

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

November 22, 2020

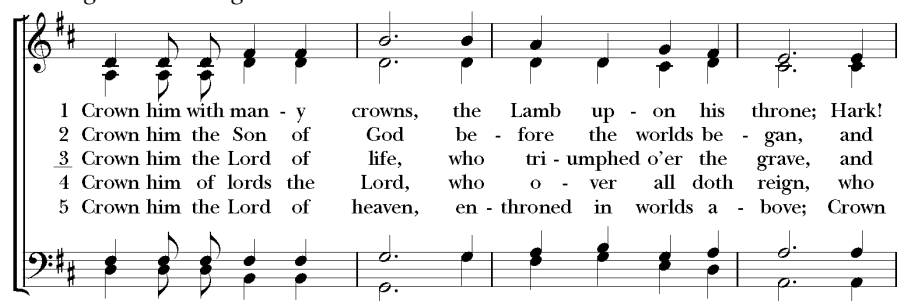
10:30 a.m.

THE VOLUNTARY Lied

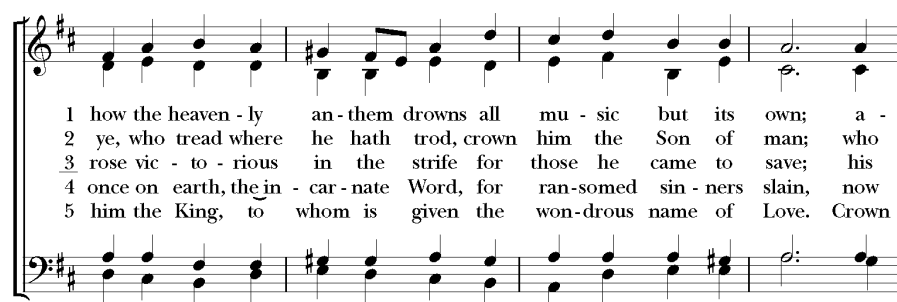
Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

THE OPENING HYMN 494, vv. 1, 2, 5 Crown him with many crowns

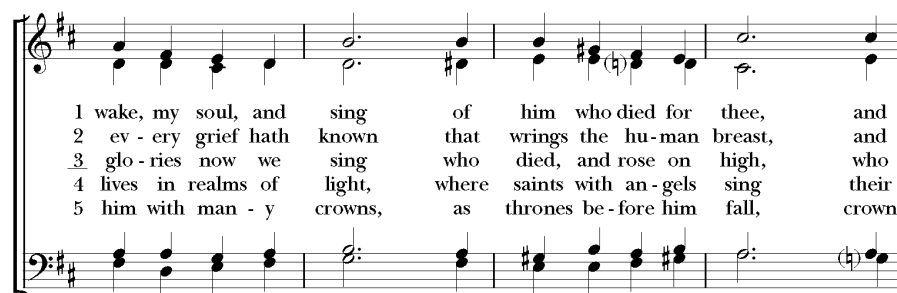
DIADEMATA

All sing or read along.


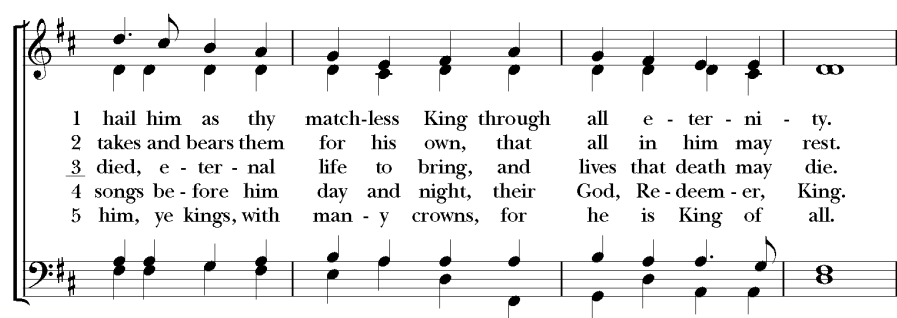
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne; Hark!
 2 Crown him the Son of God be - fore the worlds be - gan, and
 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, and
 4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who o - ver all doth reign, who
 5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, en - throned in worlds a - bove; Crown



1 how the heaven - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own; a -
 2 ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who
 3 rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save; his
 4 once on earth, the in - car - nate Word, for ran - somed sin - ners slain, now
 5 him the King, to whom is given the won - drous name of Love. Crown



1 wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
 2 ev - ery grief hath known that wrings the hu - man breast, and
 3 glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high, who
 4 lives in realms of light, where saints with an - gels sing their
 5 him with man - y crowns, as thrones be - fore him fall, crown



1 hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 2 takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.
 3 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 4 songs be - fore him day and night, their God, Re - deem - er, King.
 5 him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, for he is King of all.

Words: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894)

Music: Diademata, George Job Elvey (1816-1893); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

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. **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. Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 100

The people say the words in bold.

- 1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 **Know this: The Lord himself is God; ***
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

- 4 **For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:15–23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31–46

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

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

Jesus said, “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

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 the shepherd who cares for the flock, O God, you guide all things through Jesus, whom you have exalted over all creation as king. Hear the prayers we offer in his name for the creation he cherished and that you entrust to us.

For Michael, our presiding bishop; for Ian and Laura, our bishops; for our clergy; and for all the ministers of the Church: That their preaching and example may encourage the faithful to serve as witnesses to Christ the King. We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who serve in government: That they be endowed with wisdom and prudence, and that their decisions will respect the rights of all people and promote the common good. We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the ministries of the Church that show God's mercy in the world: That we would be inspired and equipped to heal the sick, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit those in prison, and build up the well-being of our communities. We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For this and all local Church communities: That the Holy Spirit would fill us with courage to be steadfast in the face of today's challenges, and to serve Christ, who reigns in love. We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the sick, the elderly, and all vulnerable and suffering people, especially those most affected by the pandemic, and those whose lives have been upended by storms and wildfires: That they will know God's mercy and have their needs met through our service. We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who have died, especially Eileen Coates: That they may rest in peace, and that those who grieve their loss will know God's presence. We pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Look upon your people who rejoice in your justice and mercy, and grant that the prayers we make may reveal Christ's reign in our time.

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 How can I keep from singing

arr. Georgeann Weaver (b. 1944)

Text: Robert Lowry, last verse by the composer

Sung by the Youth Choir

My life flows on in endless song,
Above earth's lamentation
I hear the real though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love prevails in heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest round me roars,
I know the truth; it liveth.
What though the darkness round me close,
Songs in the night it giveth. *Refrain*

When tyrants tremble as they hear
The bells of freedom ringing,
Then all the earth will conquer fear;
At last a new beginning.

I'll turn to take my neighbor's hand
And place my trust as offering.
When gathered friends around me stand,
How can I keep from singing.



Georgeann M. Weaver was born in Manchester, Connecticut. She settled in the Boston area after graduating from Boston University in 1967 with a bachelor's degree in music education. She taught music in public schools for two years before raising her family. During the next several years she stayed very active in music by teaching piano, conducting various choirs, composing on a small scale, and singing in the Masterworks Chorale, a 120-voice ensemble that performs in Cambridge, Mass.

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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 290, vv. 1, 2, 4 Come, ye thankful people, come

ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR


All read or sing along.



1 Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest-home:
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest-home;




all is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin;
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown:
 from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin;



1 God, our Ma - ker, doth pro - vide for our wants to
 2 first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn
 3 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the
 4 there, for ev - er pur - i - fied, in thy pres - ence



be sup - plied; come to God's own tem - ple,
 shall ap - pear; grant, O har - vest Lord, that
 tares to cast, but the fruit - ful ears to
 to a - bide; come, with all thine an - gels,



come, raise the song of har - vest - home.
 we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, raise the glo - rious har - vest - home.

Words: Henry Alford (1810-1871), alt.

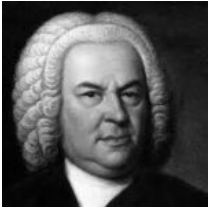
Music: St. George's, Windsor, George Job Elvey (1816-1893); desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

Copyright: Music: Descant © 1953, Novello and Company, Limited. Used by permission.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Prelude and Fugue in E minor, BWV 533 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)



Johann Sebastian Bach was a German composer and musician of the Baroque period. He is known for instrumental compositions such as the Brandenburg Concertos and the Goldberg Variations, for vocal music such as the St. Matthew Passion and the Mass in B minor, and thousands of keyboard works, especially organ. Since the 19th-century Bach revival, he has been generally regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time. Certainly he is one of the most influential composers; none of the music we know today would exist without his innovations.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Margie Baker

Preacher: The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

Organist: Scott Lamlein

Organ Scholar: Ted Babbitt

Cantors: Cate Emerick and John Nowacki

The St. John's Youth Choir

Assisting Pianist: Nancy Eaton

Livestream Oversight: Ted Babbitt

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	Kimberley	Judy Gardiner

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Beth Grieco
Sandy Pond
Wil Brunjes
Eleanor Taylor

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Philip & Bach-Mai Chapman
Mary & Spencer Sloan
Pat & Alex Vance

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Paul's, Woodbury; St. John the Evangelist, Yalesville; Grace Church, Yantic; and for the health and well-being of persons employed by The Episcopal Church; the Presiding Bishop; and the President of the House of Deputies of The Episcopal Church.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of Bermuda.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

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

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), dates and times TBA

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, Mondays at 7 p.m. on Zoom: New series begins on 11/30

Thanksgiving Day online service, 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 26

Join us online for worship and prayers at 10 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Watch on YouTube, Facebook or the web site.

Pick up your “Advent in a Bag” starting today.

Our “Advent in a Bag” bags will be ready for you to pick up at the following times:

- **TODAY from 3 to 4 p.m.** (Come at 2 p.m. if you’d like to help fill the bags!)
- **Monday and Tuesday, November 23 and 24 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**
- **By appointment** - Contact Margie or Ellen.

“Advent in a Bag” is a collection of crafts, readings, and other resources for celebrating Advent at home. Activities are all screen-free and suitable for families of all kinds and sizes. We also have Advent candles to add to your bag if you can use them.

Sacred Ground dialogue series hosted by St. John’s and St. James’s starts December 6

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 missed last week’s informational meeting, you may watch a recorded video of it on our YouTube channel; see last Thursday’s e-newsletter for the link. To sign up, go to <https://tinyurl.com/SacredGroundWHsignup>. If you have 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).

Music at the Red Door online: Midweek recitals and Pipes Alive!

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 are featuring lunchtime recitals from local musicians in their home studios. **On December 6 at 12:30 p.m.**, Peter Niedmann will present a Pipes Alive! organ recital.

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

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

- **Christmas wreaths and greenery:** In addition to our usual assortment of beautiful 12” and 16” wreaths decorated by the women of St. John’s Church, this year we will be offering undecorated wreaths and a selection of pre-made bows in assorted colors and patterns. We will also have a limited selection of evergreen roping that can be purchased by the yard (up to 10-yard lengths). Unfortunately, we will not be offering poinsettias or bulbs this year as we worry about the temperature under the tent, but we will have a few other additions for the greenery table. **The wreath decorating night will be Thursday evening, December 3.** Each volunteer will work at their own table to ensure social distancing.
- **Baked goods and other homemade treats** (wrapped to take home)
- **Quarts of homemade soup** (sold frozen for you to heat and eat at home)
- **Crafts**
- **Teacup auction raffle**
- **Online fundraising auction**, which will be open for bidding starting on Friday, December 4. More details on auction items and bidding procedures to come!

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.

We need lots of help to make this year’s festival a success. Please sign up to volunteer to make homemade treats or soup, decorate wreaths on 12/3, or help on-site at the festival on 12/5. See last Thursday’s e-news for sign-up links.

Help a family in need this Christmas

St. John's is pleased to continue our Christmas tradition to sponsor 60 children in the *Stronger Future Stronger Families* network this year. Due to COVID concerns and restrictions, instead of filling gift bags for families, we invite you to purchase gift cards to fulfill a child's wish list. We know that St. John's parishioners can make this 2020 Christmas brighter for many local families! Here are suggestions for store gift cards:

- Toy stores (Disney, Lego, Build-A-Bear, Walmart, Big Lots, Job Lots)
- Grooming services (SuperCuts, Top Nails, Bath & Body Works)
- Affordable clothing stores (Marshalls, TJ Maxx, Burlington, Target)
- Groceries (Aldi, Stop & Shop, Shop Rite, Price Chopper)
- Car service or gas (AutoZone, Citgo, Sunoco, Cumberland Farms)
- Restaurants (Chili's, Olive Garden, Domino's, Dunkin' Donuts)

Please consider adding a gift card to your order when you are out shopping for your own family. If you prefer, you can make a financial contribution and we will shop for you (please note "Christmas Gift Card" on your check).

Place gift cards in an envelope marked "Christmas Gift Cards" and:

1. Drop off at the church office **between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Tuesdays only**. Come to the office entrance and ring the bell.
2. Mail to the church office no later than **Tuesday, December 1**.
3. Contact Jillian Puzzo or Leah Murchie (contact info below) to arrange pick-up/drop-off of your donation at another time.

Thanks in advance for your generosity! **Donations are due by Friday, December 4**. Contact Jillian Puzzo at jillianpuzzo@gmail.com or Leah Murchie at murchlt@comcast.net with any questions.



Advent Bible Study
Gospel Beginnings

As the new year dawns, come explore the beginnings of each of the four gospels, one week at a time.

November 30	Mark 1:1-11
December 7	Matthew 1:1-17
December 14	Luke 1:1-25
December 21	John 1:1-18

Mondays at 7pm in Zoom.
Subscribe to our newsletter (sjparish.net) or email margie@sjparish.com for the link.

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 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