

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The Third Sunday of Advent

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 17, 2017

10:30 a.m.

An Advent Message from the Rector

We begin a new year in the church calendar with the dawn of Advent. It is a short season lasting only four weeks. During this time, we are invited into a space of quiet waiting and deep reflection. These darkened winter days seem fitting, a gentle reminder that we need to slow down a bit and simply allow ourselves time to be. It is in these quiet, restful moments that we hear God best, reminding us that we are loved by God beyond our wildest imagination. The pending birth of the Prince of Peace is God's assurance to the whole world how much we are loved. So we wait in the darkness with the hope of what is to come — the promise of a new life, a new way of being. We find this hope in the most humble and vulnerable of people and places — a tiny, frail newborn cradled in a manger of straw. I invite you to set some time aside this Advent season to listen to where God is calling you. This season's services and events are listed in the back of the program. Please come and bring a friend as we ready ourselves for the coming of the Christ Child.

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. Please feel free to ask the ushers for assistance or more information. Again, welcome.

The photo on the front of the bulletin, by parishioner Ginny Kemp, is of the Good Shepherd window, located in the Parish House corridor facing the Cloister Garden. It is dedicated to John Heron Brooks by his family. The window was installed in 1983, and designed by the Wilbur Burnham Studios of Boston, one of our nation's premier stained glass makers. At the same time, Burnham was also designing many of our clerestory windows. Photograph © Virginia Kemp 2016.

ORDER OF SERVICE

VOLUNTARY Noel grand jeu et duo

Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

CHORAL INTROIT Ave Maria

David Conte (b. 1955)

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Benedicta tu in mulieribus,

Blessed art thou among women,

et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

ora pro nobis peccatoribus,

pray for us sinners,

nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 83 O come, all ye faithful (v. 1, 2, 3 & 6)

ADESTE FIDELIS

All stand and sing.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.

God from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only begotten Son of the Father;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Curtis Family

Reader #1 We light this candle as a symbol of the joy to be found in your kingdom on earth.

Reader #2 For the Lord elevates the lowly, releases the captive, and brings sight to the blind. We rejoice in his justice and mercy, faithful to all generations.

All **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

THE RECTOR'S WELCOME

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Narrator 1 Dear people of God, in the Christmas season, let it be our duty and delight to once more hear the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against God until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy child Jesus, and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of the world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which Christ died, and especially for the church in our country and in this city.

Narrator 2 And because the Christ child particularly loves them, let us remember in His name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and the little children, as well as all who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. Finally, let us remember before God our Lord's pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

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, the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.

Narrator 2 Almighty God, bless us with His grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.

THE ANNUNCIATION

All sit.

HYMN 56 O come, O come, Emmanuel (v. 1, 4 & 7)

VENI, VENI EMMANUEL

All sing.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny
 that trust they mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;
 bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THE ARRIVAL IN BETHLEHEM

HYMN 79 O little town of Bethlehem (v. 1 & 2)

ST. LOUIS

All sing.

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
 yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
 while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
 O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
 And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

THE SHEPHERDS

HYMN 94 While shepherds watched their flocks by night (v. 1, 2 & 6) WINCHESTER OLD
All sing.

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
 all seated on the ground,
 the angel of the Lord came down,
 and glory shone around.**

**“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread
 had seized their troubled mind;
 “Glad tidings of great joy I bring
 to you and all mankind.”**

**“All glory be to God on high
 and on the earth be peace;
 good will henceforth from heaven to men
 begin and never cease.”**

THE ANGELS DANCE

ANTHEM Away in a manger English Carol, arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)
 Words found at Hymn 101

THE ADORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS

HYMN 96 Angels we have heard on high (v. 1, 2 & 3) GLORIA
All sing.

**Angels we have heard on high,
 singing sweetly through the night,
 and the mountains in reply,
 echoing their brave delight.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
 Why these songs of happy cheer?
 What great brightness did you see?
 What glad tidings did you hear?
 Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see
 him whose birth the angels sing;
 come, adore on bended knee
 Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

HYMN 83 O come, all ye faithful (refrain only) ADESTE FIDELES
All sing.

**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
 Christ, the Lord.**

THE MAGI

HYMN 109 The first Nowell (v. 1 & 2)

THE FIRST NOWELL

All sing.

The first Nowell the angel did say
 was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
 in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
 on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
 Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
 Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
 shining in the east beyond them far,
 and to the earth it gave great light,
 and so it continued both day and night.
 Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
 Born is the King of Israel.

HYMN 128 We three kings

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

All sing refrains after each verse and verse 5.

*O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
 westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!*

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and sacrifice;
 Heav'n sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.

SILENT NIGHT

HYMN 111 Silent night

STILLE NACHT

All sing verse 3.

Silent night, holy night,
 Son of God, love's pure light
 radiant beams from thy holy face,
 with the dawn of redeeming grace,
 Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 100 Joy to the world

ANTIOCH

All stand and sing.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
 let earth receive her King;
 let every heart prepare him room,
 and heaven nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns;
 let us our songs employ,
 while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
 repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
 and thorns infest the ground;
 he comes to make his blessings flow
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

THE OFFERTORY Rigoudon *from* Idomenée

André Campra (1660-1744)

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

All stand and sing.

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.

THE BLESSING

The people respond, Amen.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 87 Hark! The herald angels sing

MENDELSSOHN

All sing.

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail, th'incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Refrain

Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
light and life to all he brings.
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail, the heaven born Prince of Peace!
Refrain

THE DISMISSAL

The people respond, Thanks be to God.

THE VOLUNTARY My spirit be joyful *from* Cantata 146

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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.

**Vestry members are on hand today to welcome you to St. John's.
This morning's greeter is Courtney Bass.**

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	Cheryl Trahan	Jay	Chas
Kim Green	Andrew Lee	Susan	Meg
Carol Grieco	Susan Murray	Donald Myers	John McCain
Janet Ray	Edward Shaker	Barbara Proft	Mike Mahoney
Ida McKenney	James Varga	Richard Myers	David
Jimmy			

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Anne Morris	Kent Byrd
Julia Grieco	Alex Vance
Wendy Lincoln	Paul Shaker
Sherwood Willard	Peggy O'Toole

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Diocese of Wyoming.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Stephen's, Bloomfield; St. George's, Bolton; Trinity, Branford; and for those who advocate at the local, state, national, or global level for the poor, the lonely, and the oppressed.

Happening Today!

Christmas Flower Offering Envelopes

If you would like to make a contribution toward Christmas poinsettias in memory or honor of a loved one, please take one of the Flower Offering envelopes placed in each pew. Put your contribution in the envelope, and make sure to list the names of those whom you would like remembered on the envelope or a separate list. You may also mail or drop off your contribution and list of names to the office. **All names must be received in the office by TOMORROW, December 18.**

PAGEANT CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

ACOLYTES:

Gus Murchie, Sophie Murchie, John O'Brien

NARRATORS:

Christine Babbitt, Margaret Babbitt, Claire Brouillard, Elsa Ciscel, Jake Farrell, Catie Gillespie, Gus Murchie, Sophie Murchie, John O'Brien

MARY:

Kiley Murphy

ANGEL GABRIEL:

Teddy Babbitt

JOSEPH:

Ford Gillespie

DONKEY:

Dorian Ciscel

INNKEEPER 1:

Elise Biondi

INNKEEPER 2:

Cate Emerick

WIFE OF INNKEEPER:

Claire O'Brien

SHEPHERDS:

Stokes Bass, Benjamin Clapp, Olivia Tummescheit, Phillip Tummescheit

SHEEP AND FRIENDLY ANIMALS:

Sahara Barrow, Sloane Curtis, Virginia Eikel, Jacob Tummescheit, Brielle Worrell

ANGELS:

Morgan Babbitt, Emma Bass, Abby Brunjes, Dana Crocker, Frances Eikel, Genella Evans, Natalie Puzzo, Abby Thaxton, Caroline Thaxton, Olivia Thaxton, Clara Tummescheit

BABY JESUS:

Scarlett Curtis

KINGS:

Christine Babbitt, Britt Emerick, Emma Evica

CAMEL 1:

Bobby Biondi and Bradley Crocker
Driver – Joshua Murphy

CAMEL 2:

Callan Farrell and Caleb Worrell
Driver – Ethen Worrell

CAMEL 3:

Isabel Grant, Alice Murchie
Driver – Dawson Biondi

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR:

Youth: Britt Emerick, *Co-Head Chorister*; Katherine Foust, *Co-Head Chorister*; Christine Babbitt, *Lead Girl*; Ted Babbitt, Claire Brouillard, Dana Crocker, Naomi Cipriano, Elsa Ciscel, Frances Eikel, Cate Emerick, Emma Evica, Maria Foust, Francis Lamlein, Olivia Tummescheit, Philip Tummescheit; **Soprano:** Claudia Ayer, Helen Douglas, Julia Foust, Anne Harney, Jackie McCauley, Caitlyn Semanie, Laura Stabile; **Alto:** Emily Bigger, Mariana Evica, Ann Hutchinson, Mary Beth Lamlein, Janet Poisson, Elizabeth Proteau, Evelyn Reidenbaugh; **Tenor:** Lynn Brooks, Michael Doran, Stephan Christiansen, John Church, Michael Mei; **Bass:** Richard Barstow, Nicholas Filippides, John Nowacki, Hal Rives

SILENT NIGHT:

Teddy Babbitt, Heidi Tummescheit

TRUMPETERS:

Tom Hintz, Jeff Higgins

USHERS:

Troy Gostyla, Jeff Gostyla, Ben and Ellen Flynn

STAR:

Eddie Genece

LIGHTING:

JP Evans; Eddie Genece

LIGHTING APPRENTICE:

Benjamin Puzzo

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY:

Susan Murphy Thaxton

NARRATORS COACHES:

Matt Ciscel, David Beers

SHEPHERDS COACHES:

Mary Scripko, Annabel Clapp

BETHLEHEM SCENE COACH:

Jen Evans

PHOTOGRAPHER:

John Hardy

PAGEANT DIRECTOR:

Mary Scripko

PAGEANT PRODUCER:

Janet Babbitt

Save the Date

Stop. Rest. Pray. — Midweek Advent Services, 6 p.m. on Tuesdays

Enhance your Advent observance with a simple midweek service of readings, chants and prayers. The final service in this series will be Tuesday, December 19.

Advent Compline services at Trinity Church, Sundays at 8 p.m.

Compline is an evening service descended from the prayer said before bed in the monastic order of daily services. It includes confession of sins, psalms, a short Scripture reading, the *Nunc dimittis*, and prayers for protection and rest. All are welcome to attend Sunday evening Compline at Trinity Church (Farmington Avenue and Sigourney Street in Hartford) on Sundays in Advent.

Stacey Kohl's ordination, December 20 at 6:30 p.m.

The Reverend Stacey Kohl, who has been sponsored by St. John's in the ordination process, will be ordained to the priesthood on Wednesday, December 20, 6:30 p.m., at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Mystic. All are welcome to attend.

Fourth Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist, December 24, 10:30 a.m.

This year, Christmas Eve and the fourth Sunday of Advent are the same day. We will have no 8:00 a.m. service that day, but will observe the final Sunday of Advent at the 10:30 a.m. service. See the service schedule on page 11 for details on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

Office schedule and end-of-year donations

The church office will be closed from Monday, December 25 through Thursday, December 28. The office will be open on Friday, December 29, and then closed again on Monday, January 1. For donations to be recorded in 2017, they need to be received in the office no later than **Friday, December 22**. If you plan to donate stock to St. John's, please contact Peggy O'Toole, our financial administrator, before initiating a sale or transfer, so we can properly credit your account. Statements, including 2017 donations received and outstanding pledge balances as of November 30, were sent out last week to all pledging households.

Twelfth Night Chili Cook-Off, January 5, 6:30 p.m.

Bring the Christmas season to a close by coming to St. John's for a delicious chili supper (vote for your favorite!) followed by the annual burning of the St. John's Christmas tree on our grounds outside — a spectacular sight that lights up the winter night. (All proper permits and safety precautions will be in place for the tree burning.) If you'd like to provide a pot of your favorite chili recipe, contact Stewart Murchie at murchgs@comcast.net. If you're not a chili cook, please bring a side or dessert to share.

Pipes Alive! with Scott Lamlein, January 7, 12:30 p.m.

Back by popular demand, the Pipes Alive! series resumes with St. John's own Scott Lamlein playing the mighty Austin organ on Sunday, January 7 at 12:30 p.m. The entire program will be the *Organoedia ad missam lectam* (Organ Mass) by Hungarian composer Zoltán Kodály. Pipes Alive! is a series of half-hour organ concerts on the first Sunday of the month, January through June, 12:30 p.m. with regional organists. Free!

Advent and Christmas

at St. John's

Sundays in Advent

December 3, 10, 17 - Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10:30 a.m.
December 24 - Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m. only

Advent Wreath Making & Pageant Sign-Up

December 3 at 9:30 a.m.

Celtic Contemplative Service

December 3 at 4:30 p.m.

"Women Together" Advent Book Group

December 5, 12, 19 at 3 p.m.

Midweek Advent Services

December 5, 12, 19 at 6 p.m.

Candlelight Festival of Lessons & Carols

December 10 at 3 p.m.

Christmas Pageant

December 17 at 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist

December 24 at 4 p.m. and 11 p.m.,
with musical prelude at 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

December 25 at 10 a.m.

Twelfth Night Chili Cook-Off

January 5 at 6:30 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford www.sjparish.net 860.523.5201

Free!
All are welcome!

St. John's

Chili Cook-Off & Twelfth Night Celebration

Friday, January 5
6:30 p.m.

Bring the Christmas season to a close with delicious food, fellowship, and the ever-popular outdoor burning of the St. John's Christmas tree!

Please bring a pot of your favorite chili recipe, a side or a dessert to share.



SAINT JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*All necessary permits and safety precautions will be in place!

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West Hartford
860.523.5201 sjparish.net

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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
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