

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

October 28, 2018

10:30 a.m.

An Autumn Message from the Rector

We enter into autumn, a lovely time of transition both in nature and in our spiritual journeys. We continue in what we call Ordinary Time on our liturgical calendar, counting the number of Sundays after Pentecost, when we celebrated the Church's very beginning. In late November, we will celebrate the feast of Christ the King, which concludes this liturgical year before we begin anew on the first Sunday of Advent in early December. This fall, we transition from a time of rest and relaxation that we enjoyed during the summer months into the autumn, when we pick up our pace with our work and study. As we leave the searing summer heat behind and welcome the cool and crisp autumn weather, we are invited to take time to ponder what God is calling us to be and do at this time in our lives. We are each called to use our unique gifts and talents to serve each other and our community, becoming the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We offer a number of ways to be involved both inside and outside the walls of St. John's with our worship services; our faith forums, study groups and church school; and many different ministries in the Greater Hartford area and beyond. Autumn is the perfect time to discern where God is calling us to live into a life of grace as the children of God.

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.

We welcome children of all ages to St. John's. Your children are always welcome to stay in church with you. We encourage you to sit up front, as children will be more engaged when they can see what's happening. We also offer a professionally staffed nursery for children age 0 to 5 in our education wing. On most Sundays, we hold a *Word Alive* program for school-age children, where they will engage with the lectionary scriptures in an age-appropriate way. An acolyte will lead children out to *Word Alive* during the hymn before the sermon, and bring them back during the Peace. We also have resources for quiet play available at both entrances to the church.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Basse de Trompette
 Prelude in D

Jean-Adam Guilain (d. 1703)
 Johann K. F. Fischer (1665–1746)

INTROIT Hear my words

Stephen Paulus (1949–2014)
 Words from Psalm 5
Sung by the Youth Choir

Hear my words, O gracious Lord, to my thoughts attentive be;
 Hear my cry, my King and my God. I will make my prayer to thee.
 With the morning light, O Lord, thou shalt hear my voice arise;
 And expectant I will bring, prayer as morning sacrifice.
 Thou art Holy, O my God, thou delightest not in sin;
 Evil shall not dwell with thee, nor the proud thy favor win.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 410 Praise my soul, the King of heaven
All stand and sing.

LAUDA ANIMA

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -

might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Title: *Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis* Music: William Mathias (b. 1934) Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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

Jeremiah 31:7–9

All sit.

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

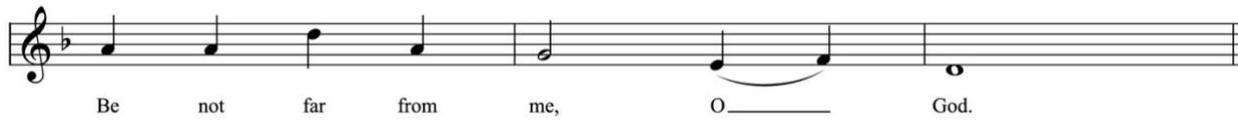
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Chanted by the choir. The people join in the Antiphon at the beginning and end.

Psalm 34:1–8

Anglican Chant by
Joseph Barnby (1838–1896)



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 7:23–28

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but Jesus holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN If you have but one song to sing

ST. MARK'S ON TRAVIS SQUARE

All stand and sing.

1 If you have but one song to sing, let it be "God be
 2 If you have but one prayer to pray, let it be "Thank you,
 3 If you have but one word to speak, let God's love be its
 4 So sing, and pray, and speak of God, as you new jour - neys

Descant

the Ho - ly Spir - it is your guide, when
 praised!" and at Cre - a - tion's mar - velous works cease
 Lord," for in the life and death of Christ sal -
 theme, so that the trou - bled world may know the
 start; the Ho - ly Spir - it is your guide, when

1-3 4
 Christ dwells in your heart.

1-3 4
 not to be a - mazed.
 va - tion is as - sured.
 Sa - vior reigns su - preme.
 Christ dwells in your heart.

Text: Rae E. Whitney

Music: David Ashley White, 2018.

Text and music © Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

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ST. MARK'S ON TRAVIS SQUARE

THE GOSPEL

*Mark 10:46–52**Minister* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.*All* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Hope 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

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

Gracious God, we give you thanks for your Son Jesus's promise that you hear and answer our prayer. You have done great things for us. **And we are glad indeed.**

Guide and govern all who call themselves Christians, that our faith may lead us in the ways of truth and compassion. Strengthen the people of St. John's to be your faithful servants. **Lead us in a straight path in which we shall not stumble.**

Give wisdom and compassion to our political leaders, especially Donald our president, Dannel our governor, the members of Congress and the legislators of this state. Keep their vision high and their sympathies broad that they may work for the common good. **Your way is righteous and loving.**

Rouse us to consider our vote prayerfully and cast it without fail, thankful for the privilege of having our voice heard and counted in our country's democracy. **Save your people, and guide us in the ways of justice and peace.**

We commend to your mercy all who suffer: those whose lives are devastated by storm and strife, those who live in fear of violence, those bullied and abused, and those in need of healing. **You uphold those who fall and lift up those who are bowed down.**

Give your grace to families going through difficult times; bestow patience and understanding upon parents and children; make this parish a place of inclusion and support for all who come here, that in our seeking we may find you. **You are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great kindness.**

Keep our children safe from harm during the activities of Halloween. **Save your people, O Lord.**

During this stewardship season, open our minds to appreciate the gifts of all who have supported this church in time past; open our hearts in gratitude for the privilege of worshipping you in this place; open our hands to share our gifts in abundance. **You have restored our fortunes; bless us with boundless dreams of what our gifts can build.**

Give grace to those who celebrate wedding anniversaries, and all who pledge love and faithfulness to each other in your Name. **Fill their mouths with laughter and their hearts with thanksgiving.**

Grant eternal life unto those who have died, that having fought the good fight on earth, they may now rest in peace; give faith to those who mourn and mend their broken hearts. **That those who sow with tears may reap with songs of joy.**

Celebrant O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All remain standing or kneel.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

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

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of Christ.

THE WELCOME

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM For the beauty of the earth John Rutter (b. 1945)
Words: F. S. Pierpoint (1835–1917), found at Hymn 416

THE PRESENTATION HYMN OLD 100TH

**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 power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Title: *The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus*
 Music: *William Mathias (1934-1992) Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.*

All remain standing or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy on
us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

Title: The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei
Music: Gerard R. Near (b. 1942) Copyright © 1985 Aureole Editions, Dallas, Texas.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion at St. John's.

Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the clergy at the communion rail.

If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

If you would like to receive Healing Prayers, go to the baptismal font at the rear of the nave after receiving Communion.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM In this place

Will Todd (b. 1970)

In this place I have been made new;
I have been gifted jewels beyond price.
In this place greater dreams are given.
I am made everlasting.

In this place I am light,
In this place, in your sight
I am made everlasting.

In your love, starting and ending;
I will be carried softly to heaven.
In your love I am given beauty.
I am made everlasting.
You give the strength for me to hold,
You are the hope that shines like gold.
In this place I am new.
In your love I am true.

I will fly with angels to this place,
And be made everlasting.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 535 Ye servants of God, ye master proclaim

PADERBORN

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Rigoudon

André Campra (1660–1744)

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 William J. Eakins**Preacher:** The Reverend Hope Eakins**Layreader:** Jeff Verney**The St. John's Youth and Adult Choirs****Organist and Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Acolytes:** John O'Brien, Claire O'Brien, Bradley Crocker, Isabel Grant**Ushers:** Jeff Gostyla, Julia and Jim O'Brien, Steve Crocker, Emhart Aziz**Altar Guild:** Rosa Guzzo, Janet Willard**Healing Prayers:** Paul Shaker**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center:****Layreader:** Carol Sonne**Musician:** Steve Metcalf

The altar flowers are given in memory of Stephen J. Raffay, Alice M. Kuehne, George B. Kuehne, George E. and Abbie B. Van Siclen, and Robert F. and Abbie V.S. Peterson.

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons, except where noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

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HAPPENING TODAY**Choral Evensong, Sunday, TODAY at 5 p.m.**

The second in this year's Choral Evensong series will feature the St. John's Schola (a small group of singers from our Adult Choir). Choral Evensong is an ancient tradition that offers a restful, contemplative service of music, chant and prayer. Beautiful words and music in a beautiful space will feed your soul and prepare you for the week ahead. Please join us and bring a friend.

Instructed Eucharist postponed

The Instructed Eucharist planned for today's services will be rescheduled for another Sunday due to the rector being called away on family business.

Last chance to check the Lost and Found for your missing items

St. John's has a "Lost and Found" area in the coat closet just outside the Education Wing. We've built up quite a collection of jackets, scarves, mobility aids, reading glasses, water bottles and more. Please stop by to see if anything belongs to you! Anything still there on November 1 will be donated. Thank you!!!

Scheduling Note: Dwight Latif on leave through November 5

Our sexton/property manager Dwight is on a two-week paternity leave, so that he can be available to his family as his wife prepares to return to work after the birth of their second son this summer. We have a substitute sexton who will be doing the many set-up, security and other duties that Dwight regularly does. Please contact the office rather than calling Dwight directly if a need arises that he would normally address.

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	Albert Lennox
Kim Green	Andrew Lee	Michael	Luther
Carol Grieco	Susan	Mike Cassidy	Alycia Evica
Janet Ray	Meg	Amber Lynch	Helen Cooke
Susan Murray	Robert Connolly	Ronald Bruno	

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Jean Mitchell	Colin Gillespie
Samuel Sloan	Christine Doty
Douglas Montas	Morgan Roche
Michael Doran	

We give thanks for the birth of Raphael Jacob Katsipis, born to Carla Abdo-Katsipis and Jacob Katsipis on October 26.

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Francine and Stephan Christiansen
Nina and Duccio Rosselli Del Turco

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church in the Province of the West Indies.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for All Saint's, West Cornwall; St. James's, West Hartford; St. John's, West Hartford; and the Diocesan Episcopal Church Women, Diocesan Altar Guild, local ECW chapters and parish altar guilds.

All Saints Day Remembrances

If you would like your loved ones' names included in the All Saints Day (November 4) service bulletin and prayers for those who have died, please fill out this form, tear it off and put it in the offering plate OR e-mail Ellen in the parish office at ellen@sjparish.net. Please send in names no later than **Monday, October 29**.

Name(s): _____

Save the Date

Men's Bible Study, every Thursday at 6:30 a.m.

We're Men's Bible Study, and we approved this message. This week, we're reading: Matthew 27:57–61, Mark 15:42–47, and Luke 23:50–56. Please join us on Thursday, at 6:30 a.m. in the Reception Room.

Faith Forums on Mental Health, Sundays, November 4 and 11, 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Ron Casey, consulting psychologist for the Episcopal Church in CT and a practicing therapist, will lead two Sunday morning Faith Forums titled *Healing Conversations: Talking about anxiety, depression and suicide*. Dr. Casey believes that open and honest conversation is a first step toward addressing these prevalent concerns. Participants are invited to submit questions ahead of time, so that Dr. Casey can tailor the discussion to the needs of those present. To submit a question, write it down and put it in the labeled box in Hubbard Hall, or email Ellen in the parish office at ellen@sjparish.net. The names of those asking questions will remain anonymous. Open to all — invite a friend to join you.

Celtic service, Sunday, November 4, 4:30 p.m.

Celtic services are held at St. John's on the first Sunday of the month, from October through June. Celtic spirituality offers an ancient yet relevant and fresh approach to connecting with God and nurturing your soul through prayer, chant, meditation, silence and music. The service starts at 4:30 p.m. with an extended period of silence.

Stewardship Commitment Sunday, November 11

Fall stewardship season is well under way, with parishioners receiving a series of letters from the rector, the wardens, and fellow members about what makes St. John's "home" for so many and how your annual pledge supports the church's mission and ministries. On Sunday, November 11, all are invited to bring your completed pledge card to church, and carry it forward to the altar as a symbol of commitment to this place and its ministries. Pledge cards will be mailed this week, and will also be available on the literature tables in the narthex and at the back building entrance starting next Sunday.

Advent book discussion, Sundays, December 9 and 16, 9:30 a.m.

P.D. James's novel *The Children of Men* will be the subject of two Faith Forums during Advent. The story is filled with Advent's themes: life and death, courage in the face of destruction, how to find hope even in darkness and loss, the enduring promises of God, and the miracle of the Word become flesh and dwelling among us. The novel is set in a future world where no children have been born for 25 years. This world is dispirited, without a reason to build libraries and museums, to compose poems or write books, to do research or care for gardens. People dream only of safety from crime, a full larder, and a peaceful death. In this bleak and cheerless place, the novel provides a surprising retelling of the Christmas story. The book is readily available from online retailers or your favorite book store. It is gripping, moves along quickly, and has contemporary relevance. So get reading and come and join Hope and Bill Eakins in the Reception Room from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. on December 9 and 16.



Bring nonperishable food donations next Sunday

On the first Sunday of the month, we collect donations for the Grace Seventh Day Adventist Church Food Pantry on Prospect Avenue. Needed items include: peanut butter, canned fish/meat, canned stew/soup/pasta, canned fruit and veggies, and cereal. Place your items in the wagon in the back of the church.

Small planters and wreath décor needed for Christmas Festival

The annual Christmas Festival, coming up on Saturday, December 1, includes sale of decorated wreaths, poinsettias, and planters with amaryllis and paperwhites. We're collecting small attractive containers (ceramic, pottery, metal, etc.) that would be appropriate for planting bulbs. We need these ASAP so that bulbs can be planted in advance of the Festival. As always, we are also collecting small decorative items to adorn fresh evergreen wreaths—small ornaments, faux flowers or greens, ribbon, garland, etc. The annual wreath decorating night will be Thursday, November 29.

Christmas gifts for children in need

St. John's will once again sponsor 60 children in the Nurturing Families Network with Christmas gift bags. You're invited to pick up a tag with a child's wish list, fill a gift bag with some items from the list, and make a child's Christmas brighter! Sign-up sheets and gift tags will be available outside Hubbard Hall every Sunday in November, beginning Sunday, November 4. Please shop and place unwrapped items in a large gift bag or reusable shopping bag, then return your bag (labeled with the gift tag itself or its tracking number) to St. John's by Wednesday, November 28. You may deliver your bag to the office during the week or to our gift bag table on Sunday mornings. Thanks in advance for your generosity! For more information, contact Jillian Puzzo at jillianpuzzo@gmail.com or Leah Murchie at murchlt@comcast.net.

Director of Religious Education (DRE) Search Update

At their October meeting, the St. John's Vestry voted to close our search for a new Director of Religious Education (DRE), and to instead incorporate DRE duties into a new full-time curate position. The curate will be a recently graduated seminary student (ordained or soon-to-be ordained), who will serve as a clergy assistant to the rector as well as run the religious education program. A full-time curate position will more efficiently use St. John's personnel funds to meet diverse needs in the parish, for pastoral care, preaching, and program leadership in Christian education and other areas. This position will be included in the 2019 budget. Until the curate is hired, the Christian education program will continue with volunteer leadership, and parish volunteers will continue to be vital to a successful program after the curate is hired. Thank you to the DRE Search Committee and volunteer teachers and youth leaders for their dedicated hard work on behalf of our youngest members.

Healing Conversations:

Talking about anxiety, depression and suicide

Dr. Ron Casey, consulting psychologist to the Episcopal Church in Connecticut and a practicing therapist, will lead two Sunday morning Faith Forums at St. John's exploring these prevalent mental health concerns. He believes that open and honest conversation is a first step toward addressing them. Participants are invited to submit questions ahead of time so that Dr. Casey can lead a discussion that will be most helpful to those present. To submit questions, write them down and put them in the labeled box in the parish hall, or send them to Ellen in the parish office at ellen@sjparish.net. The names of those who submit questions will remain anonymous. ALL ARE WELCOME!



Sundays, November 4 & 11
9:30 a.m.

679 Farmington Avenue
West Hartford
www.sjparish.net



Evensong

rest reflect worship

Selected Sundays at 5pm

9/23
St. John's Youth & Adult Choirs

10/28
St. John's Schola

1/27
Youth Choirs of St. John's &
First Church, Newington

2/24
Choirs of Trinity Church, Hartford

4/28
Trinity Boychoir, New Haven

Music at the Red Door
St. John's Episcopal Church
679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford
(near Prospect)

www.reddoormusic.org

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119
860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8 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