

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

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



## *The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

*October 8, 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. On most Sundays, 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    Miniatures 8 & 10, from op. 55

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 546    Awake my soul, stretch every nerve

SIROË

*All stand and sing.*

*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.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### THE FIRST LESSON

*Isaiah 5:1-7*

*All sit.*

**L**et me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

### THE PSALTER

*Psalms 80:7-14*

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



- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 8 **You have brought a vine out of Egypt; \***  
**you cast out the nations and planted it.**
- 9 You prepared the ground for it; \*  
it took root and filled the land.
- 10 **The mountains were covered by its shadow \***  
**and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

- 11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea \*  
and its branches to the River.
- 12 **Why have you broken down its wall, \***  
**so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**
- 13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, \*  
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
- 14 **Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;**  
**behold and tend this vine; \***  
**preserve what your right hand has planted.**

*Antiphon*

THE EPISTLE

*Philippians 3:4b-14*

**I**f anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## THE SEQUENCE HYMN I am pressing on the upward way

HIGHER GROUND

All stand and sing. During the hymn, an acolyte will lead children to the "Word Alive" program in the Education Wing. They will return at the Peace.

1. I'm press - ing on the up - ward way, New heights I'm  
 2. My heart has no de - sire to stay Where doubts a -  
 3. I want to live a - bove the world, Though sa - tan's  
 4. I want to scale the ut - most height, And catch a

1. gain - ing ev - ery day; Still pray - ing as I on - ward bound,  
 2. rise and fears dis - may; Though some may dwell where these a - bound,  
 3. darts at me are hurled; For faith has caught a joy - ful sound,  
 4. gleam of glo - ry bright; But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found,

1. "Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground."  
 2. My prayer, my aim is high - er ground. Lord, lift me  
 3. The song of saints on high - er ground.  
 4. "Lord, lead me on the high - er ground."

up, and let me stand By faith, on heav - en's ta - ble - land; A high - er  
 plane than I have found, Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground.

Words: Johnson Oatman, Jr. (1860-1948) Music: Charles H. Gabriel (1856-1932)

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46

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

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

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them,

saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord's doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

*Minister* The Gospel of the Lord.

*All* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## THE SERMON

*All sit.*

The Rev. William J. Eakins

## 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.*

We offer our prayers for the Church and the world. We give thanks for all who answer the call to ministry, lay and ordained. Grant us the strength and courage to use our gifts to share God's love with the world. Good Lord, **hear us**.

Inspire us to be generous in spirit and compassionate in caring for friend and stranger alike, just as Jesus taught us. We pray for our brothers and sisters in Texas, Florida, Mexico, the Caribbean Islands and Puerto Rico and for all those recovering from the recent flooding and hurricanes. Good Lord, **deliver us**.

Instill in us a desire to be good stewards of God's sacred Creation. During this season of our annual appeal, we give special thanks to God for the many blessings that grace our lives. Help us to be generous in showing our heartfelt gratitude for all that has been entrusted to our use and care. Good Lord, **inspire us**.

Help us to become part of the dream of God, reaching out to each other in love as children of God. Support us as we pray for those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit. Today, we lift up all who are in need of healing and wholeness, especially those affected by the shooting in Las Vegas — the dead, the injured and their families. Good Lord, **uphold us**.

We pray for all who have died, remembering especially the Right Rev. Arthur Walmsley, 12<sup>th</sup> bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. We commend them into God's eternal and loving care. Good Lord, **comfort us**.

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things that we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

### THE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All remain standing or kneel.*

*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 your Son 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.**



*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.  
**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 *Oculi omnium*

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Words: Psalm 144:15

*Oculi omnium in te spirant Domine:  
 Et tu das illis escam in tempore opportune  
 Gloria tibi Domine. Amen.*

The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord:  
 And thou givest them their meat in due season.  
 Glory be to thee, O Lord. Amen.

## 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  
 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 MOTET Ave verum corpus Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

*Ave verum corpus, natum  
de Maria Virgine,  
vere passum, immolatum  
in cruce pro homine  
cuius latus perforatum  
fluxit aqua et sanguine:  
esto nobis praegustatum  
in mortis examine.  
O Jesu dulcis, O Jesu pie,  
O Jesu, fili Mariae.  
Miserere mei. Amen.*

Hail, true Body, born  
of the Virgin Mary,  
who having truly suffered, was sacrificed  
on the cross for mankind,  
whose pierced side  
flowed with water and blood:  
May it be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet]  
in the trial of death.  
O sweet Jesus, O pious Jesus,  
O Jesus, son of Mary,  
have mercy on me. Amen.

*In the last few months of his life, Mozart was involved in the composition of the Magic Flute and La Clemenza di Tito. These two very different works were to dominate his last year until embarking upon the unfinished Requiem. On June 17 of 1791, his last year, Mozart took a break to compose the profound and heavenly Ave verum corpus for chorus and strings. This amazing little work is in his most ethereal last manner. Hushed, never going above the softest dynamics, it gives us a picture of an otherworldly peace like almost no other work. (Notes courtesy Craig Smith)*

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 525 The church's one foundation

AURELIA

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Chorale: Gelobt sei Gott im hoechsten Thron

Ernst Pepping (1901-1981)

*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 Helen M. Moore**Preacher:** The Reverend William J. Eakins**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney**Layreader:** Bess Amamoo**The St. John's Adult Choir****Guest Organist/Choirmaster:** Doug Johnson**Ushers:** Geoff & Karan Emerick, Ben & Ellen Flynn,  
Wes Winterbottom, Matt Ciscel, Nazra Ali**Acolytes:** Gus Murchie, Claire O'Brien, Genella Evans**Healing Prayers:** Karen Licht**Altar Guild:** Audrey Walker and Conny DeLuca**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center****Layreader:** Cindy Lawler**Musician:** Helen Hughlett

**The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Harry O. Bartlett.**

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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. Pray especially for Mike as he travels to Puerto Rico to help with hurricane relief efforts there.

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

**Those in need of healing:**

Jim Evans	Jim Tracy	Bob Connolly	Chas
Kim Green	Cheryl Trahan	Jay	Doris Klemm
Carol Grieco	Andrew Lee	Susan	Meg
Janet Ray	Susan Murray	Donald Myers	Robin
Ida McKenney	Mary Stoughton	Barbara Proft	John McCain

**Those celebrating birthdays this week:**

Bob Connolly	J.P. Winston
Susan Thaxton	Brooke Whittemore
Janet Babbitt	Ned Byrd
Barbara Abbott	Christine Babbitt
John Nowacki	

**Those celebrating anniversaries this week:**

Stephanie and Scott Donofrio

**Those who have died:**

Christopher Stephen Moore  
The Rt. Rev. Arthur E. Walmsley

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the Diocese of St. Albans, Church of England.

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Christ Church, Waterbury; St. John's, Waterbury; Christ Church congregation, Watertown; and for young adults, young adult ministries, the Young Adult Ministry Network, the Episcopal Service Corps, the Young Adult Service Corps of The Episcopal Church, and St. Hilda's House, New Haven.

*All Saints Day Remembrances*

If you would like your loved ones' names included in the All Saints Day (November 5) service bulletin and prayers for those who have died, please fill out this form, tear it off and put it in the offering plate OR e-mail Ellen in the parish office at [ellen@sjparish.net](mailto:ellen@sjparish.net). Please send in names no later than **Monday, October 30**.

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Happening Today!

#### Good News from Grace Academy

We're thrilled to have students and staff from Grace Academy, one of St. John's community partners, with us this morning. They are sharing the Grace Academy story at the 9:30 Faith Forum. Please say hello and take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the good work that Grace Academy is doing and how St. John's is supporting it.

#### Celtic Theology Class CANCELLED Today

The class and book discussion led by the Rev. Molly Loudon at St. James's Church, scheduled for today at 4:30 p.m., has been cancelled due to Molly's unexpected travel out of town. The class will continue as scheduled next Sunday, October 15.

#### Acolyte Festival in Washington, D.C.

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton, rector; Janet Babbitt, director of religious education; and parishioner Susan Thaxton are with a group of St. John's acolytes in D.C., where they participated in the National Cathedral's acolyte festival yesterday. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel back home!

All are invited to the wedding of Mary Scripko and Kevin Huhn  
Saturday, October 14  
11:30 a.m. at St. John's

Mary, our religious education assistant, and her fiancé Kevin extend an invitation to all St. John's parishioners to come celebrate with them at their wedding here next weekend.

## 1 new thing

*"One New Thing" is an invitation to St. John's parishioners to find **one new thing** to try this program year. Look around the parish web site, read the weekly e-mail newsletter and Sunday bulletin, or take a look at the annual calendar in our new program brochure. Find an event or activity you've never participated in before, and put it on your calendar. Attend an annual event for the first time or volunteer for a ministry you don't know much about. If you have a favorite event or ministry, invite a friend to make it their "one new thing." The goal is to energize our parish life, make new connections and learn more about parish life so that we can more effectively invite newcomers into our community. **What will be your one new thing this year?***

*The following letter from St. John's member Lisa Mahoney was mailed out to the parish last week.*

Dear friends at St. John's,

I am grateful for many things in my life. I try to be mindful of the abundant blessings I enjoy: a loving family, a healthy body, deep friendships, and a faith community that sustains me.

St. John's Episcopal Church is my spiritual home. Over the past 20 years, I have had the opportunity to experience many meaningful moments and meet incredible people through our parish. I want to share one recent example of how involvement in St. John's has changed my life.

In December of 2015 as representatives of St. John's church, Sarah Kieffer and I attended a forum at our sister parish, St. James's in West Hartford Center. Chris George, executive director of IRIS (Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services) provided a comprehensive and eloquent testimonial about refugee families and resettlement programs in Connecticut. Chris gave concrete examples of how we could help.



*Lisa Mahoney*

Fast forward to August 2016. Through the sponsorship efforts of volunteers from St. James's and St. John's, we welcomed a Syrian refugee family to West Hartford. I, along with a group of 8 to 10 people, agreed to tutor the Kattoubs in English as a Second Language (ESL) as a stepping stone to start their new life.

I met the Kattoub family (Anas, Arabia and their three adorable children: Hala, Aboudi and Jana) just one week after they arrived in West Hartford. Walking up the stairs to their apartment for our very first meeting, I was nervous! How was I going to connect with this family when I don't speak a word of Arabic? Would they be scared of me? Would I be able to communicate a proper, warm welcome?

My fear disappeared as the apartment door flew open and I was greeted by three small smiling faces. I was immediately charmed and at ease. All I can tell you is that God's grace was in that first meeting. In fact, I have felt God's presence since then in every experience I have had with the Kattoub family.

Our time together that started on a scorching summer Sunday moved into English lessons over Arabia's fabulous (and STRONG) Arabic coffee through the fall and early winter. This spring, driving the kids to soccer, I realized many American words and phrases have become second nature to the whole family. I marvel at the resilience of this family to leave all that they knew behind and to embrace a new life here. I'm also humbled by the dedication, love and tenacity of so many volunteers who have welcomed the Kattoub family to West Hartford and provided unconditional help.

St. John's has given me the opportunity to see God's work in the world today. That is something that I am most grateful for and one of the reasons why I make an annual gift to St. John's. Please join me in support of our parish and our ability to change lives, within St. John's and beyond.

Blessings,  
Lisa Mahoney



# Save the Date

## October Guest Preachers at St. John's

St. John's is pleased to welcome **the Rev. Chuck Robertson**, canon to the presiding bishop for ministry beyond the Episcopal Church, and author of the book *Barnabas vs. Paul: To Encourage or Confront* (Abingdon Press), a fresh look at church leadership. **Next Sunday October 15**, Robertson will lead our Sunday morning Faith Forum (9:30 a.m.) and preach at both Sunday services. On **October 29**, which is St. John's Commitment Sunday when all are encouraged to return your 2018 pledge commitment, the guest preacher will be **the Very Rev. Andrew McGowan**, president and dean of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University.

## Financial Peace University at Trinity Episcopal Church, starting October 9 at 7 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church in Hartford will be hosting Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University (FPU), starting Oct 9 at 7 p.m. and meeting for nine Mondays this fall. The cost of the class is \$93 per family and includes online access to video lectures, the course workbook and a copy of Dave Ramsey's book, *Guide to Money*. Wherever you are on your financial journey, FPU can help you get clarity around your relationship with money, help you build a strong financial foundation, and align your finances with the ultimate goal of being generous with God's gifts. If you have any questions about the class, you can contact Kevin Chick at kevinjchick@gmail.com or to sign up directly for the class you can use this link: <https://fpu.com/1042789>.

## "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 at coffee hour today.** 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.

## Women's Retreat, October 21 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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! 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.

## Lunch for all acolytes (old and new) and youth interested in the 2018 Dominican Republic trip, October 22 after the 10:30 service

Immediately following the 10:30 service on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, all acolytes, including middle and high school students interested in becoming an acolyte, will do a brief training in the nave. After that, acolytes and any other high school students interested in the July 2018 Dominican Republic mission trip will have lunch together in the Education Wing. Then Alan McCollum of the ECCT Ministry Network, who will be leading the mission trip, will share information and answer questions about it. (Acolytes who are not interested in the trip may leave after they've had lunch.) *Please RSVP for the lunch to Ellen in the parish office.*

### Lecture on *The Rise of Beatlemania in America*, October 22 at 1 p.m.

Join Beatles scholar Aaron Krerowicz for a multimedia presentation on connections between the life and death of John F. Kennedy and the Beatles' unprecedented fame and success in America. Part of the Music at the Red Door series, this event is free and open to the public; donations in any amount are welcome.

### Pipescreams! Organ Concert, October 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Hear the celebrated St. John's Austin organ played by a stunning cast of costumed players in this *spooktacular* concert. The music will be kooky, creepy, dramatic, doleful — featuring old favorites as well as some pieces you may not have heard before. Reception with ghoulish treats follows the concert. Fun for all ages. Don't miss it! Co-sponsored by the Greater Hartford Chapter, American Guild of Organists. A freewill offering helps support the L. Cameron Johnson Memorial Organ Competition for young organists.

### A Night with the Saints ECCT Event, October 28, 6 to 9 p.m.

Join kids and parents from across the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) for a night of fun, tricks and treats at Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford. The evening will feature karaoke in costume, refreshments, and more. Bring some treats to share if you'd like. Free admission and free parking (with validation) available in the MAT garage.

### Choral Evensong featuring the St. John's Youth Choir, October 29 at 5 p.m.

Evensong offers us the opportunity to gather and spend time in prayer while listening to and participating in music that is especially selected to bring us into deeper understanding of the mysteries of our faith. Evensong is a wonderful way to bring your weekend to a close in peace and beauty, and prepare for the week ahead. Please come and bring a friend.

### Confirmation Program 2017-2018

We're thrilled to host the Very Rev. Ian Douglas, bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, next April 15, for a service of Holy Eucharist and confirmation. Below is the schedule for confirmation classes and activities, starting with a special blessing of confirmation program participants on **October 22**. Youth who are planning to go on the Dominican Republic mission trip are encouraged to take part in these classes and activities, even if they have already been confirmed. Please see Janet Babbitt or Susan Pinkerton for more information and to let them know if you/your child plans to participate.

**St. John's Confirmation Program  
2017-2018**

October 22	Blessing of confirmands at 10:30 a.m. Sunday service
November 5	Dinner for confirmands and 6 p.m. their parents
January 7, 14, 21	Confirmation classes after the February 4 10:30 a.m. service
February 27	Confirmation dinner with the 5:30 p.m. bishop
April 15	Confirmation and Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. with Bishop Ian Douglas

To sign up or for more information, contact Janet Babbitt  
(janet@sjparish.net) or the Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@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)



**WHEN DID EVERYBODY ELSE GET SO OLD?**  
INDIGNITIES, COMPROMISES, AND THE UNEXPECTED GRACE OF MIDLIFE  
JENNIFER GRANT

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!**

## Vestry Notes

### A monthly summary of St. John's Vestry meetings

The St. John's Vestry met at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 for their regular monthly meeting. Major items of business discussed and voted upon include the following:

- The meeting opened with a reflection on the first chapter of *Barnabas vs. Paul*, a book on church leadership that the Vestry will be reading and discussing during this program year. The author, the Rev. Chuck Robertson, will be at St. John's next Sunday, October 15, to lead a Faith Forum and preach at both services.
- Eleanor Barnes updated the Vestry on this fall's stewardship campaign, which includes several types of mailings and the October 20 "Dine Around" dinners in people's homes.
- Tim Goetz shared ideas from the Growth Task Force for attracting newcomers. The Vestry approved spending up to \$500 for a short-term trial to mail St. John's welcome packets to new West Hartford homeowners. Tim and the task force will work out the logistics with parish staff, and track results to see if this initiative is effective.
- Courtney Bass updated the Vestry on his work with the Communications Task Force, proposing that funds be budgeted in 2018 to try new ways of reaching out, such as hiring the firm that currently helps market the Music at the Red Door series to help market parish events in the same way (e.g., short videos, widespread posting of flyers, etc.). The Vestry approved \$300 to purchase 100 lawn signs for the 2017 Christmas Festival.
- Warden Wes Winterbottom passed around cards he had made with "The Top 12 Reasons to Become Part of the St. John's Community," which were compiled from an informal survey he did of the Vestry in the spring about what makes St. John's unique. We will consider ways to use this list in parish materials (such as including them in welcome packets or making them into bookmarks).
- Additional business included a treasurers report on our current finances, the rectors report on various programs and events coming up, discussion of revised wedding and funeral policies and fees, endorsing Stacey Kohl for her upcoming ordination, and more.

*Complete minutes of the Vestry meeting are posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule between Hubbard Hall and the Education Wing, or you may request them from the parish office.*

# 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