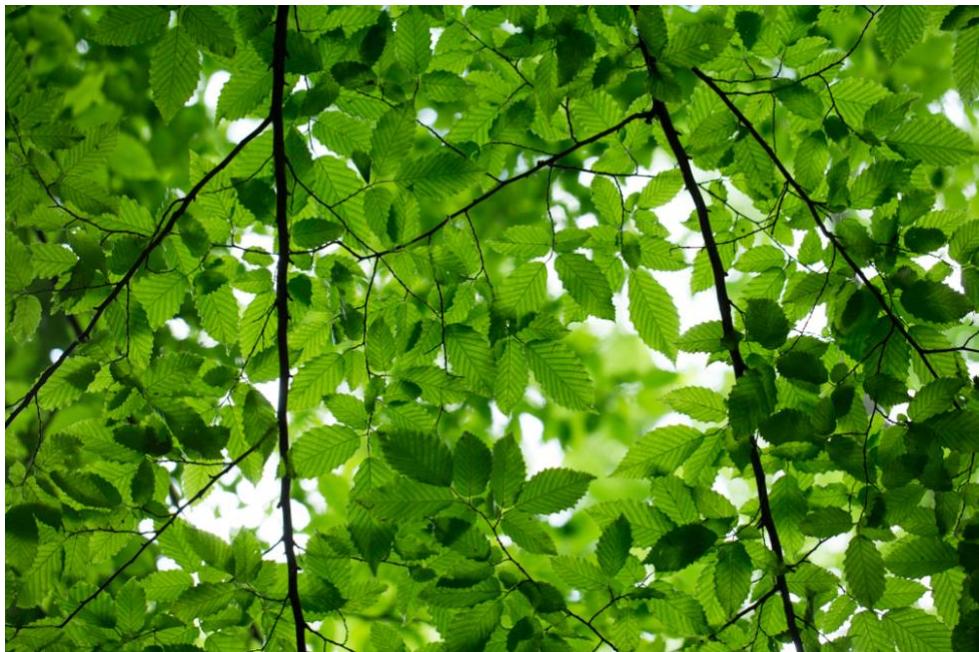


# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

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



*The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

*June 17, 2018*

9:00 a.m.

## *An Ordinary Time Message from the Rector*

This is the time of year when the church goes “green.” The church’s ancient wheel of liturgical time slowly turns from season to season. We keep track of the seasons with the specific colors associated with each one. In Medieval times, the colors were the way that most people, who were illiterate, kept track of which liturgical season it was. Two weeks ago, we celebrated the Day of Pentecost with vibrant red vestments and altar hangings (the fabric draped on the altar and the bands of fabric that hang from the lectern and the pulpit). On Trinity Sunday, we switched to white, the color of Jesus’s burial garments. Now, we enter into the longest season of the liturgical calendar, ordinary time, with the color green, representing the new beginnings of the church after Pentecost and also the promise of new life in the Resurrection. Now and until the beginning of Advent, we will concentrate on the Gospel of Mark, the earliest and shortest of the four Gospels that tells the story of Jesus in a most compelling way.

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. Please ask the ushers for assistance with these or any other requests.

**We welcome children of all ages at St. John’s.** Your children are always welcome to stay with you in church. We encourage you to sit up front, as children are more engaged if they can see what’s happening. We also have supplies for quiet play available at both entrances to the church, which children are welcome to use as they sit in the pews. During the summer, our Good Shepherd Room is available for parents and children to use as needed.



## ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY    Two settings of *Jesus, meine Zuversicht*  
*(Jesus, my Assurance)*

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

J. G. Walther (1684–1748)

OPENING HYMN 524    I love thy kingdom, Lord  
*All stand and sing.*

ST. THOMAS (WILLIAMS)

*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 KYRIE

*Celebrant*    Lord, have mercy.

*People*    **Christ, have mercy.**

*Celebrant*    Lord, have mercy.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray. Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, 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

*1 Samuel 15:34–16:13*

*All sit.*

**S**amuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel. The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## THE PSALTER

*Psalm 20**The people say the words in bold.*

- 1 May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble, \*  
**the Name of the God of Jacob defend you;**
- 2 Send you help from his holy place \*  
**and strengthen you out of Zion;**
- 3 Remember all your offerings \*  
**and accept your burnt sacrifice;**
- 4 Grant you your heart's desire \*  
**and prosper all your plans.**
- 5 We will shout for joy at your victory  
and triumph in the Name of our God; \*  
**may the Lord grant all your requests.**
- 6 Now I know that the Lord gives victory to his anointed; \*  
**he will answer him out of his holy heaven,**  
**with the victorious strength of his right hand.**
- 7 Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, \*  
**but we will call upon the Name of the Lord our God.**
- 8 They collapse and fall down, \*  
**but we will arise and stand upright.**
- 9 O Lord, give victory to the king \*  
**and answer us when we call.**

## THE EPISTLE

*2 Corinthians 5:6–10, 14–17*

**W**e are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord-- for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

*Reader The Word of the Lord.**People Thanks be to God.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN 209** We walk by faith, and not by sight  
*All stand and sing.*

ST. BOTOLPH

## THE GOSPEL

*Mark 4:26–34*

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

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

**J**esus said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

*Minister* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE SERMON

The Reverend William J. Eakins

*All sit.*

## THE NICENE CREED

*All stand.*

We believe in one God,  
 the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth,  
 of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
 the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father,  
 God from God, Light from Light,  
 true God from true God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 of one Being with the Father.  
 Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
 he came down from heaven:  
 by the power of the Holy Spirit  
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
 and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
 he suffered death and was buried.  
 On the third day he rose again  
 in accordance with the Scriptures;  
 he ascended into heaven  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*A period of silence is kept. The people say the words in bold.*

Gracious God, we raise our hearts and voices to give you thanks and to pray for the needs of the world around us.

For the nations of the world and their leaders; for Donald our President and Nikki, our Ambassador to the United Nations, and for all who are entrusted with making peace on earth. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick and the weak, those in nursing homes and assisted living communities and those who minister to them. Lord in your mercy, **bring them healing and hope.**

For the powerless and vulnerable, especially those who are enslaved, children separated from their parents, and the people of Yemen, Syria and other places overwhelmed by chaos, violence and need. Lord in your mercy, **shield them from harm and restore them to safety.**

For anniversaries and graduations, weddings and birthdays, for summer travel and times of renewal and restoration. Lord in your mercy, **open our eyes to see your blessings all around us.**

For those who have offered their prayers, gifts and labor at St. John's throughout the years; for our Vestry, staff, and clergy, for church school teachers and committee members, teachers and musicians, knitters and gardeners, and all who serve this community now. Lord in your mercy, **give us grateful hearts.**

For our fathers and those who have served as fathers to us. Lord in your mercy, **make us thankful for their care and forgiving of their failures.**

For those who have died, especially Laura Johnson, whose ashes will be interred in our memorial garden this evening, and Habib Abdo, and for all who mourn. Lord in your mercy, **receive them into your hands.**

*Celebrant* Those things, O God, that we have prayed for, give us grace to work for and fulfill our hopes for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

## THE CONFSSION 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 Angels, Ever Bright and Fair

G.F. Handel (1685–1759)

*Margaret Beers, soprano*

## THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

*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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

*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. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the high-est.

*Music: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937); Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.*

*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.

*All are 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.*

*You are also welcome to light a candle, located near the baptismal font, in memory of a loved one or to lift a prayer to God.*

### THE COMMUNION ANTHEM   If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby, b. 1949  
*Margaret Beers, soprano*

## 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.*

## CLOSING HYMN I love to tell the story

HANKEY

*All stand and sing.*

1. I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove,  
2. I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best

1. Of Je - sus and His glo - ry, Of Je - sus and His love.  
2. Seem hun - ger-ing and thirst-ing To hear it, like the rest.

1. I love to tell the sto - ry, Be - cause I know it's true;  
2. And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

1. It sat - is - fies my long-ings As noth - ing else would do.  
2. 'Twill be the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glo - ry.  
To tell the old, old sto - ry Of Je - sus and His love.

Words: A. Katherine Hankey (1831-1911)  
 Music: William G. Fisher (1835-1912)

## THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY *Sonne der Gerechtigkeit* (Sun of Righteousness) 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 Susan Pinkerton

**Preacher:** The Reverend William J. Eakins

**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney

**Layreader:** Kim Byrd

**Guest Organist:** Douglas Johnson

**Ushers:** John Amamoo, Will Smith

**Healing Prayers:** Chris Byrd

**Altar Guild:** Alycia Evica

**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center**

**Layreader:** Bess Amamoo

**Musician:** Joyce Burke

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

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

Séminaire 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 missioner in Haiti, Dr. Lucinda Mosher.

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

**Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:**

|              |                |               |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Jim Evans    | Cheryl Trahan  | Chas          |
| Kim Green    | Andrew Lee     | Meg           |
| Carol Grieco | Dorothy Nelson | Lina          |
| Janet Ray    | Susan          | Edward Shaker |
| Susan Murray | Cait Semarie   | Kenny         |

**Those celebrating birthdays this week:**

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Lindsay Diehl        | Judy Wawro    |
| Melissa Render       | Emily Bigger  |
| Ellen Painter Dollar | Gwen Schwartz |
| Conor Proft          |               |

**Those celebrating anniversaries this week:**

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| Craig and Michael Wilkinson |
| Scott and Mary Beth Lamlein |
| Beth and Joel Grieco        |
| Marki Ware and Hal Rives    |
| Margaret and William Smith  |

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the Church of the Province of Myanmar.

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Iglesia Betania, Stamford; St. Paul's, Norwalk; Christ Episcopal, Norwich; All Saints', Oakville; and for environmental ministry networks, eco-justice work and community gardens.



**All are invited to a special event to support health care in Jerusalem and surrounding areas  
Sunday, June 24 at St. John's**

3 to 4:30 pm – Discussion and reception with the Rev'd Canon Nicholas B. Porter

5 pm – Regularly scheduled Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden

**\*\*Please RSVP to Ellen in the church office ([ellen@sjparish.net](mailto:ellen@sjparish.net) or 860-523-5201) if you plan to attend the discussion and reception.\*\***

The Order of St. John is a charitable organization whose main purpose is to support the work of the St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group, which provides most of the eye care in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza. Our guest on June 24 is the Rev'd Canon Nicholas B Porter, KstJ. Nick is the executive director of Jerusalem Peacebuilders (JPB), an interfaith, non-profit organization with a mission to create a better future across religions, cultures, and nationalities, with a focus on Jerusalem. JPB promotes transformational encounters between Israeli, Palestinian and American youth and provides the opportunities, relationships, and skills they need to become future leaders for peace.

All are welcome to this special event free of charge as guests of the Order. Donations (cash or checks to the Order of St. John) will be accepted toward the purchase of a slit lamp, an expensive and essential piece of equipment to be used for eye care for the people of Gaza. After the discussion and reception, we will attend St. John's regular late afternoon Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden



**St. John's Prayer Tree**

Before you leave today, take a look at our new prayer tree—a Kousa dogwood located on the west side of the property, near the Highland Street sidewalk—and if you wish, offer a prayer by tying a fabric strip to a tree branch. On a recent trip to the Yucatán, Beth Rocco and Wes Winterbottom were amazed by the popularity of a prayer tree in a local suburban neighborhood. They had seen similar Native American prayer trees at Devil's Tower in Wyoming. They discussed the idea of a St. John's prayer tree with other parishioners and the Vestry, which approved it last month. This is a simple, concrete way for neighbors to connect with St. John's and receive spiritual sustenance.

**Director of Religious Education job opening**

We are still accepting applications for our Director of Religious Education position. This is a 28 hour/week position doing planning and oversight for our programs for children and youth. We are looking for someone with skills in teaching who will be an energetic, collaborative leader for this vital aspect of St. John's ministry. It could be a great match for a person of Christian faith with teaching skills and experience, but who wants more flexibility than a traditional classroom job can offer. Please share the job listing with people or organizations who might be interested or able to spread the word. Complete information on the position is available on our web site.

Gardening season at St. John's is well under way, and there are several ways you can help.

The new **community garden**, where we are growing vegetables for those in need of healthy food, is up and running. See J.P.'s update below with additional information on how you'll be able to help this summer.

Thanks to several parish volunteers, the rector and the sexton, who worked together last weekend to plant annuals and pull weeds, our beautiful Cloister Garden is in great shape to begin hosting our 5 p.m. summer Sunday services. We need volunteers to come regularly to **water the Cloister Garden and the planters located at several of our entrances** (the red doors, the doors from the garden into Hubbard Hall, and the back doors). This is something you could do before or after church on Sunday, or stop by some time during the week. A hose, spray heads, and a watering can are available in the Cloister Garden near the outdoor faucet. Please pitch in when you can, especially if you notice the flowers in the planters looking a little thirsty!



How can  
I help?

### Community Garden Update

by J.P. Evans – Garden Coordinator

Thanks to all those who have helped out at the garden these past few weeks. We are making very good progress in the creation of our garden. If you have any comments, questions or suggestions please feel free to email me at [jpfootball63@gmail.com](mailto:jpfootball63@gmail.com) or call me at (860) 436-7967.

#### Garden accomplishments

In the past month, the beds have been filled and plants have been put in the ground. The gate has been installed and one third of the fence is up.

#### What's going on in the garden this week

There was a work day on Thursday to continue installing the permanent fence.

#### Looking onward

In the weeks to come, we'll hold several orientation sessions for those who would like to help with weeding and harvesting. This will be to make sure everyone knows the difference between a weed and a seedling! We will have a session after a Sunday church service, and another on a weekday. We will announce dates and times soon. We'll then be asking individuals, groups or families to sign up for a particular week during the summer, during which you'll come, at a time that's convenient for you, to do any tasks needed for that week.



## What is EfM and could it be right for you?

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year curriculum for lay people sponsored by Sewanee School of Theology, University of the South. Each year is a nine-month cycle of study, for which students enroll one cycle at a time.

During these four years of study, a close-knit community of seekers is formed. Together, they study the Bible, church history, theology and philosophy, asking myriad questions and sharing their wisdom, while becoming more deeply rooted in their own faith.

Every baptized person is called to ministry. The EfM program provides people with education to support their ministry—that vocation for which we pray at the end of the Eucharist: “And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.”

EfM offers an opportunity to do just that. It is a wonderful, life-giving way to discover our unique gifts and how to use them to make this world a little bit better, as we become more the person God calls us to be.

At St. John's, the EfM group meets on Thursday evenings from September through June. If you'd like to learn more about EfM and explore whether this opportunity is right for you, contact Susan Pinkerton at [susan@sjparish.net](mailto:susan@sjparish.net) or 860-523-5201.



EfM is not just “Bible study” through the lens of an organized religion. It’s way more. Yes, it is a lot of reading. And to get something out of it, you have to spend some more time contemplating what you read. And then you come to class and it develops more depth and breadth in discussion. We explore the readings to find embedded lessons for the context in which they were written, and then how the message might relate to current everyday life. The application of the EfM process week after week is like fog slowly dissipating. Or maybe like learning to make sense of the light and shadows on X rays. What might start out as an opaque blob becomes a tool to refine your personal view of God in relation to the world (that is, your personal theology), and insight to ground the big and small choices you make to use the gifts you have in your life while you’re on earth.

And in addition to that, we laugh a lot. I look forward to it every week. EfM is one of the most personally rewarding things I've ever done.

Marki Ware  
EfM member at St. John's

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

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

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119

860 523 5201 [office@sjparish.net](mailto:office@sjparish.net)



## SUMMER SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the church

5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden

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

## STAFF

|  |  |
|--|--|
| The Rev. Susan Pinkerton ( <a href="mailto:susan@sjparish.net">susan@sjparish.net</a> ) .....    | Rector                                     |
| Scott Lamlein ( <a href="mailto:scott@sjparish.net">scott@sjparish.net</a> ) .....               | Director of Music                          |
| The Rev. Walter McKenney* ( <a href="mailto:walter@sjparish.net">walter@sjparish.net</a> ) ..... | Deacon                                     |
| The Rev. Hope Eakins* ( <a href="mailto:hope@sjparish.net">hope@sjparish.net</a> ) .....         | Priest Associate                           |
| The Rev. William J. Eakins* ( <a href="mailto:bill@sjparish.net">bill@sjparish.net</a> ) .....   | Priest Associate                           |
| Janet Babbitt ( <a href="mailto:janet@sjparish.net">janet@sjparish.net</a> ) .....               | Director of Religious Education            |
| Ellen Painter Dollar ( <a href="mailto:ellen@sjparish.net">ellen@sjparish.net</a> ) .....        | Parish Manager and Assistant to the Rector |
| Dwight Latif ( <a href="mailto:dwight@sjparish.net">dwight@sjparish.net</a> ) .....              | Sexton                                     |
| Peggy O'Toole ( <a href="mailto:peggy@sjparish.net">peggy@sjparish.net</a> ) .....               | Financial Administrator                    |
| Mary Scripko ( <a href="mailto:mary@sjparish.net">mary@sjparish.net</a> ) .....                  | Religious Education Assistant              |
| Christa Rakich .....   | Organ Artist-in-Residence                  |
| 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        |
| Tim Goetz and John Roche .....   | Co-Treasurers |
| Ellen Painter Dollar .....   | Scribe        |
| 2016-18: Bess Amamoo, Ginny Kemp, Will Smith                             |               |
| 2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Douglas Hyland, Virginia Van Dyk, Andrew Worrell |               |
| 2018-20: Steve Crocker, Ann Hutchinson, Sonia Michel, Alex Nelson        |               |