

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II & BAPTISM OF
Noah Vincent Sege and Crew Robert Trahan

February 16, 2020

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. Nursery care for young children is available in the Education Wing, and children are also welcome to stay in the service with their families.

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 scriptures: Making sense of a difficult gospel reading

Today's gospel reading from Matthew is a strong reminder that we are created by a God that cares about relationships – our relationships matter to God. God is deeply and passionately concerned about how we live our lives, how we treat each other and ourselves. The choices we make in life, both small and large, are a direct reflection about how much we love and value each other, friend, foe or stranger. They also reveal our true relationship with the one true living God, good, bad or indifferent. As the cliché goes, "actions speak louder than words."

In this portion of the Sermon on the Mount Jesus broadens God's commandments to include the intent behind our actions – where our heart truly is in relationship to others and to God. Jesus uses hyperbole of violent acts such as cutting out an eye or being thrown into the flames of hell to emphasize that it is the intent behind our actions that God is most concerned about. What is on our hearts matters most to God because God intends for us to have life and to live it abundantly. We know that as parents we teach our children rules to keep them safe and how best to treat others and themselves so that they can flourish and have a full and productive life. God wants this for us. It is through being in right relationship with God and each other that we are most alive, with the assurance that when we fail, and we will from time to time, we are met with God's love and forgiveness even before we ask. Why? Because God delights in us. You and I are God's beloved.

Cover image by Ladislav Zaborsky (1921–2016).



THE VOLUNTARY Aria

Flor Peeters (1903–1986)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 474 When I survey the wondrous cross
All stand and sing.

ROCKINGHAM

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People **One God and Father of all.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

All sit.

Moses said, "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 119:1–8

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

Hap - py are — they who — walk — in the law — of the LORD.

1 Happy are they whose way is blameless, *
who walk in the law of the Lord!

2 **Happy are they who observe his decrees ***
and seek him with all their hearts!

3 Who never do any wrong, *
but always walk in his ways.

- 4 **You laid down your commandments, ***
that we should fully keep them.
- 5 Oh, that my ways were made so direct *
that I might keep your statutes!
- 6 **Then I should not be put to shame, ***
when I regard all your commandments.
- 7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, *
when I have learned your righteous judgments.
- 8 **I will keep your statutes; ***
do not utterly forsake me.

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 3:1–9

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 674 Forgive our sins as we forgive
All stand and sing.

DETROIT

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:21–37

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it

away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children are invited to go to Children's Chapel, and will return at the Peace.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

All sit.

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

The Priest says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents I present Noah Vincent Sege to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
I present Crew Robert Trahan to receive the Sacrament of Baptism

Priest Will you be responsible for seeing that he is
being brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Priest Will you by your prayers and witness help him to grow into
the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Then the Priest asks the following questions of the parents and godparents, who speak on behalf of the child.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of
God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Priest addresses the Congregation saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Noah and Crew in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Priest Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

All stand.

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Priest Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Priest Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Priest Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you persevere in resisting evil, and whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE

Leader Let us now pray for Noah and Crew who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth. Deliver them O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Priest Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Priest continues

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The Priest says to the candidate

Noah Vincent/Crew Robert, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the child's head, marking on his forehead the sign of the cross and saying
 You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.

All **Amen.**

Priest Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

All **Amen.**

Priest Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

THE BAPTISM HYMN Child of blessing, child of promise

STUTT GART

1 Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap - tized with the Spir-it's sign;
 2 Child of love, our love's ex - pres-sion, love's cre - a - tion, loved in - deed!
 3 Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you are, from God you came.
 4 Child of God your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.

With this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
 Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
 Back to God we hum - bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
 Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

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 forward donated food and items for our Blessing Bags.

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace Samuel S. Wesley (1810–1876)

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.
 The darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day.
 The darkness and the light to thee are both alike.
 God is light and in him is no darkness at all.
 O let my soul live and it shall praise thee.
 For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for evermore.
 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.

Samuel Sebastian Wesley seemed destined for the life of a church musician, as his middle name was taken from Johann Sebastian Bach. He did not disappoint: In a time when English church music had become less than satisfactory, Wesley was largely responsible for raising this standard through his own work as a composer and organist. In all his music, Wesley strived for an expressive and accessible sound, as evidenced in this anthem. The exquisite Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace remains one of the most-loved anthems in the repertoire.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. 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, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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: from Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

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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. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,**

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power,

and the glory

for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Music: from Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

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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 MOTET Tantum ergo

Déodat de Séverac (1872–1921)
Words: St. Thomas Aquinas, c. 1264

*Tantum ergo Sacramentum veneremur cernui:
Et antiquum documentum novo cedit ritui:
Præstet fides supplementum sensuum defectui.*

*Genitori, Genitoque laus et jubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque sit et benedictio:
Procedenti ab utroque compar sit laudatio. Amen.*

Down in adoration falling, Lo! the sacred Host we hail,
 Lo! o'er ancient forms departing newer rites of grace prevail;
 Faith for all defects supplying, where the feeble senses fail.

To the Everlasting Father, and the Son Who reigns on high
 With the Holy Ghost proceeding forth from Each eternally,
 Be salvation, honour, blessing, might, and endless majesty. Amen.

Deodat de Severac descended from a noble family in the former French province of Languedoc. His music is greatly influenced by the musical traditions of the region. He moved to Paris and studied piano with Vincent d'Indy, organ with Alexander Guilmant, and worked as an assistant to the composer Isaac Albéniz. He is known for his choral music, which includes settings of texts in his native Occitan language. His solo piano compositions have won critical acclaim.

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 344 Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Voluntary on *Sicilian Mariners*, 2018

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

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:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Preacher:** The Reverend Susan Pinkerton**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney**Layreader:** John Hardy**Psalterer:** Helen Douglas**The St. John's Adult Choir****Organist and Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Organ Scholar:** Ted Babbitt**Ushers:** John Amamoo, Bette-Jane Hardersen, Shirley Blean, Sarah Kieffer, Philip Chapman**Acolytes:** Claire O'Brien, James Baker, Genella Evans, Elsa Ciscel**Altar Guild:** June Aziz, Buffy Ineson, Audrey Walker**Healing Prayers:** Karen Licht**Sunday School Teachers:** Kate Eikel, Robert Eikel, Jen Evans,

Matt Ciscel, Carla Abdo-Katsipis, Colin Gillespie

Nursery Caregivers: Kiley Murphy and Olivia Thaxton**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center:****Layreader:** Lissie Brooks**Musician:** Ray Giolitto**The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of William E. Knorr.****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 Byrd
Kim Green	Edith Connolly	Beth	Ann Marie
Janet Ray	Linda Evans	Chris	Daphne Lynch Fifield
Susan Murray	Sue	Mary Stoughton	Paul
Brad Babbitt	Jeannine	Ellie Brown	Graham
Billy Ulrich	Cait	Peter	Eliot Makan
Nicky	Jen Evans	Gwain Gillespie	Lee

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Nancy Pedersen	Logan Burke	Heidi Gostyla
Joyce Burke	Sydney Burke	Lydia Henning
Wolfie Parsons		

Those who have died:

Jane Bartlett	Meg Smith
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In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of the Province of Central Africa.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Christ's Church, Easton; Holy Trinity, Enfield; St. John's, Essex; St. Paul's, Fairfield; and for The Union of Black Episcopalians CT, and the Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation season and Ministry Network.

Save the Date

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

Upcoming EYC events are listed below. Dinner is provided, and more information will be shared about each meeting as it approaches. **Adult assistance is needed! If you are an adult who can help provide supervision or dinner, contact Margie at margie@sjparish.net.**

- February 16 – No EYC (holiday weekend/winter break)
- February 23 – Shrove Tuesday prep and Loaves & Fishes sandwich making

Sacred Circle, Tuesday, February 18, 7:30 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, February 18th at 7:30 p.m. in the church. Please come. All women are welcome. For more information, call Beth Rocco at (860) 521-5433.

Confirmation classes for youth in grades 8 to 12, February and March

Confirmation classes begin with an overnight lock-in at St. John's on **Saturday night, February 22 through Sunday morning, February 23**. Then classes will be held during the education hour (9:30 a.m.) on Sundays from February 23 through March 29. Each week, the class will look at different aspects of our baptismal vows and what it means to live them out. All youth in grades 8 to 12 are invited to join the class, even if you're not sure that you want to be confirmed (or even if you're already confirmed!). Those who wish to be confirmed may do so at the Easter Vigil at Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday evening, April 11, or wait to be confirmed when St. John's has our next bishop visitation, which will be in the first half of 2021.

Please fill out this form if you'd like to take part in Confirmation class: www.tinyurl.com/w3yoytk

Panel Discussion: Significance of the African American Church in American History

Thursday, February 20, 2020

12 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Founders Hall, Central Connecticut State University

Panelist include:

- Rev. Samuel Blanks, Senior Pastor, Spotswood AME ZION Church
- Dr. Felton O. Best, CSU Professor of Philosophy, Director of African American and Religious Studies Programs
- Rev. Maurice Porter, Senior Pastor, IMPACT Church
- Dr. Walton Brown-Foster, Professor, International Studies, Political Science, and African American Studies
- Dr. Benjamin Foster, Jr., Adjunct faculty, African American Studies and Religious studies, moderator

This event is open to the University and the public.

Celebrity Organ Concert with Simon Johnson, Friday, February 21, 7:30 p.m.

We welcome concert organist Simon Johnson to the mighty St. John's pipe organ on February 21 at 7:30 p.m. As the organist and assistant director of music at St Paul's Cathedral, he has been involved in all the national occasions that have taken place there since his appointment in 2008, including the funeral service of Baroness Thatcher, the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, and Her Majesty's 90th Birthday celebrations, for which he also arranged some of the music. The concert is free, with donations accepted. Suggested donation: \$20, with checks payable to *Music at the Red Door*. A reception will follow in Hubbard Hall.

Global Missions Task Force Discussion February 23

Are you interested in how we can share the love of Christ with others across the globe through actions of compassion and service? Join us for a discussion about Global Missions after church on February 23rd in the Reception Room. A light lunch will be provided. Our warden Geoff Emerick is heading a new Global Missions task force that will explore different opportunities for global missions as we enter into a new passage in this important ministry. As a result of the ongoing volatile political instability in Haiti, we have had to put our mission work and financial aid for Saint Sauveur School in Les Cayes on hold for the time being. Therefore, we are considering other avenues for mission overseas and we want to hear your ideas for this good and important work. Please be in touch with the office (860-523-5201), Geoff or Susan for further information, or simply join us on the 23rd.

Choral Evensong, Sunday, February 23, 5 p.m.

The February service of Choral Evensong will feature Voices of Concinnity, a 12-voice professional chamber ensemble. Evensong is an ancient service of prayer, chant and music, and a wonderful way to prepare for the week ahead. All are welcome.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Family Ash Wednesday (Eve) Service, February 25, 6 p.m.

Join us for pancakes and other breakfast goodies as a last hurrah before Lent! Suggested donation \$5/person, max \$20/family. You are invited to stay for a brief service of Ashes following the Pancake Supper. The service is tailored for children, and is a good option for those who might have trouble making it to church on Ash Wednesday. All are welcome! Want to help? Sign up at www.tinyurl.com/SJP-pancakes

Pipes Alive! organ recital and First Sunday Lunch, Sunday, March 1

On the first Sunday of the month, January through June, Music at the Red Door offers a half-hour organ recital at 12:30 p.m., preceded by the First Sunday Lunch. Our guest organist for March is Grant Wareham, who has won numerous awards and honors as one of the top young organists in the country. All are welcome to stay after the 10:30 service for lunch and a short program of wonderful music. Lunch and the recital are both free, with donations welcome.

Interfaith group tour of a church (ours!), a synagogue and a mosque, Sunday, March 15

Mark your calendars for a special interfaith tour of several local faith communities on Sunday, March 15, organized by Joel Lohr and Susan Pinkerton, along with Rabbi Michael Pincus and Aida Mansoor (our interfaith panelists for a Faith Forum back in November). We'll gather at St. John's after the 10:30 service for a light lunch, then have a tour of the church, walk to Congregation Beth Israel for a tour of the synagogue, and then carpool to the Berlin Mosque. The tour should end between 2:30 and 3 p.m.

Remember to bring nonperishable food and items for our Blessing Bags any Sunday!

During the Offertory, children of the parish bring these items forward as a symbol of offering our resources to God by sharing what we have with those in need. Nonperishable food goes to the Grace Seventh Day Adventist Food Pantry on Prospect Avenue. Needed items include pasta, rice, canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, and canned meat and fish. We are also always in need of items for the Blessing Bags we give to those in need, especially winter hats and gloves, socks, single-serve snacks, and basic toiletries.



Contribute to the 2020 St. John's Lent Devotional!

Each year, we publish a Lent devotional featuring *your* Lenten reflections. We invite parishioners (and family and friends too) to choose a particular day in Lent, reflect on the Gospel reading for that day, and produce something in response — a written reflection, a poem, a photo, a drawing. *All ages* are invited to participate. To contribute, look for the clipboards in Hubbard Hall that have a sheet of paper for each day of Lent. Choose a day, fill out the top portion of the sheet of paper for that day with your name and contact info, and take the bottom portion (which has the Gospel reading for that day and some instructions for what and how to contribute). Return your contribution to Margie Baker, in person or by e-mail, by **Wednesday, February 19**.

Help with Sunday evening youth group dinner and activities.

St. John's EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) has big plans for the winter! And we need your help, parents and friends. Most nights we need an extra adult to be present, and some nights we also need a dinner angel. This is a fun and relatively easy way to support the teenagers of St. John's. Please go to our online sign-up to choose a Sunday evening or two when you can help: <https://tinyurl.com/EYCHelpers>

Our Organ Arist-in-Residence has a new CD!

From our own Christa Rakich: Almost 2 years ago, I had the thought of recording a CD to commemorate the life of my organ teacher Yuko Hayashi. That dream coincided with a desire to record the magnificent Richards-Fowkes organ at Duke Seminary. Also, after transcribing Cécile Chaminade's Concertino for Flute and performing it many times, I wanted to include it on a CD. After 18 months of striving toward those goals, the result is finally here. I am so proud to announce the arrival of my latest CD, *A Tribute to Yuko Hayashi*. The program includes works of Bach, Mendelssohn, Johanna Senfter, James Woodman, and Carson Cooman as well as the Chaminade, with my magnificent flutist friend Wendy Rolfe. If you would like one of these, just visit www.yukohayashicd.com

FROM SAINT PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, LONDON

ORGANIST SIMON JOHNSON

MUSIC OF PARRY • WHITLOCK • VAN OORTMERSEN • VIERNE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 7:30 P.M.

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Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

SUPPER 6PM TO 7PM

ASH WEDNESDAY FOR FAMILIES 7PM

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JOIN US FOR PANCAKES
AND OTHER BREAKFAST
GOODIES AS A LAST
HURRAH BEFORE LENT.

SUGGESTED DONATION:
\$5/PERSON
MAX. \$20/FAMILY

Want to help? Sign up at
<https://tinyurl.com/SJP-pancakes>



ASH WEDNESDAY (EVE) SERVICE
7PM

You are invited to stay for a
brief service of Ashes
geared to children at 7pm
after the Pancake Supper.
All are welcome!



Evensong

rest reflect worship

Sunday
February 23, 2020
5:00 p.m.

*The Voices of Concinnity
Sarah Kaufold, director
Scott Lamlein, organ*



PIPES ALIVE!

Sunday
March 1, 2020 12:30 pm
Grant Wareham, Organist
Music of Bach, Karg-Elert, & Mendelssohn



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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

Geoff Emerick	Warden
Virginia Van Dyk	Warden
Tim Goetz and John Roche	Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar	Scribe

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

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

2020–22: June Aziz, Jyothsna Diaz, Anne Harney