

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

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



*The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

*August 5, 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 *Aria from the 12th Concerto*

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

OPENING HYMN 527 *Singing songs of expectation*

TON-Y-BOTEL

*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 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. Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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

*2 Samuel 11:26–12:13a*

*All sit.*

**W**hen the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun." David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## THE PSALTER

*Psalm 51:1–13**The people say the words in bold.*

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
**in your great compassion blot out my offenses.**
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
**and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
**and my sin is ever before me.**
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
**and done what is evil in your sight.**
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
**and upright in your judgment.**
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
**a sinner from my mother's womb.**
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
**and will make me understand wisdom secretly.**
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
**wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
**that the body you have broken may rejoice.**
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
**and blot out all my iniquities.**
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
**and renew a right spirit within me.**
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
**and take not your holy Spirit from me.**
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
**and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

## THE EPISTLE

*Ephesians 4:1–16*

**I** therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for

the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN 302 Father, we thank thee who hast planted

RENDEZ À DIEU

*All stand and sing.*

THE GOSPEL

*John 6:24–35*

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

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

**T**he next day, when the people who remained after the feeding of the five thousand saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

*Minister* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Michael Corey

*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**.*

Heavenly Father, we pray for your church. Pour your grace upon the people of St. John's that we may serve you in our various missions; give good judgment to the Vestry and staff and clergy; and make your chosen people joyful. Lord, in your mercy, **ble ss us with faith**.

Source of all that is good, make us faithful stewards of the gifts you have given us. Give abundant growth to our community garden so that we may feed the hungry with your bounty. Lord, in your mercy, **ble ss us with faith**.

Lord of peace, we pray for the world, for the ongoing and difficult work of reconciliation between peoples and nations. Guide us to pray and work for your kingdom to come. Lord, in your mercy, **ble ss us with hope**.

Refuge of all who suffer. hold in your care all who are sorrowful, poor, unemployed, homeless and addicted. Move us to remember those who are neglected and to help those who have fallen, trusting in your power to move mountains. Lord, in your mercy, **ble ss us with hope**.

Bread of life, we pray for those who are sick in body and mind and spirit, remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we now name silently and aloud [*pause for silent or spoken prayers*]. Sustain

them with your presence, restore them to health, deliver them from evil, and make us instruments of your healing grace. Lord, in your mercy, **bless us with love.**

Lord of love, we give thanks for those preparing for Holy Matrimony and those who have been married at this altar throughout the years. Give patience and fidelity, trust and understanding to all who have made vows of commitment to each other. Lord, in your mercy, **bless us with love.**

*Celebrant* Gracious God, we put our trust in you to lead us and strengthen us and heal us. Fill our hearts with your life-giving Spirit and fill our minds with the words of your Son Jesus, that we may hear your call and serve you this day and always. **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 MUSIC Lord, lead us still

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

### 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.**

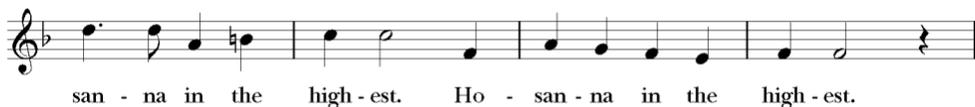
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*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



*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 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 690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

*All stand and sing.*

## THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Trumpet Tune in D

Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

*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:** Michael Corey

**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney

**Layreader:** Carol Sonne

**Organist:** Scott Lamlein

**Ushers:** Philip Chapman, Wes Winterbottom

**Healing Prayers:** David Grimaldi

**Altar Guild:** Carol Sonne

**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center**

**Layreader:** Lissie Brooks

**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 missionary 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	Katie
Kim Green	Andrew Lee	Meg	Bella
Carol Grieco	Dorothy Nelson	Lina	
Janet Ray	Susan	Edward Shaker	
Susan Murray	Cait Semanie	Michael	

**Those celebrating birthdays this week:**

Allan Anderson	Conny DeLuca	Edward Herrick
Shirley Yeames	Nazra Ali	Erica Bleicher
Janet Willard	Alycia Evica	Samuel Fiske
Samantha Spillman	William Peelle Jr.	
Abi Reilly	Ann Krissinger	

**Those celebrating anniversaries this week:**

Paul and Jacqueline Smith

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the Scottish Episcopal Church.

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Good Shepherd, Shelton; St. Paul's, Shelton; St. Alban's, Simsbury; and for the Cathedral's ministry in Hartford, the Cathedral Chapter, and honorary canons of the Cathedral.

## Community Garden Update

Word is spreading about our community garden and free vegetable distribution on Tuesday mornings, as more and more neighbors are stopping by to pick up each week's garden bounty. Your help is needed to tend God's Garden (a Jessie's Community Garden project located on our property) and to provide fresh vegetables to people in need.

We need:

- Volunteers to help maintain the garden by weeding, planting new crops and harvesting.
- Volunteers to pick, wash, bag and distribute veggies on Tuesday mornings.

**We especially need help on Tuesday mornings in August.**



**To sign up for garden maintenance**, look for a sign-up sheet at coffee hour *today*, or sign up online at [www.sjparish.net/gods-garden](http://www.sjparish.net/gods-garden). You may pick a week that you're available and come in any time during that week to do whatever is needed. It's helpful to have some basic gardening knowledge and/or to have someone on hand who attended one of our garden orientations, as you'll be working unsupervised!

**To help with Tuesday morning veggie distributions in August**, contact J.P. Evans at [jpfootball63@gmail.com](mailto:jpfootball63@gmail.com) or (860) 436-7967. We need help picking, washing and bagging the vegetables starting at around 9 a.m., and then sitting at the distribution table in front of the church from approximately 10 a.m. to noon. Even if you can only come for an hour, your help is needed—and you'll have fun too!

## Please bring in your donations of non-perishable food!

This Sunday and next Sunday (August 12), we will be collecting non-perishable food for the Grace Seventh Day Adventist Church Food Pantry on Prospect Avenue. The pantry, at 870 Prospect Avenue, is open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday to provide food to our neighbors in need. While food donations are at their lowest during the summer, families are in great need of extra food support when children are on summer vacation and not getting free breakfast and lunch at school. We normally collect food on the first Sunday of the month. However, in August our volunteers won't be delivering the food to the pantry until the week of August 12, so we have an extra Sunday to collect! Especially needed are protein sources (peanut butter, canned fish, canned stew), pasta and sauce, canned vegetables and fruit, and cereal. You may place your food donations in the wagon at the back of the church. Thank you!

### Update on our Sunday Service Live Stream - Subscribe today!

Just a reminder that if you can't catch us in person during the summer, you can watch the morning service live on YouTube, or at the same link anytime later. We currently have an online congregation of around 50 people (between the live stream and podcast). It's a great way to connect right from home! Go to [www.sjparish.net](http://www.sjparish.net) and click **Watch Live** for access to our YouTube channel, with live stream and service archives... and better yet, the option to subscribe.

### Youth and Adult Choir Open House Sundays during August



Anyone, age 8 and up, is welcome to experience the joy of singing in our choir during the month of August at our 9:00 service. This is a great opportunity to see what it is like to sing, without the commitment of a midweek rehearsal. A core of our regular choir members will be present and singing to help you feel confident and welcome.

Why try choir? Singing in the choir has benefits you may have not considered, other than the obvious—using your voice to express praise to God, at the same time helping those who hear you to praise and pray.

- Choir is an amazing, close-knit community
- Singing has proven health benefits - both physical and mental
- Best seat in the house on Sundays
- An activity that children and adults can do together
- Best robes in town!

Join us on any Sunday during August at 8:15 a.m. in the church for a brief rehearsal to learn the Offertory Anthem for the day. You can just show up, or contact Scott at [music@sjparish.net](mailto:music@sjparish.net) for details.

# St. John's Summer Service Schedule



9 a.m. Sunday morning in the church  
5 p.m. Sunday evening in the garden

June 17 through September 2

**FREE ADMISSION! All are welcome**

## Community Block Party at St. John's

**Sunday, September 9, 12-3 p.m.**

- Pizza, hot dogs, ice cream
- Kids games, bounce house, fire truck tours
- Tours of our historic church

*Featuring live music:*  
The Hartford Steel Band (11:45)  
Covers & Originals with Jeff Verney and Belfalus Khan  
Folk, Rock, & Americana with The Alternate Facts  
**Rain or Shine!**

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



## 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

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119  
860 523 5201 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 (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 J. Eakins\* (bill@sjparish.net) ..... *Priest Associate*  
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*  
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