

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



Second Sunday of Advent

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

December 8, 2019

10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

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 racks. 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.

This week's scripture readings: Prepare for the coming of God

It is the second Sunday of Advent and we meet John the Baptist, Jesus's cousin, who prophesies the coming of the Messiah in his own unique way. With all the fire and brimstone he can muster, John tells us to prepare ourselves for the dawn of a new age, when the Son of Man breaks into our lives and into history. He urgently calls us to repent — a word that carries all sorts of negative connotations that are often misleading or mistaken. "Repent" simply means to turn around; to turn away from all the things that keep us from knowing God. The ancient prophet, Isaiah, echoes this anticipation of a new age as he urges us to watch for the coming of a new leader who will bring the peaceable kingdom of God to earth where even the wolf shall lay down with the lamb. These are all signs that God's dream for the world has yet to be realized, and it is something we wait for with anticipation and great hope in these remaining weeks of Advent.

Cover image by Eden Baker.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY Savior of the nations, come Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

THE ADVENT RESPONSORY Michael McCarthy (b. 1966)
Sung by the choir. Text: Matin responsory for Advent I

I look from afar: and lo, I see the Power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel? High and low, rich and poor, one with another, Go ye out to meet him and say: Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, tell us, art thou he that should come? Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 56, vv. 1, 2, 6–8 O come, O come, Emmanuel VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL
All stand and sing.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Mariana Evica, Dan Traut & Emma Evica**Reader #1* We light this candle as a symbol of the purity of heart only God can bring.*Reader #2* For he shall purify his people like gold and silver, until they shine forth his righteousness.*All* **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Cantor, then all: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. *Cantor, then all:* Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Cantor, then all: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Translation: *Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**Music: Litany of the Saints, adapted by Richard Proulx, ©1991, GIA Publications, Inc.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.*People* **And also with you.***Celebrant* Let us pray. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; 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

*Isaiah 11:1–10**All sit.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf

shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19

*The people say the responses in **bold** and sing the Antiphon as indicated.*

By God's gift shall justice and peace flourish

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen.

Antiphon

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4–13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 597 O day of peace that dimly shines

JERUSALEM

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1–12

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children are invited to go to the Education Wing for Children’s Chapel, and will return at the Peace.

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.

As we prepare the way of the Lord, let us offer prayers to God, saying *Come, Lord Jesus, come.*

For all members of the global church, that they may make God known to the whole world through Christ's loving sacrifice. Comfort your people, O Lord. **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

For those who govern our nation and the nations of the world, that they may show Christlike love and mercy to those whom they govern and to those with whom they disagree. Comfort your people, O Lord. **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

For those living under the threat of violence, persecution, and economic turmoil, that they may experience the justice that is God's love in action. Comfort your people, O Lord. **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

For this community, that we may bring Christ's reconciling and redeeming work into the world in our time. Comfort your people, O Lord. **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

For those who are hungry, sick, imprisoned, or alone, that they may experience God's love through us, the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list. Comfort your people, O Lord. **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

For those who have died, especially Dorothy Nelson and Mary Smith, and those who mourn, that the departed may rest in God's perfect peace and that those who mourn may be upheld and supported in their grief. Comfort your people, O Lord. **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

Celebrant O Root of Jesse, who rises as a sign among all peoples, in whose presence rulers stand silent and nations bow in worship, come and deliver us without delay. Glory to you 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

During the Offertory, children are invited to bring donated food and winter accessories up to the chancel steps.

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM A Hymn to the Virgin

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Of one who is so fair and bright
Velut maris stella, (Like a star of the sea)
 Brighter than the day is light,
Parens et puella: (Both mother and maiden)
 I cry to thee, thou see to me,
 Lady, pray thy Son for me,
Tam pia, (so pure)
 That I may come to thee.
Maria! (Mary) All this world was forlorn,
Eva peccatrice, (because of Eve, a sinner)
 Till our Lord was yborn,
De te genetrice. (through you, his mother)
 With ave it went away,
 Darkest night, and comes the day
Salutis; (of salvation)
 The well springeth out of thee.
Virtutis. (of virtue)

Lady, flower of everything,
Rosa sine spina, (Rose without thorn)
 Thou bare Jesu, heaven's king,
Gratia divina: (by divine grace)
 Of all thou bearest the prize,
 Lady, queen of paradise
Electa: (chosen)
 Maid mild, mother
es effecta. (you are made)

A Hymn to the Virgin is the earliest surviving piece of church music written by Britten. It is an astonishing work of subtlety and maturity written when Britten was only 16 years old. There is a sense of innocence and endearing simplicity that adds mystery to the spiritual drama. The choir is split into two groups who respond antiphonally, each taking off from where the other finished. The simple harmony is clear and bright, moving effortlessly. The use of the macaronic form is interesting, with choir I singing in English and choir II in Latin. The choice of medieval text helps add to the sense of restrained timelessness that A Hymn to the Virgin exhibits.

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. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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

Cantor, then all:




Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.

Cantor:



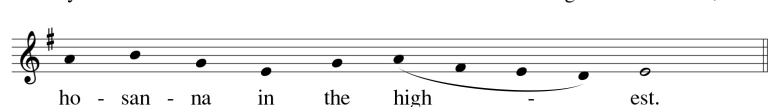
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

All:



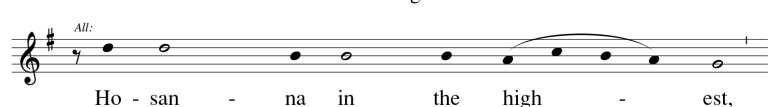
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Cantor:



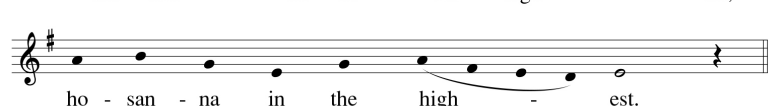
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

All:



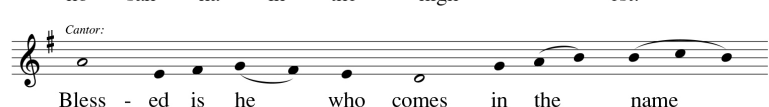
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Cantor:



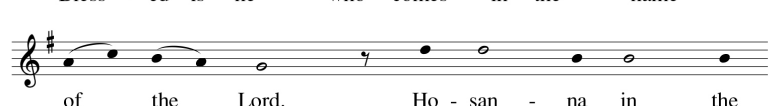
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

All:



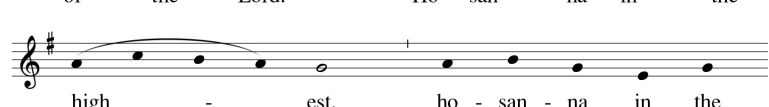
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Cantor:



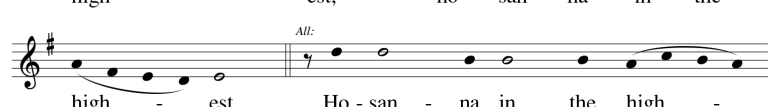
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

All:



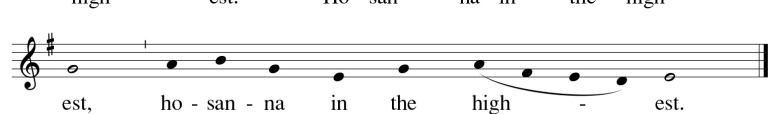
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

All:



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

All:



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

All remain standing or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

All **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.

Cantor

1. Je - sus, wis - dom and might - y Lord:
2. Je - sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree: you take a - way the sins of the world,
3. De - sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el:

1.2. *All* have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us. 3. *All* grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: Missa Emmanuel, Richard Proulx, ©1991, GIA Publications, Inc..

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 baptismal font in the back of the church after receiving Communion.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM There is no rose

Philip Stopford (b. 1977)
Text: Anonymous, 14th century

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu;
Alleluia.

For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space;
Res miranda. (Thing of wonder)

By that rose we may well see
There be one God in persons three,
Pares forma. (Equal in form)

The angels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis deo: (Glory to God in the highest)
Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice)

Leave we all this worldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth;
Transeamus. (Let us follow)

Philip Stopford is a contemporary English composer who began his career as a youth chorister at Westminster Abbey, singing under Simon Preston and Martin Neary. His music is equally popular with American choirs as with English ones, due to his accessible yet thought-provoking compositional style. Our Youth Choir (along with the choir of St. James's Church and the Trinity College Chapel Singers) premiered Stopford's Psalm 150 at the Albert Schweitzer Organ Festival in October 2017.

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 616 Hail to the Lord's anointed ES FLOG KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Fantasy on *Veni Emmanuel* Wilbur Held (1914–2015)

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 Hope Eakins

Preacher: The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

Assisting: The Reverend Margie Baker

Deacon: The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreader: Paul Shaker

Psalterer: Sofia Jones

The St. John's Youth & Adult Choirs

Organist/Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein

Organ Scholar: Ted Babbitt

Acolytes: Meg Babbitt, Morgan Babbitt, Aviyah Lohr, Bradley Crocker

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

Healing Prayers: Wes Winterbottom

Altar Guild: Bess Amamoo, Rosa Guzzo, June Aziz

Nursery Caregivers: Kiley Murphy and Olivia Thaxton

At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center

Layreader: Jeff Verney

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.

Hymns used by permission of OneLicense, No. A-724992. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Psalm Antiphon from A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition ©2007 Carl P. Daw, Jr., and Kevin R. Hackett. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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	Mary Smith
Kim Green	Meg	Beth	Karen Licht
Janet Ray	Edward Shaker	Chris	Ann Marie
Susan Murray	Edith Connolly	Mary Stoughton	Daphne Lynch Fifield
Brad Babbitt	Linda Evans	Blanca Rodriguez	Paul
Michael Bruce	Sally	David Agahigian	Ellie Brown
Amy Jones	Billy Ulrich	Daniel Flyntz	Graham

Saint Sauveur School & the people of Les Cayes, Haiti

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

David Hrdlicka	Ellen O'Brien	Mariana Evica
Anne Harney	Edward Nelson	Vincent Williams
Virginia Van Dyk	Bowie Thomas	Cameron Fulton
Marshall Barnes	Melody Blanchard	Elisabeth Russell
Lyn Walker	Emily Russell	Claire Hart
Edward Hohl	Sarah Thaxton	Elsa Ciscel

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Joel and Teresa Lohr

Those who have died:

Dorothy Nelson and Mary Smith

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the work of the Mothers' Union throughout the world.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Christ Church, Bethany; St. Thomas', Bethel; Christ Church, Bethlehem; Old St. Andrew's, Bloomfield; ministries to the homeless; parishes that offer a temporary or permanent shelter; Chapel on the Green, New Haven; Church by the Pond, Hartford; all Ecclesia ministries; and the ministry of the Midnight Runs.

Christmas Flower Memorials

<p>Flower offering envelopes are available in the pews for those who wish to contribute toward Christmas poinsettias in honor or memory of a loved one. Please place a contribution in any amount in the envelope, and clearly print the name(s) of your loved one(s) on the envelopes. You may also email names to Ellen in the parish office and mail in or drop off your contribution. Names will be listed in the bulletins for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Flower memorial names must be received in the parish office by Monday, December 23.</p>
--

HAPPENING TODAY

Intergenerational Faith Forum: The Story of St. Nicholas, 9:30 a.m.

Come learn about the real St. Nick with an illustrated presentation for all ages by Bill Eakins. We'll also have cookies to decorate and a special visitor...Everyone is welcome!

Coffee hour after the 10:30 service

Join us in Hubbard Hall after the 10:30 service for coffee, snacks, and a chance to meet someone new. Thank you to the Eikel family for hosting today!

WeHa Youth Group at St. John's, 5 to 7 p.m.

The WeHa Youth Group brings together 5th through 12th graders (or equivalent) from St. John's, Westminster Presbyterian, and First Church of Christ Congregational for monthly fellowship and service. This month, St. John's is hosting the group for dinner, and they will also make blankets, scarves and first aid kits for people in need in our community. Bring a friend (and \$5 to help cover dinner)!

Save the Date

St. John's EYC (Episcopal Youth Community), Sundays from 5 to 7 p.m.

The EYC calendar for the next few weeks is as follows. Dinner is provided. **Adult assistance is needed! If you are an adult who can help provide supervision or dinner, contact Margie at margie@sjparish.net.**

- December 8 – WeHa Youth Group hosted by St. John's, making items for those who are in need
- December 15 – No EYC, but all are encouraged to attend the Festival of Lessons & Carols at 3 p.m.
- December 22 – Cupcake Wars!

Women Together fellowship and study group, Tuesdays, December 10 & 17, 2 p.m.

George MacDonald's novel, *The Princess and the Goblin*, will be the featured book for Women Together's gatherings on December 10 and 17. It was chosen because of the way it explores themes of Celtic Christian spirituality. Women Together, which brings together women from several Greater Hartford Episcopal churches, meets from 2 to 3:15 p.m. in the Reception Room at St. John's, and all are welcome. For more information, please contact Sarah Kieffer at kieffer2468@gmail.com.

Advent Quiet Day for women at Christ Church Cathedral, Saturday, December 14, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Hartford Chapter of the Companions of the Holy Cross invite all women from local parishes to their Advent Quiet Day. Charlotte LaForest, assistant rector at St. James's, West Hartford, will lead participants in a creative exercise of mapping their spiritual journeys to recognize the presence of God in times of joy, times of struggle, and everything else in between. Please bring a bag lunch; coffee and beverages will be provided. Parking will be across Church Street in The Hartford Stage parking garage. To sign up, please contact Kate Smith at kate48smith@comcast.net or 860-519-1591 by December 12.

Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 15, 3 p.m.

A favorite tradition and a wonderful way to find peace in a busy season, the annual Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols tells the story of God's redeeming work through scripture and song. Child care will be provided. Mark your calendar, and invite a friend.

Sacred Circle, Tuesday, December 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. Our meeting this month will be on Tuesday, December 17 at 7 p.m. in the church. All women are welcome. For more information, call Beth Rocco at (860) 521-5433.

Margie Baker's ordination to the priesthood, Saturday, January 4 at 2 p.m.

All are welcome to participate in this wonderful day in Margie's life and the life of our parish. Following the service of ordination with the bishops of Connecticut and North Carolina, we will have a potluck reception in Margie's honor; we'll share a reception sign-up in another week or two. Everyone is invited to come celebrate!

Thank you to all who have pledged their support to St. John's for 2020.

This list includes pledges received as of Thursday, December 5, and will be updated weekly.

The names of *new pledgers* are in italics.



Bess & John Amamoo, June & Emhart Aziz, Janet & Brad Babbitt, Mary & Bob Bainbridge, *Beverley Baker*, *Margie & Jenn Baker*, Eleanor & Jack Barnes, Wendy & Richard Bartlett, Marian & David Beers, Mike Biondi & Ginny Kemp, Shirley Blean, *Carlos & Allison Branco*, Lissie & Lynn Brooks, Kim & Chris Byrd, Francine & Stephan Christiansen, Alina & Matt Ciscel, Annabel & Elijah Clapp, Susan & Brian Clemow, *Kate Coley*, Edith & Bob Connolly, Michele & Halsey Cook, Helen Cooke, Trig & Sam Cooley, Steve Crocker & Rosa Guzzo, *Conny DeLuca*, *Jyothsna & Carlos Diaz*, Pamela Dimock, Martin Dodd, Susan & James Donaldson, Hope & Bill Eakins, Kate & Robert Eikel, Karan & Geoff Emerick, Britt Emerick, Carole & Tony Erdman, *Jennifer & Jim Evans*, Mariana Evica & Dan Traut, Martha Fine, Linda & John Fiske, *Jessica & Paul Fletcher*, Ben & Ellen Flynn, Danielle Foint, Giselle & Edwin Genece, Carolyn & Stanley Giliberto, Ginger & Colin Gillespie, Timothy Goetz, Heidi & Jeff Gostyla, David Grimaldi, Ann Hanlon, Bette-Jane Hardersen, Anne Harney, Jane Harris, Susie & Ross Hatch, Anne & Randall Hayes, Patricia & Ronald Hensley, Priscilla Hexter, Ann Hutchinson, Tita & Douglas Hyland, Buffy & John Ineson, Dianne Jones, *Carla Abdo-Katsipis & Jacob Katsipis*, Sarah Kieffer, Betty Knorr, Ann & Richard Krissinger, Mary Beth & Scott Lamlein, Cindy & Jim Lawler, Barbara & Albert Lennox, Karen Licht, Wendy & Thomas Lincoln, Teresa & Joel Lohr, *Leah & Luis Lorenzo*, Lisa & Mike Mahoney, Tina & David McCary, Jacqueline McCauley, Patrick Miller, Jean Mitchell, Marie-Jose Montas, Marnie & Bob Mueller, Leah & Stewart Murchie, Elizabeth & Alex Nelson, Ann & Samuel Newbury, John Nowacki & Don Polk, Julia & Jim O'Brien, Harriet Odlum, Nancy Pedersen, Agnes & Billy Peelle, *Maribelle Pellen*, Susan Pinkerton, Joy Pond, Ginny & Mark Proft, Jillian & Michael Puzzo, *Robin Resin*, Hal Rives & Marki Ware, Laura & John Roche, Barbara & Pieter Roos, Nina & Duccio Rosselli Del Turco, Mary Russell, Judy Schaffer, Paul Shaker & Cleveland Williams, Jim Sharp, Nancy & Bob Skeeel, Mary & Spencer Sloan, Jackie & Paul Smith, Carol & Charles Sonne, Flora Speer, *Reid Sterrett*, Mary Stoughton, Dale & Christoph Stretz, Pat Struglia, *John Swift & Lauren Mascolo*, *Sera & Abraham Thomas*, Calvert Thomas, Margaret Thomas, Pat & Alex Vance, Pam & Jeff Verney, Audrey Walker, Lyn Walker & Tyler Smith, Anne & John Walsh, Joan Warner, *Jackie & Michael Wells*, Martin Wheeler & Deborah Ferrari, Brooke & Ted Whittemore, John Wilcox & Virginia Van Dyk, Janet Willard, Maggie & Sherwood Willard, *Akilah Williams*, Jeanne & Dennis Winkleblack, Wes Winterbottom, Anita Winters

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