

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 23, 2018

10:30 a.m.

An Advent Message from the Rector

Advent is a short season, only four weeks, that begins a new year in the church. Advent invites us into a space of quiet waiting and deep reflection. These darkened winter days provide a gentle reminder that we need to slow down a bit and simply allow ourselves time to be. In the dark and quiet, we have an opportunity to hear God's still, small voice reminding us that we are loved beyond our wildest imagination, just as we are. We wait in the darkness for what we know will come. In the most humble and vulnerable of people and places — a tiny, frail newborn cradled in a manger of straw — we will receive an invitation to new life and new ways of being. In this season, St. John's offers many ways of encountering God and one another anew, through worship, music, fellowship, and giving. 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 Voluntary for two trumpets

Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

THE CHORAL INTROIT Tota pulchra es Maria

Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

Words: Latin, 4th century

*Tota pulchra es, Maria,
Et macula originalis non est in Te.
Tu gloria Ierusalem,
Tu laetitia Israel,
Tu honorificentia populi nostri.
Tu advocata peccatorum.
O Maria, Virgo prudentissima,
Mater clementissima.
Ora pro nobis,
Intercede pro nobis.,
Ad Dominum Iesum Christum.*

You are all beautiful, Mary,
and the original stain (of sin) is not in you.
You are the glory of Jerusalem,
you are the joy of Israel,
you give honour to our people.
You are an advocate of sinners.
O Mary, Virgin most intelligent,
Mother most merciful.
Pray for us,
Plead for us,
To the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

ADESTE FIDELES

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

Akilah, Komi, Nkosi and Sahara Barrow

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

Reader 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 (vv. 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 thy 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.

ARRIVAL IN BETHLEHEM

HYMN 79 O little town of Bethlehem (vv. 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.

SHEPHERDS KEEP WATCH

HYMN 94 While shepherds watched their flocks by night (vv. 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 Ding, dong, merrily on high arr. Charles Wood (1866–1926)

Ding dong merrily on high,
 In heav'n the bells are ringing:
 Ding dong! verily the sky
 Is riv'n with angel singing
 Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
 Let steeple bells be swungen,
 And “Io, io, io!”
 By priest and people sungen
 Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
 Your matin chime, ye ringers,
 May you beautifully rhyme
 Your eve'time song, ye singers
 Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

THE ADORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS

HYMN 96 Angels we have heard on high (vv. 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.

THE MAGI AND THEIR CAMELS

OFFERTORY HYMN 109 The first Nowell (vv. 1, 2 & 3)
All sing. The ushers will receive your offerings at this time.

THE FIRST NOWELL

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.

And by the light of that same star
 three wisemen came from country far,
 to seek for a king was their intent,
 and to follow the star wherever it went.
 Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
 Born is the King of Israel.

HYMN 128 We three kings
All sing refrains after each verse, and verse 5.

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

*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
All sing verses 2 and 3.

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night,
 shepherds quake at the sight,
 glories stream from heaven afar,
 heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
 Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

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 BLESSING

The people respond, Amen.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 100 Joy to the world
All stand and sing.

ANTIOCH

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 DISMISSAL

The people respond, Thanks be to God.

THE VOLUNTARY My spirit be joyful *from* Cantata 146

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
 arr. E. Power Biggs

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.

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	Edward Shaker	Beth
Kim Green	Andrew Lee	Michael	
Carol Grieco	Susan	John Coghill	
Janet Ray	Meg	Ann	
Susan Murray	Luther	Helen Cooke	

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Paul Shaker	Claire Brouillard
Marshall Cook	Dorian Ciscel
Winston Booker	Harriet Odlum
David Murphy	Alycia Montas
Carolyn Giliberto	

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Diocese of Kubwa, Abuja, Nigeria.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Calvary St. George's, Bridgeport; St. Luke/St. Paul, Bridgeport; St. John's, Bridgeport; and for the children of the world, the Bishops' Fund for Children, and all ECCT ministries for children at risk.

PAGEANT CAST

ACOLYTES:

John O'Brien, J.P. Evans, Sophie Murchie

NARRATORS:

Elise Biondi, Kylie Murphy, Claire O'Brien, Cate Emerick, Elsa Ciscel, John O'Brien, Meg Babbitt

MARY:

Olivia Tummescheit

ANGEL GABRIEL:

Britt Emerick

JOSEPH:

Philip Tummescheit

DONKEY:

Dorian Ciscel

INNKEEPER 1:

Genella Evans

INNKEEPER 2:

Frances Eikel

WIFE OF INNKEEPER:

Morgan Babbitt

SHEPHERDS:

Benjamin Clapp, Clara Tummescheit, Jacob Tummescheit

SHEEP AND FRIENDLY ANIMALS:

Sloane Curtis, Scarlett Curtis, Virginia Eikel, Bobby Eikel, Abigail Stretz, Ezekiel Latif

ANGELS:

Olivia Thaxton, *Lead Angel*; Sahara Barrow, Brielle Worrell, Dana Crocker, Lilah Lorenzo, Livvy Lorenzo

BABY JESUS:

Malcolm Latif

KINGS:

Emma Evica, J.P. Evans, Eddie Genece

CAMEL 1:

Bradley Crocker and Bobby Biondi
Driver – Natalie Puzzo

CAMEL 2:

Caleb Worrell and Ford Gillespie
Driver – Ethen Worrell

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR:

Youth: Britt Emerick, *Head Chorister*; Emma

Evica, *Prefect*; Sahara Barrow, Naomi Cipriano, Elsa Ciscel, Dana Crocker, Gianna Duberek, Frances Eikel, Cate Emerick, Maddie Green, Lilah Lorenzo, Livvy Lorenzo, Olivia Tummescheit, Philip Tummescheit;

Soprano: Claudia Ayer, Helen Douglas, Nancy Hemstreet Eaton, Danielle Foint, Anne Harney, Kara Hart, Jackie McCauley, Barbara Roos, Cait Semanie;

Alto: Emily Bigger, Mariana Evica, Frisha Hugessen, Ann Hutchinson, Betty Knorr, Mary Beth Lamlein, Erica Maas, Janet Poisson, Evelyn Reidenbaugh, Nancy Skeelee;

Tenor: Ted Babbitt, Lynn Brooks, Stephan Christiansen, Francis Lamlein, Michael Mei, Odanice Olibrice, Hal Rives, Paul Smith; **Bass:** Richard Barstow, John Church, Martin Dodd, Mark Field, John Nowacki.

ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER

Scott Lamlein

ORGAN SCHOLAR:

Ted Babbitt

TRUMPETERS:

Tom Hintz, Jeff Higgins

USHERS:

John Amamoo, Bette-Jane Hardersen, Shirley Blean, Sarah Kieffer, Philip Chapman

STAR:

Ted Babbitt

LIGHTING:

Francis Lamlein and Benjamin Puzzo

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY:

Susan Murphy Thaxton, Caroline and Abby Thaxton

NARRATORS' COACH:

Matt Ciscel

DIRECTOR:

David Beers

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

Meg Babbitt

PRODUCER:

Buffy Ineson

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services

Two Christmas Eve services of Holy Eucharist will be held on December 24, at 4 p.m. (musical prelude starting at 3:45) and 11 p.m. (musical prelude starting at 10:30). A service of Holy Eucharist with hymns will be held on Christmas Day at 10 a.m.

Christmas week office hours

The parish office will be CLOSED from Monday, December 24 through Thursday, December 27, and again on Monday, December 31 and Tuesday, January 1.

Twelfth Night Potluck, Friday, January 4, 6:30 p.m.

Bring the Christmas season to a festive close with good food and company at the annual Twelfth Night potluck supper. The evening closes with the spectacular burning of the St. John's Christmas tree outside (with permits and safety precautions in place). St. John's has welcomed many new people in the past few months — if you're relatively new to St. John's, please join us for this fun tradition, and if you're not new, come help us welcome our newest members! Please bring a main dish, side, or dessert to share if you're able.

Pipes Alive! with Diana Chou, Sunday, January 6, 12:30 p.m.

The Pipes Alive! concert series resumes the first Sunday in January. Pipes Alive! is an annual series of half-hour concerts by regional organists, on the first Sunday of the month January through June, immediately following the 10:30 service and coffee hour. Diana Chou, organ scholar at St. Paul's-on-the-Green, Norwalk, and a graduate student at Yale, will present the first of this year's concerts. A soup lunch will be provided between the service and concert.

St. John's
Twelfth Night
 Potluck supper & bonfire
 Friday, January 4
 6:30 p.m.

Bring the Christmas season to a close with good food and company.
 Meet someone new and reconnect with friends.
 Bring a main dish, side or dessert to share.
 Enjoy the spectacular burning of the St. John's Christmas tree, and bring your wreath to add to the bonfire!**

**Weather permitting, we will burn the tree outdoors with permits and safety precautions in place. If you bring an evergreen wreath to add to the fire, please remove ALL ornaments, ribbons, etc.

Pipes Alive!

A series of half-hour recitals on the
 St. John's Celebrated Austin Organ



2019 Artists:

January 6	Diana Chou
February 3	Kyle Swann
March 3	Nathan Lively
April 7	Scott Lamlein
May 5	Jackson Merrill
June 2	Christa Rakich

Recitals are held on the first Sunday of each month
 at 12:30 p.m. Admission is free!

Austin Organs, Inc., Opus 2761, 3 manuals, 64 ranks

St. John's Episcopal Church
 679 Farmington Avenue (near Prospect)
 West Hartford, CT 06119
www.RedDoorMusic.org

 MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR  JOLIDON FUND

Thank you to all who have pledged their support to St. John's for 2019.

This list includes pledges received as of Thursday, December 20.

The names of *new pledgers* are in italics.



Merriol Almond, Bess & John Amamoo, *June & Emhart Aziz*, Janet & Brad Babbitt, Bob & Mary Bainbridge, Eleanor & Jack Barnes, Jane Bartlett, Wendy & Richard Bartlett, Margaret Beers, Marian & David Beers, Mike Biondi & Ginny Kemp, Shirley Blean, Lissie & Lynn Brooks, Kim & Chris Byrd, Lindsey & Stuart Carlisle, Philip Chapman, Francine & Stephan Christiansen, Alina & Matthew Ciscel, Annabel & Elijah Clapp, Susan & Brian Clemow, Edith & Bob Connolly, *Michele & Halsey Cook*, Helen Cooke, Trig & Sam Cooley, Steve Crocker & Rosa Guzzo, Pam Dimock, *Martin Dodd*, Susan & James Donaldson, Linda Dunakin, Hope & Bill Eakins, Kate & Robert Eikel, Karan & Geoff Emerick, Carole & Tony Erdman, *Mariana Evica*, Deborah Ferrari & Martin Wheeler, Martha Fine, Linda & John Fiske, Ellen & Ben Flynn, *Danielle Foint*, Carolyn & Stanley Giliberto, Tim Goetz, Heidi & Jeff Gostyla, *Anne & Craig Grant*, Beth & Joel Grieco, David Grimaldi, Bette-Jane Hardersen, Anne Harney, *Jane Harris*, Susie & Ross Hatch, Eleanor Hayes, Anne & Randall Hayes, Patricia & Ronald Hensley, Priscilla Hexter, Patricia Howard, *Frisha Hugessen*, Ann Hutchinson, Buffy & John Ineson, Dianne Jones, Sarah Kieffer, *Betty Knorr*, Ann & Richard Krissinger, Mary Beth & Scott Lamlein, Cindy & Jim Lawler, Barbara & Albert Lennox, Karen Licht, Wendy & Tom Lincoln, *Teresa & Joel Lohr*, Tina & Dave McCary, *Jackie McCauley*, *Walter McKenney*, *Barbara McKernin*, Lisa & Mike Mahoney, Patrick Miller, *Janis Milroy & Christa Rakich*, Jean Mitchell, Marie Montas, Marnie & Bob Mueller, Leah & Stewart Murchie, Elizabeth & Alexander Nelson, Ann & Samuel Newbury, John Nowacki & Don Polk, Julia & Jim O'Brien, *Harriet Odlum*, *Charnley Parr*, Nancy Pedersen, Agnes & Bill Peelle, Susan Pinkerton, *Joy Pond*, *Elizabeth Proctor*, Jillian & Michael Puzzo, Hal Rives & Marki Ware, Laura & John Roche, *Barbara & Pieter Roos*, Nina & Duccio Rosselli del Turco, Mary Russell, Judy Schaffer, *Cait Semanie*, *James Shafer*, Paul Shaker & Cleveland Williams, *James Sharp*, Nancy & Bob Skeelee, Mary & Spencer Sloan, Jackie & Paul Smith, Margaret & William Smith, Tyler Smith & Lyn Walker, Carol & Charles Sonne, Laura Stabile, Mary Stoughton, Dale & Christoph Stretz, Pat Struglia, Susan & Paul Thaxton, Margaret Thomas, Heidi & Hubertus Tummescheit, Erika & Bill Ulrich, Virginia Van Dyk & John Wilcox, Pat & Alex Vance, Pam & Jeff Verney, Audrey Walker, *Anne & John Walsh*, Joan Warner, Brooke & Ted Whittemore, Michael & Craig Wilkinson, Janet Willard, Maggie & Sherwood Willard, Joanne & Dennis Winkleblack, Wes Winterbottom, Anita Winters

St. John's Episcopal Church

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist each Sunday

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

4:30 p.m. Celtic contemplative service on the first Sunday of the month (Oct – June)

5 p.m. Choral Evensong on select fourth Sundays of the month (Sept – April)

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, Alex Nelson