

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

October 4, 2020

10:30 a.m.

THE VOLUNTARY The peace may be exchanged *from* Rubrics

Dan Locklair, 1988

THE OPENING HYMN 405, vv. 1, 2, 4 All things bright and beautiful

ROYAL OAK

All sing or read along.

Descant



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

Refrain



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

Repeat Refrain



he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky,
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Music: Royal Oak, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958), desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

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OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. 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)



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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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

*Psalms 19**The people say the words in bold.*

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 **One day tells its tale to another, ***
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 **Their sound has gone out into all lands, ***
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens**
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; ***
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 **More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, ***
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 **Who can tell how often he offends? ***
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my**
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 3:4b–14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard

everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33–46

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

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

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes?'

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Margie Baker

THE NICENE CREED

**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

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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Nicky Dhaliwal, James Donaldson and Linda Fiske, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Officiant Lord, make us instruments of your peace: where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **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.**

THE WELCOME

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE ANTHEM Silent, Surrendered

Margaret Rizza (b. 1929)

Words: Pamela Hayes and Margaret Rizza

Sung by the Adult Choir

Rich Barstow, soloist; Britt Emerick, viola; Ted Babbitt, organ

Silent, surrendered, calm and still, open to the word of God.

Heart humbled to his will, offered is the servant of God.

Come, Holy Spirit, bring us light, teach us, heal us, give us life.

Come, Lord, O let our hearts flow with love and all that is true.



Born in 1929, Margaret Rizza only began to compose in 1997. Since then she has become a major personality in the world of sacred choral music, with substantial sales of both her printed and recorded music, which includes chart-topping Taizé chants. All of this followed an illustrious career as an opera singer spanning 25 years, under the name Margaret Lensky, when she worked with conductors such as Britten, Stravinsky and Bernstein.

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.**

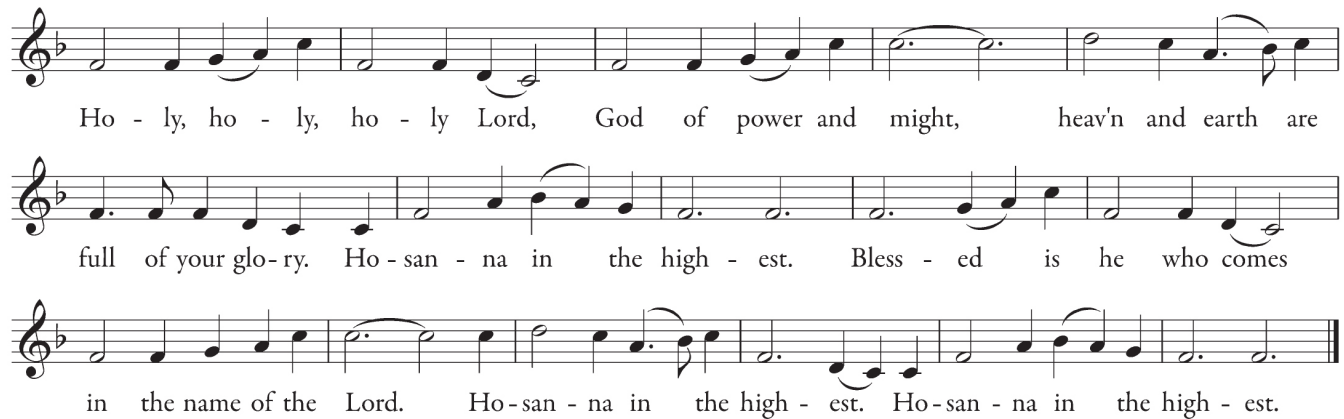
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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)

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 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 POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Gracious and Risen Lord, we desire to offer you our praise and thanksgiving. We believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament and we love you above all things. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we desire to receive you into our souls. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

People 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 this gathering of the community he formed. 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 400, vv. 1, 2, 7 All creatures of our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All read or sing along.



- 1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
 *2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -
 *3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to
 4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our
 5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your
 *6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal
 7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



- 1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
 2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing
 3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -
 4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and
 5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that
 6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back
 7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



- 1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
 2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,
 3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,
 4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:
 5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:
 6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:
 7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

Refrain



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: St. Francis of Assisi (1882-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt.

Music: Lasst uns erfreuen, melody from Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 123; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

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THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Toccata on Great Day

Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)



Adolphus Hailstork is an American composer and educator. He grew up in Albany, New York, where he studied violin, piano, organ, and voice. As a child, he joined the choir of the Episcopal cathedral. From this experience, he developed an interest in vocal melodic writing that asserts itself in his choral works and art songs. Hailstork is of African-American ancestry and his works blend musical ideas from both the African-American and European traditions.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Organist: Scott Lamlein

Cantors: Sofia Jones and Erica Maas Shippee

Livestream Oversight: Francis Lamlein

Altar Guild: Buffy Ineson

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The concluding collect for the Prayers of the People is a prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day we celebrate today.

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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	Whitney Lynch
Kim Green	Edith Connolly	Beth	Lee
Janet Ray	Sue	Chris	Patricia
Susan Murray	Gwain Gillespie	Ellie Brown	Seamus
Brad Babbitt	Maureen Carrol	Billy Ulrich	Deedy
Barbara	Robert E. Eikel	Lowenstein Family	Beverly
Dhaliwal Family	Moghadam Family	Jonah Dahlstrom	Samira Rihani

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Joan Warner	Jeff Gostyla	Susan Murphy Thaxton
Katie Cech	Anna Cook	Janet Babbitt
Ford Gillespie	Andrew Alemany	Barbara Abbott
Natalie Puzzo	Fraz Lugay	John Nowacki
Douglas Hyland	Bob Connolly	

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Jenn and Margie Baker
 Stephanie and Scott Donofrio
 Laura and John Roche

Those who have died:

Nicky Singh Dhaliwal
 James Oswald Donaldson, III
 Linda W. Fiske

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Christ Church, Trumbull; Grace Church, Trumbull; Trinity, Trumbull; and for all companions and service animals, all livestock and all wild animals, great and small.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Anglican Church of Tanzania.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Go to our web site at www.sjparish.com for details and links.

Sunday School (elementary through middle school), 9:30 a.m. Sundays on Zoom

Sunday morning livestream service, 10:30 a.m. on YouTube, Facebook and the web site

Sunday evening outdoor service, 5 p.m. on the West Lawn

Masks are required and we will observe socially distanced seating. Please bring your own lawn chairs or blanket to sit on.

Online Noonday Prayer, Monday through Friday at 12 p.m. on Zoom

Online Bible Study, Mondays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Online Morning Prayer, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 a.m. on Zoom

Family Happy Hour, Tuesdays at 5 p.m. on Zoom

Important scheduling notes:

We are tentatively planning to resume indoor 8 a.m. Sunday services, starting on Sunday, October 18. This plan is, of course, contingent on the pandemic continuing to be well-controlled in our area. It will be a spoken service of Holy Eucharist ("spiritual Eucharist" with no elements for now). The Re-entry Task Force has mapped out seating, entrance/exit routes, and cleaning practices to maximize safety, and we will monitor the public health situation before making a final decision about resuming indoor services.

The Sunday afternoon outdoor services will continue through Sunday, November 1 (All Saints Day). The outdoor service will continue to be at 5 p.m. except for the final service on November 1, which will be at 2 p.m. to accommodate colder temps and waning daylight.

The Cloister Garden and office entrance are currently blocked off due to a project to improve our drainage systems so that the basement will no longer flood in heavy rain. The project will take 3-4 weeks, and we may need to block off the front driveway at some point as well. All mail, packages and other deliveries will be diverted to the back ramped entrance. The office is not currently open for drop-in visitors, but anyone with an appointment to meet with clergy or staff at the church should go to the back entrance.

The Feast of St. Francis TODAY: Afternoon hike and virtual Blessing of the Animals

We will honor St. Francis's connection to the natural world with two special events today. Our fall hike will begin at 1 p.m. at the parking area/trailhead for Heublein Tower. Everyone is welcome! This evening, at the 5 p.m. outdoor service, we will have a virtual Blessing of the Animals. You're welcome to bring a photo of your pet(s), past or present, or a favorite toy pet. We regret that we are unable to host your pets themselves this year!

How to raise anti-racist children: Online discussion group, first Tuesdays at 9 p.m., starting October 6

Starting October 6 at 9 p.m. on Zoom, St. John's will be hosting a monthly parenting discussion group on raising anti-racist children. Each month, we will have a short preparation assignment, such as a podcast or a documentary. We will gather at 9 p.m. in Zoom (after the children are asleep) and talk for an hour or less. The hope of this group is that we will learn together, practice what we have learned in our families and schools, and then do it all again the next month. This group is for any parent seeking tools and mutual support for raising anti-racist children, so please spread the word among your friends and neighbors. Contact Margie for more information.

Garden work day, Saturday, October 10, 9 a.m. to noon

Our community garden is winding down, and we need your help to “put it to bed” for the season. We have one more garden work days scheduled for next Saturday, October 10, from 9 a.m. to noon.

- No sign-ups needed — Please just show up!
- Wear a mask and work gloves.
- Come for as long as you can, even if it’s just 30 minutes.
- Kids are welcome! Those under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Bring garden tools if you have them - shovel, rake, shears, etc.

Music at the Red Door: Boyd Meets Girl livestreamed concert, Friday, October 16 at 7:30 p.m.

We are delighted to provide a full program of Music at the Red Door concerts for 2020–2021, starting with the guitar/cello duo Boyd Meets Girl on October 16 at 7:30 p.m. This concert and all other Music at the Red Door events for the coming year will be livestreamed at reddoormusic.org (we will invite audiences back when the public health situation allows). Boyd Meets Girl pairs Australian classical guitarist Rupert Boyd with American cellist Laura Metcalf, who grew up attending St. John’s. The duo performs an eclectic and engaging range of repertoire, from the baroque through modern day, including many of their own arrangements. This online concert is free of charge, with a suggested \$20 donation. Check donations (payable to Music at the Red Door) may be mailed to St. John’s, or you may donate online via our web site at <https://sjparish.net/resources-giving/> (select Music at the Red Door from the pull-down menu).

Loaves & Fishes cooking event, Sunday, October 18 at 3 p.m.

For more than 30 years, St. John’s has collaborated with Loaves and Fishes Ministries in Hartford by cooking and serving hot meals monthly for about 150 homeless and indigent families. Our tradition has been to have one group cook the meal on the third weekend of the month, and another group serve the meal the following Wednesday. Due to Covid-19, Loaves and Fishes now needs our help cooking to-go meals that they can give out to about 80 clients at lunchtime three days a week. We are looking for five or six individuals or families to each cook an American Chop Suey casserole for 12 to 15 people during a one-hour Zoom event. The first of these virtual cooking sessions will occur on Sunday, October 18 at 3 p.m. While volunteers will cook in your own homes, we’ll connect with each other on Zoom while we cook. This should be great fun—the recipe and instructions will be provided, the craziest apron will win a prize, and, as usual, there will be lots of camaraderie!! You can drop your completed casserole off at church or we can pick it up from your house. We can provide disposable foil pans if needed. Please participate by calling or emailing Lissie Brooks at 860-205-1829 or lissiebrooks@gmail.com.

Christmas Festival, Saturday, December 5

The annual Christmas Festival on the first Saturday of December is a beloved St. John’s tradition, and an important annual fundraiser. As long as the public health situation remains stable in our area, we plan to have a modified festival on Saturday, December 5. We have many details to work out, but it will most likely feature a combination of outdoor and online sales of our most popular Christmas Festival items, such as wreaths and theme baskets. If you would like to help with planning, or if you have chaired a Christmas Festival area in the past and would be willing to do so again, please contact Ellen in the office. **Please note:** In an effort to streamline the festival and ensure safety, we will not be selling Attic Treasures, books, or art/antiques. **We are therefore unable to accept donations of books, household goods, toys, furniture, etc.** However, if you have a high-value item to donate that could work well for an online auction, we may consider it. Please contact us to discuss.

Sacred Ground dialogue series on race, dates and times TBD

St. John’s will be offering an Episcopal Church program called *Sacred Ground* later this fall, in partnership with St. James’s. *Sacred Ground* is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through America’s history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European-American histories. Parishioners will serve as group facilitators, and meetings will be online due to the pandemic. Learn more about the curriculum at <https://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground>.

STEWARDSHIP NOTES: WHERE DOES YOUR PLEDGE MONEY GO?

St. John's is a vibrant, active parish family that supports each one of us in so many ways, and also has a range of ministries to support our local community and beyond.

Your annual pledge goes so far in helping us fulfill our mission. Here are some numbers that illustrate how St. John's ministries support our parish and community. (Note that the statistics related to on-site and in-person ministries are pre-pandemic.)

- 104 Sunday Holy Eucharist services a year.
- 142 other worship services a year, including weekly services at Hughes Health & Rehabilitation facility, Evensong, Celtic services, weddings, funerals and other special services.
- We have 32 adults and 13 children who are members of our exceptional choir. We are blessed with weekly musical offerings as well as our renowned Music at the Red Door concert series.
- 25 young people participate regularly in our youth education and Sunday school programs.
- More than 50 parishioners are involved with adult education at St. John's, which includes Bible studies, prayer groups, Education for Ministry and other programs and events.
- Approximately 20 people, most of whom are unable to attend church, receive regular pastoral calls and visits from Susan, Margie and Walter.
- St. John's sponsors two to three biweekly ESOL classes per semester, serving scores of recent immigrants and other English learners in our community.
- We feed 150 people a month by preparing and serving meals for Loaves and Fishes.
- Seven 12-step groups and 10 other community groups regularly use our space for meetings and events. Additional groups host stand-alone or occasional events at St. John's.
- Free veggies from our community garden are given to 20 to 30 neighbors weekly during the growing season.
- Volunteer and financial support of our community partners focuses on three key areas: homelessness, hunger and literacy.
- More than 100 Blessing Bags (toiletries, snacks, warm accessories) are given out to neighbors in need each year.
- St. John's makes an annual contribution to the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) to support the church's wider mission throughout the state, the country and the world.

We are blessed to have our beautiful historic church building and amazing staff to facilitate our services and programs. Your financial support is critical to allow us to continue and expand on all that St. John's does.

Pledge cards will be sent to your home in mid-October, and we hope to receive completed pledge cards by Commitment Sunday, November 8th. You may also pledge online via our web site. (If you do not receive a pledge card by the end of October and would like one, please be sure to let the parish office know!)

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of our annual giving campaign. Any amount pledged is gratefully appreciated.

Kim Byrd and Matt Ciscel, Co-Chairs, Stewardship Committee

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

Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. (livestream video) and 5 p.m. (outdoors).
Noonday Prayer online via Zoom at 12 p.m. every weekday, except on holidays.
Morning Prayer online via Zoom at 8 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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
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

VESTRY

Geoff Emerick	Warden
Virginia Van Dyk	Warden
Tim Goetz and John Roche	Co-Treasurers

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

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

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