St. John’s Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

CHORAL EVENSONG

September 22, 2019

5:00 p.m.

WELCOME

You have wisely chosen to spend your Sunday evening with us, participating in one of the most beautiful ancient customs of Anglican Worship – Choral Evensong. What you are about to experience is a powerful connection between your earthly life and the divine. Although the formal version of this service was established in 1549, the prayers contained therein harken back even further into antiquity.

A statement from Coventry Cathedral, England, reads: “Evensong ... is a very tiny fragment of something else: It is a fragment of the worship which is offered to God by Christian people every hour of the 24 in every part of the world. When you come to Evensong ... it is as if you were dropping in on a conversation already in progress — a conversation between God and [people] which began long before you were born and will go on long after you are dead. Evensong is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. Its primary purpose is to proclaim the wonderful works of God in history and in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

Your role as a participant is simply to be in a quiet space, allow the prayers of the clergy and choir to enter your soul, and sing and recite the portions indicated, as you feel comfortable. Together, we offer this worship to the glory of God alone, that it might make the day we have just shared holy and perfect, and prepare us for the week ahead.

Scott Lamlein, Director of Music and Organist

ORDER OF SERVICE

Please turn off your portable devices upon arrival, and observe silence.

Your donations, collected at the door, make these services and events possible. Thank you for your generosity.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Cantabile from Symphonie II, op. 20

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

The people stand (as they are able) as the procession enters the Nave.

OPENING SENTENCE

Psalm 141:2

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
The Preces

Cantor | O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir   | And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
Cantor | O God, make speed to save us.
Choir   | O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Cantor | Praise ye the Lord.
Choir   | The Lord’s name be praised.

The people are seated.

Psalm 113 | Laudate, pueri

Hallelujah!
Give praise, you servants of the Lord; *
   praise the Name of the Lord.
Let the Name of the Lord be blessed, *
   from this time forth for evermore.
From the rising of the sun to its going down *
   let the Name of the Lord be praised.
The Lord is high above all nations, *
   and his glory above the heavens.
Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high *
   but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?
He takes up the weak out of the dust *
   and lifts up the poor from the ashes.
He sets them with the princes, *
   with the princes of his people.
He makes the woman of a childless house *
   to be a joyful mother of children.

The people stand.

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 people are seated.

First Lesson | Amos 8:4–7

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for
silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MAGNIFICAT in C

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth,
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

The people stand.

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 people are seated.

SECOND LESSON

Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended
the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

NUNC DIMITTIS in C

Ralph Vaughan Williams

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.

   The people stand.

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 people chant on a monotone:

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
   maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
   who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
THE SUFFRAGES

Cantor  The Lord be with you.
Choir   And with thy spirit.
Cantor  Let us pray.

The people kneel or remain standing.

Cantor  Lord, have mercy upon us.
Choir   Christ, have mercy upon us.
Cantor  Lord, have mercy upon us.
Choir   Our Father, which art in heaven,
         hallowed be thy Name,
         thy kingdom come,
         thy will be done,
         in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
    as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
    but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Cantor  O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Choir   And grant us thy salvation.
Cantor  O Lord, save the State.
Choir   And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Cantor  Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
Choir   And make thy chosen people joyful.
Cantor  O Lord, save thy people.
Choir   And bless thine inheritance.
Cantor  Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir   Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Cantor  O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir   And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS  “Amen” is sung by the Choir.

Of the day
Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

For Church Musicians and Artists
O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with thy servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by thy people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of thy beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled forevermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For the Human Family
O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
The people are seated.

A GREETING

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton, Rector

ANTHEM

O how amiable are thy dwellings
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
Text from Psalms 84 and 90

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house.
They will be alway praising thee.
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handiwork.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

The people stand and say together:

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Cantor or Officiant

Let us bless the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

The people sing, together with the choir:
**HYMN 24**

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended

**ST. CLEMENT**

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**CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY**

Alleluyas

Simon Preston (b. 1938)

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*The people may be seated once the procession has exited the Nave.*

*Please remain quiet out of respect for those who wish to listen to the Voluntary.*

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**Participants**

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton, **Officiant**
Paul Shaker, **Crucifer and Layreader**
Claudia Ayer, **Cantor**
Scott Lamlein, **Choirmaster and Organist**
Jacob Street, **Choirmaster and Organist**

Choristers from:
St. Alban’s Episcopal Church, Simsbury
St. Bridgid Church, West Hartford
St. John’s Episcopal Church, West Hartford
South Church, East Hartford
South Church, New Britain
Music at the Red Door is the music series at St. John’s Episcopal Church, West Hartford, enriching the community with high-quality musical performances. The series has established St. John’s as a destination for those seeking musical refreshment and excellence. It features a wide range of guest artists and professional performance groups, and draws on the existing strengths of our choirs, world-class Austin organ, and welcoming and inspiring space. Concerts are open and accessible to all, with no admission charge, although donations are always welcome. We hope to see you at the Red Door often!

**Major Events**

**St. John’s Community Block Party**
Local bands, food, and fun
**September 15, 2019, noon-3pm**

**Pipescreams**
Local organists, scary costumes, fun
**Friday, October 25, 2019, 7pm**

**Silent Film: The King of Kings** *(1927)*
Cecil B. DeMille film with piano by Patrick Miller
**Saturday, November 16, 2019, 7pm**

**Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols**
The St. John’s Youth and Adult Choirs
**Sunday, December 15, 2019, 3pm**

**Simon Johnson, organist**
From St. Paul’s Cathedral, London
Co-sponsored by Hartford Guild of Organists
**Friday, February 21, 2020, 7:30pm**

**Choral Music and Jazz at the Red Door**
St. John’s Choirs with the Nat Reeves Trio
**Saturday, March 7, 2020, 7:30pm** (snow date 3/14)

**Leonid Sigal and Friends**
Chamber Music Concert
**Friday, April 24, 2020, 7:30pm**

**Additional Events**

**New World Trio**
Ensemble-in-Residence at the Red Door
**Sunday, October 20, 2019, 2pm**
**Sunday, January 12, 2020, 2pm**
**Sunday, March 29, 2020, 2pm**

**Pipes Alive!**
Half-hour organ recitals
**First Sundays at 12:30pm**
January 5 – Scott Lamlein
February 2 – Cheryl Wadsworth
March 1 – Grant Wareham
April 5 – Zachary Schurman
May 3 – Michelle Horsley
June 7 – Benjamin Straley

**Choral Evensong**
The St. John’s Choirs, Schola, and visiting choirs
**Fourth Sundays of select months, 5pm**
**September 22 – Regional Choristers**
**October 27 – St. John’s Youth and Adult Choirs**
**January 26 – Choirs of Trinity Church, Hartford**
**February 23 – Voices of Cincinnati**
**March 22 – St. John’s Schola**
**April 26 – Youth Choirs of St. John’s and others**

**Community Music Camp**
**June 22-26, 2020**


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