

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

September 8, 2019

10:30 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. In early June, 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. The word “ordinary” does not mean common or mundane. Instead, it is from the word “ordinal” which means “counted.” We count the Sundays after Pentecost because it is a long stretch of time that spans several months, concluding with the Feast of Christ the King in late fall, just before Advent.

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.

Our ushers are here to help create a welcoming and safe space for worship. Please speak to an usher if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. Again, welcome.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY Prelude on *Cwm Rhondda*

Paul Manz (1919–2009)

THE OPENING HYMN 410 Praise my soul, the King of heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

All stand and sing.

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

People **And blessed be God’s 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 SONG OF PRAISE Dignus es

Benjamin Straley (b. 1986)

The refrain is introduced by the choir, then all repeat. The choir sings the verses, and all join in the refrain.



Splen-dor and hon-or and king - ly power are yours by right, O Lord our God.
 For you created every thing that is,
 and by your will they were created and have their being; **Refrain**
 And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain,
 for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
 From every family, language, people, and nation,
 a kingdom of priests to serve our God. **Refrain**
 And so, to him who sits upon the throne,
 and to Christ the Lamb,
 Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor,
 for ever and for evermore. **Refrain**

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Benjamin Straley is the assistant rector at St. John's in Essex, former organist of Washington National Cathedral, and a noted concert organist who will perform here in 2020. He wrote this song of praise for the Cathedral, and our choir had the honor of premiering it while singing there in July. His tempo marking is "with much verve," so listen once to the refrain and then help us make a joyful noise to God!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

All sit.

Moses said to all Israel the words which the Lord commanded him, "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 1

The people say the words in **bold** and sing the antiphon where indicated.

Hap - py are they — whose de - light is in the law — of the LORD.

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 **Their delight is in the law of the Lord, ***
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 **It is not so with the wicked; ***
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, ***
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Antiphon

THE SECOND LESSON

Philemon 1–21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love — and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother — especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if

you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN I have decided to follow Jesus

All stand and sing.

1. I have de - cid - ed _____ to fol - low Je - sus, _____
 2. Though no one join me, _____ still I will fol - low, _____
 3. The world be - hind me, _____ the cross be - fore me, _____

1. _ I have de - cid - ed _____ to fol - low Je - sus, _____
 2. _ Though no one join me, _____ still I will fol - low, _____
 3. _ The world be - hind me, _____ the cross be - fore me, _____

1. _ I have de - cid - ed _____ to fol - low Je - sus, _____
 2. _ Though no one join me, _____ still I will fol - low, _____
 3. _ The world be - hind me, _____ the cross be - fore me, _____

_ No turn - ing back, _____ no turn - ing back! _____
 (no turn - ing back,)

Words: Ascribed to an Indian Prince; as sung in Garo, Assam

Music: Indian Folk Melody; arr. Norman Johnson

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THE GOSPEL

*Luke 14:25–33**Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

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.

Let us pray, confident that God hears our prayer and answers our cry.

Make us grateful, O Lord, for the gift of your Son Jesus and make us also grateful for those who bless your name in faiths and words that are not ours. Free us from arrogance and pride, to be one people in common need of your mercy. God of grace and God of glory, **free our hearts to faith and praise.**

Guide all who hold power and authority in the world, that justice and peace may prevail upon this earth; guide those running for office and those who vote for them. God of grace and God of glory, **save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.**

Make us good stewards of the earth you have given into our care; help us respond effectively to a changing climate; bless the farmers whose labor feeds your people; and bless those who have tilled and harvested our parish garden. God of grace and God of glory, **grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days.**

Heal those who are sick; care for the poor, the brokenhearted, the addicted, and those whose lives have been devastated by Hurricane Dorian; give us grace to serve the world in your name. God of grace and God of glory, **grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore.**

Make our schools lively places of sound learning; grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth. God of grace and God of glory, **grant us wisdom, grant us courage lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

Bless those we love, both near and far away, pour your grace on those who have asked for our prayers. God of grace and God of glory, **on your people pour your power.**

Save those who have been unfaithful to their promises and those who suffer from betrayal. God of grace and God of glory, **grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.**

Receive into the arms of your mercy those who have died, remembering Buffy Cech's father, Sidney Buford Scott, and Joel Grieco's mother, Carol. God of grace and God of glory, **let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.**

Celebrant Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may ever be defended by your gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 Nunc dimittis in E-flat

Charles Wood (1866–1926)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, amen.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

All stand and sing.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE 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.**

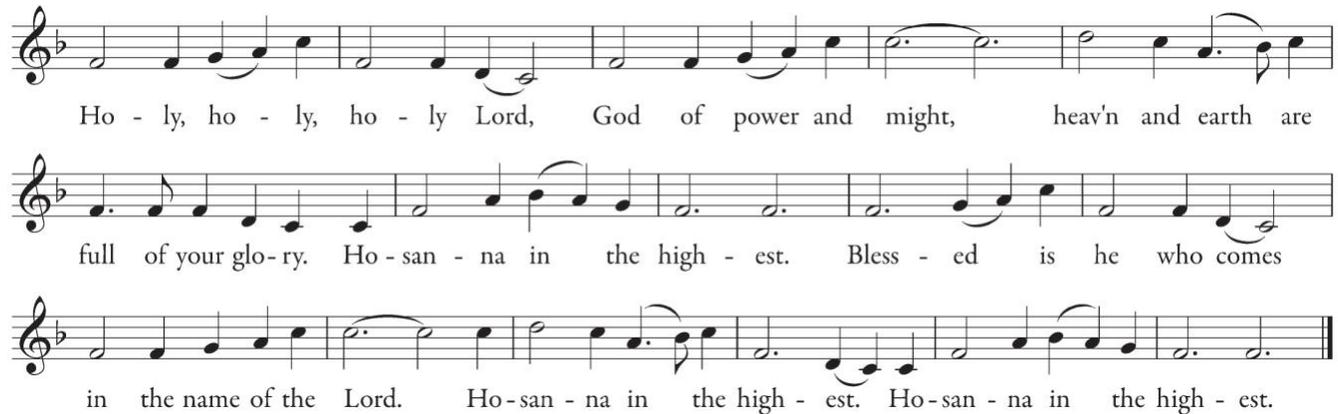
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, heav'n 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Land of Rest, arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889–1983)

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 FRACTION ANTHEM Be known to us, Lord Jesus Gary James (b. 1957)
The refrain is introduced by the choir, then all repeat. The choir sings the verses, and all join in the refrain.



The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. **Refrain**
 One body are we, alleluia, for though many, we share one bread. **Refrain**

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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 O taste and see Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1951)
 Words: Psalm 34:8

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

One of the last of Vaughan Williams' sacred pieces, this work was written for the 1953 coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The music is of distilled simplicity, with a pentatonic flavor that reminds us of the composer's lifelong interest in folk-song.

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 CLOSING HYMN 594 God of grace and God of glory

CWM RHONDDA

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Procepción Alegre

Garry Cornell (b. 1940)

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 Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons 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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THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**Celebrant and Preacher:** The Reverend Susan Pinkerton**Assisting:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney**Layreader:** John Hardy**Psalterer:** Britt Emerick**The St. John's Adult and Youth Choirs****Organist/Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Acolytes:** Meg Babbitt, Ethen Worrell, Morgan Babbitt, Caleb Worrell**Ushers:** Jeff Gostyla, Laura & John Roche, Emhart Aziz, Troy Gostyla**Healing Prayers:** Ginger Gillespie**Altar Guild:** Conny DeLuca, Nancy Pedersen, Paul Shaker**Nursery Caregivers:** Abigail and Caroline Thaxton**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center****Layreader:** Bess Amamoo**Musician:** Natalie Giana

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Kimbra Audette, Helen Paxton Cooke, and Jacques L. Montas.

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.

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

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Jim Evans	Susan	Michael	Beth Maturo Vecchitto
Kim Green	Meg	Beth	Giovanni Guzzo
Janet Ray	Edward Shaker	Chris	Margaret Thomas
Susan Murray	Edith Connolly	Mary Byrd	Karen Licht
Brad Babbitt	Linda Evans	Mary Stoughton	Tina
Paul Hamer	Sally	John Vecchitto	Ann Marie
Michael Bruce	Ingrid	Ronald	

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Joan Murphy	Gianna Duberek
Lonnie Burt	Carol Fiske-Davis
Alexander Grieco	Daaé Ransom
Benjamin Clapp	Cabot Rosen

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Susan and Paul Thaxton
 Katy Hart and Bill Uricchio
 Trig and Sam Cooley

Those who have died:

Sidney Buford Scott (father of former St. John's warden Buffy Cech).
 Carol Grieco (mother of Joel Grieco).

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Episcopal Church of Sudan.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for L'Église de L'Épiphanie, Stamford; St. Andrew's, Stamford; St. Francis', Stamford; and for those involved in the ministry of education for Christian formation in parishes; church school and youth group directors, teachers, and mentors; and adult education leaders.

HAPPENING TODAY

Sunday School Open House, 9:30 a.m.

Come take a look at the Education Wing and register children for Sunday School.

Fill Blessing Bags in Hubbard Hall, 9:30 a.m.

Blessing Bags contain toiletries, snacks and warm accessories for people in need who come to the church looking for help. Please grab a bag and fill it with items in the amounts designated for each item. **REMINDERS:** When we start running out of items, please STOP filling new bags, as it is problematic to have partially filled bags. Also, please try to match the style and size of items so that the entire bag is appropriate for someone of a particular gender and size (so, for example, if you choose a small pair of gloves, also choose a small pair of socks). Thank you!

Coffee hour, after the 10:30 a.m. service

Coffee hour today is hosted by the Vestry. Come enjoy a snack and a cup of coffee while catching up with old friends and introducing yourself to someone new. Also, please look for the sign-up sheet for hosting coffee hour throughout the fall.

Sunday School teacher training, Noon to 2 p.m.

Sunday School teachers for the upcoming year will stay after the 10:30 service for training, with lunch and childcare provided. We have a wonderful group of volunteers teaching Sunday School – thank you to all!

Youth Group, 5 to 7 p.m.

St. John's EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is for all youth in grades 6 to 12. We're kicking off a new program year tonight with dinner and games from 5 to 7 p.m. All middle and high schoolers are welcome, as are friends! EYC will meet *every week*, usually from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sundays but occasionally at other times. For the schedule, see the EYC Google calendar at <http://tinyurl.com/sjpeyc>. If you have not been receiving youth-related e-mail news and would like to, please contact Margie at margie@sjparish.net to make sure you're on her youth e-mail list.

Bring in non-perishable food donations. Donations go to the Seventh Day Adventist Church Food Pantry on Prospect Avenue, which is open every Wednesday to anyone who needs food: no ID check, no lists, no limits on how often patrons can visit. **New this fall!** - Children will begin bringing up food pantry items each week during the Offertory, starting on Sunday, September 22. This serves two important purposes: it shows that the food collected is an offering to God, to be shared among the needy in our community; and, it involves the children more fully in the service. What will this look like? At the Offertory sentence, children may go to the back of the nave and pick up a food pantry item. They will walk with their item up the central aisle and place the item in a basket on the chancel steps. Each child will carry one item at a time but may make multiple trips, until there are no more items to take up. Then an acolyte will move the baskets off the chancel steps. This is both a small change (it doesn't require a rota, or planning meetings, or a budget) and a big change (added movement during the Offertory, children out of their seats). **How can you help?** Add the food pantry to your shopping list. **Bring in food** as often as you'd like. There is *always* a need. **Invite** your children or grandchildren to bring up food pantry items.



Help in the community vegetable garden on Wednesday mornings. Our curate, Margie Baker, will be in the garden (which is out back, behind the sexton's house) **from 8 to 10 a.m. on Wednesday mornings**, weather permitting. All are welcome to stop by (kids are welcome with an adult) to help weed, water and harvest. You don't need to sign up ahead of time, and you don't have to stay for the whole two hours. Just come on by in your gardening clothes, and stay for as long as you can! If you'd like to help but that's not a good time, contact the parish office to make other arrangements.

Save the Date

Community Block Party, Sunday, September 15, Noon to 3 p.m.

The fourth annual Community Block Party will take place after the 10:30 a.m. service (which will be outdoors, weather permitting) next Sunday, September 15. This popular event includes live music, food, a bounce house and other fun activities for kids, and more. It's a great chance to catch up with St. John's friends while also welcoming our neighbors. **We need volunteers** to bake treats ahead of time, as well as cook and serve hot dogs at the event. Sign up here: <https://signup.com/go/YtgriwX>.

Sacred Circle, Tuesday, September 17, 7 p.m.

Sacred Circle is a small committed group of women who meet once a month to explore our relationship to the sacred and to honor the divine in everyday life. Meetings are the third Tuesday evening of the month. Our meeting this month will be on Tuesday, September 17 at 7 p.m. in the church. Please come. All women are welcome. For more information, call Beth Rocco at (860) 521-5433.

Choral Evensong, Sunday, September 22, 5 p.m. – Open to all singers!

The ancient and beautiful service of Choral Evensong is presented on the fourth Sunday of selected months at St. John's. For our first Evensong of the program year, we're issuing an open invitation to singers from St. John's as well as other churches in the area. Do you love to sing Evensong? Join us at 3:15 p.m. to be part of the choir! **If you plan to sing, please RSVP to Scott Lamlein** at music@sjparish.net or 860-523-5201 x 324.

Lunch lectures on the *Art & Architecture of Faith*, Sundays, September 22, September 29, & October 6 after the 10:30 service

St. John's will host a three-part luncheon lecture series on *The Art & Architecture of Faith*, at which Michael J. Crosbie, Ph.D., FAIA, will offer a series of three presentations on the roles that architecture and art play in the lives of faith communities. Dr. Crosbie is professor of architecture at the University of Hartford's College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, and former chair of the Department of Architecture and associate dean. He is editor-in-chief of *Faith & Form*, a quarterly journal on religious art and architecture. He is also a frequent contributor to *Architectural Record* and writes about architecture and design for the *Hartford Courant*. Dr. Crosbie's programs will take place after the 10:30 service on September 22, September 29, and October 6, in Hubbard Hall. Lunch will be served free of charge, with donations accepted. **Please RSVP to the parish office by September 18 so we have an accurate count for lunch, and invite a friend!**

Acolyte Lunch and Training, Sunday, September 29, 12 to 2 p.m.

Children and youth in grades 5 to 12 are invited to join the acolyte team! Acolytes serve on a rotating basis at the 10:30 service and at other important services throughout the church year (Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, et al.). This is a fantastic service and fellowship opportunity. Acolyte training is scheduled for Sunday, September 29 from noon to 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided. **New and returning acolytes should attend!** Youth choristers are welcome to serve as acolytes, as we will schedule them to acolyte only on Sundays when they are not singing. **Please RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/sjpacolyte>**. The RSVP form also includes a poll where you can give your Sunday availability from September through January, to help with acolyte scheduling.

Women Together book discussion group, every Tuesday starting September 10, 2 p.m.

Women Together is a group that gathers weekly to explore our Christian faith and practice through book discussion, prayer and fellowship. We will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 10 at 2 p.m. *Open the Door - A Journey to the True Self* by Joyce Rupp is the focus of the first six-week session. The book is available at Amazon and other booksellers, and includes a reflection for each day of the week. At our first meeting on September 10, we will discuss Week 1. Women Together meets every Tuesday from 2 to 3:15 p.m. in the Reception Room at St. John's, and is currently attended by women from St. John's and Trinity, but new members from any church are always welcome! For more information, contact Sarah Kieffer at kieffer2468@gmail.com.

Episcopal Migration Ministries Webinar on the U.S. Immigration System, September 19, 1 to 2 p.m.

The Episcopal Migration Ministries are offering a 50-minute webinar overview of U.S. immigration history, laws, and system. Whether you're working with refugees, immigrants, or the unauthorized, or you're a curious citizen and want to understand U.S. immigration, this webinar is for you. For more information, go to <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/webinarsandevents/>

First Baptist Church workshop series on "A Life Well Lived," Sundays in October, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

This fall, the First Baptist Church (90 North Main Street, West Hartford) is hosting a series of workshops to help participants reflect on the practical and emotional aspects of death and dying. The sessions are all on Sunday evenings in October, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., as follows: **October 6** – *Celebrating a Life Well Lived*, **October 13** – *Living Wills and Issues Surrounding Long-Term Care*, **October 20** – *Estate Planning*, **October 27** – *Grieving a Life Well Lived*. For more information, contact the First Baptist Church at whfbc@yahoo.com or 860-521-9460.

ECCT Pilgrimage to National Museum of African American History and Culture, November 16–17

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut's Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation Ministry Network is leading a pilgrimage to the Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. for Saturday, November 16 and Sunday, November 17. Travel will be by motor coach, departing Hartford at 4 a.m. on November 16, and stopping in Riverside at approximately 5:30 a.m. en route. The bus departs D.C. at 2 p.m. on Sunday for the return trip. The cost for bus riders is \$80 per person. The Network has an additional 20 tickets available for individuals who wish to make their own travel arrangements. They must be present with the rest of the group to have their timed-entry tickets accepted. Attendees will be responsible for making their own reservations at a nearby hotel; discounted rates are available. Lunch on both days, and Saturday dinner, are also separate. There is no admission fee to the Museum; you need the timed-event tickets. Group size is limited and will be first-come, first-served. To register go to [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and search for "Pilgrimage to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture."



FREE ADMISSION! All are welcome
Community Block Party
at St. John's
Sunday, September 15, 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)
Belfalus Khan, and Last Fair Deal

Rain or Shine!



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

A message from the parish manager

Dear St. John's friends,

Starting on Wednesday, September 11, I will be out of the office for several weeks of medical leave for a knee replacement. I will not be checking e-mail or voicemail while I'm out. In my absence, you may contact Peggy O'Toole, our financial manager, at peggy@sjparish.net or 860-523-5201 x 311. Peggy will either respond to your inquiry or forward it to another staff member or parish volunteer to handle. During my leave, Peggy will be in the office Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Starting on September 13, the office will be closed on Fridays until I return to work full-time. My schedule for returning to work will be open-ended to accommodate my recovery, and I will return part-time at first, including doing some work from home.

This surgery will be the first of two, as I plan to have the other knee replaced in 2020. These surgeries, which will take place at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City, are a good thing that I have been looking forward to for a long time! Please keep me and my wonderful colleagues at St. John's in your prayers, and thank you for your support and understanding for all of us.

Ellen Painter Dollar
 Parish Manager

Christian Education for Adults Fall 2019

On the Road with St. John's: Journeys of Faith

Programs are at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in Hubbard Hall, unless otherwise marked.
Programs in **red** are intergenerational. See reverse for children and youth programs.

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|--------------|--|
| September 8 | Fill Blessing Bags for people in need
Sunday School Open House |
| September 15 | The Beginning of the Journey: Abraham
The Reverend Susan Pinkerton |
| September 22 | A Magic Carpet Ride: Holy Places Around the World
The Reverends Bill and Hope Eakins |
| September 29 | Holy Navigation: Prayer
The Reverend Susan Pinkerton |
| October 6 | Fellow Travelers: ESOL at St. John's
Andy Tyskiewicz, Town of West Hartford,
with ESOL students Ana Maria Meza and Maria Zacarias |
| October 13 | From Exodus to Exile: Race in the Bible
The Reverend Margie Baker |
| October 20 | The Straight Away Story: The Gospel of Mark
The Reverend Susan Pinkerton in the Reception Room
Stewardship note writing workshop
Stewardship volunteers in Hubbard Hall |
| October 27 | Wrestling with Angels: Jacob
The Reverend Bill Eakins |
| November 3 | Safe at Home: An Interfaith Panel on Security for Faith Communities
Joel Lohr, Aida Mansoor & Michael Pincus |
| November 10 | The Climes, They are a'Changin': Religion and Climate Change (part 1)
Mark Silk, Trinity College |
| November 17 | The Climes, They are a'Changin': Religion and Climate Change (part 2)
Mark Silk, Trinity College |
| November 24 | Getting Along while Going Along: Book Discussion on <i>Love Your Enemies</i> by Arthur C. Brooks
Moderated by Jillian Puzzo of BookBarCT |
| December 1 | Advent Wreath-Making Workshop |
| December 8 | Gifts for the Journey: The Story of St. Nicholas |
| December 15 | Saying Yes to God: Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds |
| December 22 | Christmas Pageant (final prep at 9:30, pageant at 10:30) |
| December 29 | Coming Home: Reunion Breakfast
<u>All are invited to a special breakfast to welcome college students/young adults home for the holidays.</u> |

The Art & Architecture of Faith Dr. Michael Crosbie

Join us for a three-part series of lunchtime lectures on the relationship between religious faith and the artistic and architectural forms that surround and support it. Dr. Michael Crosbie is professor of architecture at the University of Hartford's College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture, and editor-in-chief of Faith & Form, a quarterly journal on religious art and architecture.

September 22

September 29

October 6

Noon to 1:30 p.m.,
following the 10:30 Sunday service.
Lunch included.

Free of charge, donations accepted.

Please **RSVP** by September 18.
office@sjparish.net
860-523-5201

Christian Education for Children and Youth Fall 2019

Sunday School for children and youth age 3 through high school

Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m., starting on September 22

Nursery care for infants and toddlers

Every Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon, starting on September 8

Youth Group for middle school and high school

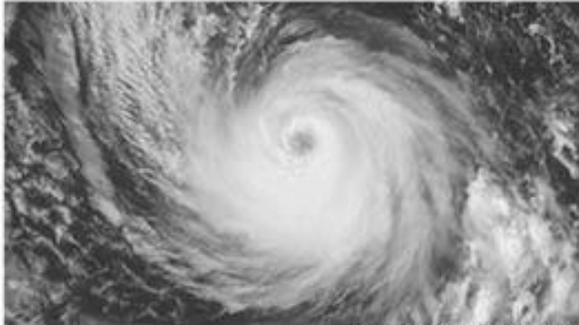
Every Sunday from 5 to 7 p.m., starting on September 8*

**Youth Group will occasionally happen at a different time on certain Sundays.*

Watch for announcements and check the youth program Google calendar at <https://tinyurl.com/sjpeyc> for updates.

September 8, 9:30 a.m.	Sunday School Open House Fill Blessing Bags for people in need
September 15, noon to 3 p.m.	Community Block Party with music, food, face painting, bounce house, and games!
September 29, 12 to 2 p.m.	Acolyte lunch and training for new and returning acolytes, grades 5 to 12
Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, 4 p.m.	Communion Class: An introduction to communion for elementary school-age children
November 3, 10:30 a.m.	Communion Celebration for participants in the Communion Class
December 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	St. John's Christmas Festival
December 21, 9 to 11 a.m.	Rehearsal for Christmas Pageant
December 22, 10:30 a.m.	Christmas Pageant
December 29, 9:30 a.m.	Reunion breakfast in honor of college students and young adults who are home for the holidays- EVERYONE is welcome!

RESPONDING TO HURRICANES



Credit NOAA/RAMMB

Episcopal Relief & Development partners with dioceses as they respond to hurricanes and other tragic storms and we would like to invite you to join this vital partnership.

Your contribution to *Episcopal Relief & Development's Hurricane Relief Fund* will support communities as they respond to storms like Hurricane Dorian. Your donation will meet urgent needs by providing critical supplies such as food, water and other basics and will help provide long-term assistance as needed.

Currently, members of **Episcopal Relief & Development's US Disaster Program** are working closely with dioceses in the path of Hurricane Dorian. In addition, the organization is working through the Anglican Alliance to support the Anglican Diocese of the Bahamas & the Turks and Caicos as they begin assessing the damage. The organization's *Partners in Response and Resilience* stand ready to respond in the coming weeks as the full extent of the slow-moving storm becomes clear.

To make a donation, please fill out the coupon below and mail it in with your check or credit card information. You can also contribute online to our Hurricane Relief Fund at support.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief.

Thank you for your compassion and prayers. With your partnership, we are working together for lasting change.



www.episcopalrelief.org
1.855.312.4325

Please make checks payable to Episcopal Relief & Development.
Mail to P.O. Box 7058
Merrifield VA 22116-7058.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Your email address _____
Phone Number _____

Enclosed is my gift to the Hurricane Relief Fund to assist those who are in need.

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500
 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 Other \$_____

FOR CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

Please charge my gift to my:
 VISA MasterCard
 AMEX Discover

Name of your church _____ City _____
Account number _____ Expiration date _____
Name on card _____
Signature _____

819-2

All gifts are tax-deductible.

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

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
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)	.....	Curate
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

Virginia Van Dyk	.....	Warden
Wes Winterbottom	.....	Warden
Tim Goetz and John Roche	.....	Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar	.....	Scribe

2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Andrew Worrell

2018-20: Steve Crocker, Ann Hutchinson, Alex Nelson

2019-21: Ellen Flynn, David Grimaldi, Teresa Lohr