

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

November 15, 2020

10:30 a.m.

THE VOLUNTARY Prelude on *St. Anne*

Robert Edward Smith (b. 1946)



Robert Edward Smith has written music for vocal and instrumental ensembles of all sizes ranging from unaccompanied viola to symphony orchestra. He has been Composer in Residence at Trinity College Chapel since 1979. Also a distinguished harpsichordist, he is the first person since the eighteenth century to perform in public the complete harpsichord literature of François Couperin. His touring harpsichord was on loan to St. John's for several years.

THE OPENING HYMN 9, vv. 4, 5, 6 Awake, awake to love and work

MORNING SONG

All sing or read along.

* 1 Not here for high and ho - ly things we ren - der thanks to
 * 2 the ro - yal robes of au - tumn moors, the gold - en gates of
 * 3 of faith and hope and love un - dimmed, un - dy - ing still through
 4 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the
 5 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of
 6 to give and give, and give a - gain, what God hath giv - en

1 thee, but for the com - mon things of earth, the
 2 spring, the vel - vet of soft sum - mer nights, the
 3 death, the re - sur - rec - tion of the world, what
 4 sky, the fields are wet with dia - mond dew, the
 5 praise; see how the gi - ant sun soars up, great
 6 thee; to spend thy - self nor count the cost; to

1 pur - ple pa - gean - try of dawn - ing and of
 2 sil - ver glis - te - ring of all the mil - lion
 3 time there comes the breath of dawn that rus - tles
 4 worlds a - wake to cry their bles - sings on the
 5 lord of years and days! So let the love of
 6 serve right glo - rious - ly the God who gave all

1 dy - ing days, the splen - dor of the sea,
 2 mil - lion stars, the si - lent song they sing,
 3 through the trees, and that clear voice that saith:
 4 Lord of life, as he goes meek - ly by.
 5 Je - sus come and set thy soul a - blaze,
 6 worlds that are, and all that are to be.

Words: Geoffrey Anketel Studdert-Kennedy (1883-1929) Copyright © by permission of Hodder and Stoughton Limited.

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 GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
God the Fa-ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Judges 4:1–7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalms 123

The people say the words in bold.

- 1 To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
- 3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, *
until he show us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved,

are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14–30

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

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

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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**.*

As we rejoice in the Lord always, let us make known our requests to God, the refuge of the poor and needy.

For Michael, our presiding bishop; for Ian and Laura, our bishops; for our clergy; for this holy gathering, and for the people of God in every place. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For mercy, justice, and peace among all peoples, and for a spirit of compassion and understanding in our nation in this post-election season. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For good weather, abundant fruits of the earth, and peaceful times. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For our cities and towns and those who live in them, and for our families, companions, and all those we love. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For all those in danger and need: the sick and the suffering, prisoners, captives, and their families, the hungry, homeless, and oppressed, and especially victims of COVID-19, storms on the Gulf coast, and wildfires out west. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those who rest in Christ, especially for Richard Krissinger and Graham Brown, and for all the departed. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, and for those on our parish prayer list. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Celebrant God who wipes away every tear: Hear the prayers we offer this day in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 We shall walk through the valley

Spiritual, arr. Undine Smith Moore (1904–1989)

*Claudia Ayer, soprano; Erica Maas Shippee, alto;
Brendon Gallagher, tenor; John Nowacki, bass*

We shall walk through the valley in peace;
we shall walk through the valley in peace.

Refrain:

If Jesus himself shall be our leader,
we shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no sorrow there;
there will be no sorrow there. *Refrain*



Undine Eliza Anna Smith Moore, the “Dean of Black Women Composers,” was an American composer and professor of music in the 20th century. Moore was originally trained as a classical pianist, but developed a compositional output of mostly vocal music—her preferred genre. Much of her work was inspired by Black spirituals and folk music. Undine Smith Moore was a renowned teacher, and once stated that she experienced “teaching itself as an art.”

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven 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.

Title: The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus

Music: William Mathias (1934–1992) Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

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 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 of the world: Give us your peace.

Title: *The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei*

Music: *Gerard R. Near (b. 1942) Copyright © 1985 Aureole Editions, Dallas, Texas.*

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 680, vv. 1, 2, 3 O God, our help in ages past

ST. ANNE

All read or sing along.

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 90

Music: St. Anne, melody att. William Croft (1678-1727), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Now thank we all our God

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

arr. Virgil Fox

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Organist: Scott Lamlein

Cantor: Michael Mei

Livestream Oversight: Ray Giolitto

Altar Guild: Buffy Ineson

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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
Kim Green	Sue	Beth
Janet Ray	Billy Ulrich	Chris
Brad Babbitt	Jonah Dahlstrom	Ellie Brown
Robert E. Eikel	Whitney Lynch	Samira Rihani
Robin	William Bittinger	Peter Kieffer
Mary	Zachary	Juan
Seamus Turco	Scott Lamlein	Judy Gardiner
Kimberley		

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Bill Eakins	Erica Williams	Meadow Tweedie
Lucas Branco	Stella Spletstoesser	Margaret Smith
Bailey Proft	Matt Ciscel	Allyson Davis
Merriol Almond	Scott Donofrio	Colin Alemany

Those who have died:

Richard Krissinger
Graham Brown, brother of Wendy Lincoln

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Paul's, Windham; Grace Church, Windsor; St. James', Winsted; All Saints', Wolcott; and for ministries with older adults, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and the Daughters of the King.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of Ceylon.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Go to our web site at <http://www.sjparish.net/> for details and links.

Sunday service of spoken Eucharist, 8 a.m. in the nave

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

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

Sunday afternoon youth service projects (outdoors), 2 p.m. on November Sundays

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

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

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

Online Bible study is on hiatus for the month of November and will return in Advent.

Celtic contemplative walk, TODAY at 12:45 p.m.

November is an exquisite month to experience the subtle hues of the great outdoors. Come join us on our Celtic Community Contemplative Walk in the Simsbury woods. This very gentle walk will be mostly in silence. Occasionally, we will pause to hear a brief reading or reflection and to acknowledge our connection to sacred ground.

When: Sunday, November 15, 2020 we meet at 12:45 PM. We set off walking promptly at 1 PM and plan to return about 2 PM.

Where: Tanager Hill Preserve - Simsbury Land Trust. It is the next driveway to the north of GPS address 130 East Weatogue Street, Simsbury, CT. Park in the Tanager Hill Preserve Parking Lot of the Simsbury Land Trust. Celtic Community friends will be there to meet you. For detailed directions contact Wes Winterbottom at wesleywinterbottom@hotmail.com.

What to bring: Rain gear as forecast may indicate. Appropriate foot gear for walking on trails through the woods, paths across fields, and a modest incline at the beginning of the walk. You may also wish to bring water and insect repellent.

Who: Wes Winterbottom of our Celtic Community will lead the group.

Sacred Ground dialogue series hosted by St. John's and St. James's: Informational meeting online, TODAY, 3 p.m.

St. James's and St. John's are joining together to offer a 10-part series of small group meetings to promote dialogue toward racial healing, reconciliation and justice. Groups, facilitated by lay leaders from both churches, will meet online via Zoom two Sunday afternoons a month, 3 to 4:30 p.m., from December 2020 through May 2021. *Sacred Ground* is a program of the national Episcopal Church. There are currently more than 800 churches around the country hosting *Sacred Ground* groups. If you are interested, please attend a no-obligation virtual Zoom meeting with the lay facilitators, on Sunday, November 15 at 3 p.m., at <https://tinyurl.com/SacredGroundWH>. If you cannot attend the meeting or have other questions, please e-mail the Reverend Tim O'Leary at St. James's (assistant@stjameswh.org) or Ellen at St. John's (office@sjparish.net).

Midweek online salon recitals, Wednesdays in November, 12:15 p.m.

Our entire 2020–2021 Music at the Red Door concert series will be livestreamed online, where you can watch concerts in real time or anytime after. We will invite live audiences back when it is safe to do so, but for now, all events are online only. Every Wednesday in November at 12:15 p.m., we'll feature lunchtime recitals from local musicians in their home studios. These salon recitals were a welcome source of respite and refreshment in the first three months of the coronavirus pandemic, and we look forward to renewing this tradition for the month of November.

Christmas Festival, Saturday, December 5, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. John's beloved annual Christmas Festival fundraiser will happen this year, with some changes to ensure everyone's safety during the pandemic — and maybe become new traditions!

The festival will be held outdoors under a tent, with on-site sales of:

- Christmas wreaths and greenery
- Baked goods (wrapped to take home) and hot beverages (to enjoy on site)
- Quarts of homemade soup (sold frozen) for you to enjoy at home
- Crafts
- Teacup auction raffle

Safety procedures will include limited capacity in the tent, a cashier station where people will pay for all purchases in one place (with credit/debit cards accepted), and a roving safety patrol who will make sure safety guidelines are followed, sanitize surfaces and pens, etc.

How to help:

- **Make soup** to be sold in quarts. Recipes are provided, and the church kitchen is available by appointment for cooking large batches. [Sign up to here to make soup.](#)
- **Make baked goods, jam, or other special treats** to be sold at the Country Kitchen table. [Sign up here to donate food items to the Country Kitchen.](#)
- **Attend the annual Wreath Decorating Night on Thursday evening, December 3.** Volunteers will each have their own table and supplies to work with to ensure social distancing. [Sign up here to attend the wreath decorating night.](#)
- **Donate to our first-ever online fundraising auction.** Details below!
- **Volunteer on the day of the festival.** We need as many as 18 volunteers per hour on the day of the festival to serve as greeters, cashiers, safety patrol, staff for each sales area, and set-up and clean-up helpers. [Sign up here to help on the day of the festival.](#)

New this year: Online fundraising auction - Please donate items and services!

We will have a small online auction, which will provide for additional fundraising and some "insurance" should we need to cancel the on-site event due to public health concerns. We are now soliciting items and services for the online auction, such as:

- Gift cards for holiday shopping or local restaurants with take-out
- Holiday goodies or a special meal delivered to the winner's home
- Professional services
- NEW items such as toys, artwork, household items, etc. (High-value used items, such as artwork or antiques, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.)

Do you have an item or service to donate that will inspire competitive bidding? [Please fill out our online donation form](#) or contact Ginny Kemp at virginialeekemp@gmail.com.

Please note that we will not be selling any secondhand items, and cannot accept donations of such items. And as always during this pandemic, plans are subject to change as the public health situation changes.

How to reach St. John's staff and clergy

To ensure everyone's safety during the pandemic, the parish office remains closed to drop-in visitors, while clergy and staff divide their time between working from home and in the office. Should you need to come by the office for any reason, please contact the appropriate staff person to make an appointment. The best time to reach clergy and staff via the office phone (860-523-5201) is on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., when everyone is in the office for the weekly staff meeting. At other times, please either send an e-mail or leave a message on the voicemail extension of the person you're trying to reach, and you will receive a return phone call during weekday office hours. Should you have a pastoral emergency after hours, call the office phone number, press "9" when you hear the auto attendant greeting, leave a message, and one of our clergy will return your call as soon as possible. Our voicemail extensions are as follows:

Susan (rector) x314

Margie (curate) x312

Scott (music director) x324

Ellen (parish manager) x310

Dwight (sexton) x315

Peggy (financial administrator) x311

STEWARDSHIP NOTES: THANK YOU!

Thank you to those of you who have already pledged and supported our annual giving campaign. St. John's is the vibrant and flourishing community it is because of your ongoing participation and financial commitment to it!

If you have not yet done so, please join us in prayerfully considering and faithfully making a pledge to St. John's Church. Your pledges are so important as they enable us to develop a budget and plan for 2021.

Covid-19 has put a strain on everyone, as our services and activities were moved online in March and each of us struggled to find new ways to connect with one another and to express our faith in uncertain and unsettling times. Throughout this period, our clergy, staff and leaders have worked tirelessly to provide opportunities for connection and to attend to those in our congregation and community hit hardest by this crisis. We have continued to celebrate God's love through online services, outdoor services, and musical programming. Christian formation has continued with online versions of Sunday School, Youth Group, adult Bible Study, and other programming. We have supported a variety of organizations, donated vegetables grown in our community garden, and continued God's work in the world. Thanks to you, St. John's Church has been able to continue its mission because of the commitment in time, talent, and treasure that its members make to it. Just as we all draw what we need from the deep well of this faith community, we all must contribute as we are able, with both our engagement and financial contributions.

Together, our faith and our commitment to one another will see us through these difficult times and strengthen our community and our mission into the future. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of our annual giving campaign. We are grateful for everyone's contribution of whatever amount you are able to pledge. We feel blessed to be part of this wonderful community.

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 8 a.m. (in the nave) and 10:30 a.m. (livestream video only)

Noonday Prayer online via Zoom at 12 p.m. every weekday.

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