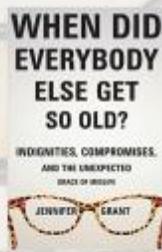
\$15 pre-registration

\$20 at the door

Lunch included

Register at

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



St. John's Episcopal Church  
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860.523.5201  
[www.sjparish.net](http://www.sjparish.net)

Come and bring a friend.  
All are welcome!

# 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