

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



First Sunday of Advent

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

November 29, 2020

10:30 a.m.

THE VOLUNTARY Two settings of *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

THE OPENING HYMN 57, vv. 1, 2, 4 Lo! He comes, with clouds descending

HELMSLEY

All sing or read along.

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Helmsley, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

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 KYRIE

Unison or harmony

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

— Chri - ste e - le - i - son. — Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e -

le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Music: James McGregor (b. 1930), after *Verbum caro factum est*, Hans Leo Hassler (1564–1612)
 Copyright: © 1976 James McGregor.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64:1–9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalms 80: 1–7, 16–18

The people say the words in bold.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, ***
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 **O Lord God of hosts, ***
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors, ***
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, ***
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Mark 13:24–37

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

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

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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.

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, kindle in us the desire to remain awake; that we might be ready for your coming, and eager to pray.

O God, you are the potter, and we are the clay, the work of your hand. We pray for the church and especially this community of faith, that you might form us and mold us into the church you would have us be. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In your time, the valleys shall be lifted up, the mountains and hills shall be made low, and the rough places will become a plain. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In your Kingdom, you bring unending comfort; you feed your flock like a shepherd, and gather the lambs into your arms. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind, that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

In the fulness of time, you sent your son, to be born of Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God with us. We thank you for your presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer. Come Lord Jesus, **and hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Son Jesus comes among us, we might recognize his face and his voice, and come to adore him. **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 Prepare the way (2015)

Zanaida Robles (b. 1979)

Text: Frans Mikael Franzen, adapted by Charles P. Price

Brendon Gallagher, soloist

Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.
Oh blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion;
he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding,
for grace and joy abounding.
Oh blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion;
your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation
proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him,
their voices will adore him.
Oh blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.



Dr. Zanaida Stewart Robles is a fierce advocate for diversity and inclusion in music education and performance. Authentic interpersonal connection and relationship-building are core principles of her teaching and performance methods. Born, raised, and educated in Southern California, she is in demand as a vocalist, conductor, clinician and adjudicator for competitions, festivals, and conferences related to choral and solo vocal music. Her film and television credits include Glee, Tinkerbell: Pirate Fairy, Godzilla, Minions, Creed, Lego Movie, Despicable Me 3, Star Wars: The Last Jedi, Venom, Smallfoot, Frozen 2, Underwater, and Mulan.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

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

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

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

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

Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc

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

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues.

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

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

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

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

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

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

give us your peace, give us your peace.

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

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THE 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 66, vv. 1, 2, 3 Come thou long expected Jesus

STUTTGART

All read or sing along.

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Stuttgart, melody from Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Postlude on Stuttgart (2020)

Peter Niedmann (b. 1960)



Peter Niedmann is director of music and organist at Church of Christ, Congregational, in Newington, and composition coach for our own Scott Lamlein. He is a published composer with hundreds of works in print, and his choral music has been sung at The White House and a Papal Mass for Pope John Paul II. No stranger to St. John's, he has been featured on our Music at the Red Door series as a composer, organist, and conductor at various times. We look forward to his Pipes Alive! recital next Sunday that will feature his own new works for Advent and Christmas.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Organist: Scott Lamlein

Cantor: Brendon Gallagher

Livestream Oversight: Francis Lamlein

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:

Allison Branco Tichy
Susan Knapp Thomas
Claire O'Brien
Lissie Brooks

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Albert & Barbara Lennox
Bob & Edith Connolly

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Christ Church, Ansonia; St. Paul's, Bantam, Christ Church, Bethany; and for postulants and candidates for Holy Orders, and the Commission on Ministry and its members.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Lusitanian Church.

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

Pick up your “Advent in a Bag”

“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. If you haven’t yet picked up your bag, contact the parish office to arrange a time to pick one up.

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: 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. **On December 6 at 12:30 p.m.**, Peter Niedmann will present a Pipes Alive! organ recital of his own compositions for Advent and Christmas.

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.

Be part of our virtual Christmas Pageant

Lights! Camera! Action! We will be making a virtual pageant this year, to be part of our Sunday service on Advent 4. There are 10 scenes. Our hope is that 10 families will each take on a scene. Parents, children, and teens can all participate, along with anyone else in your pandemic "bubble." Each scene is 1 to 2 minutes in length. The final scene, the reading of the Prologue of the Gospel of John, is traditionally read by a senior in high school. You may film your scene in your home, outside, or even here on the church grounds. Sheep, donkeys, and other friendly animals can be played by family pets, by stuffed animals, or by humans—use your imagination! You may create your own costumes, or you can email me with what you need and we will loan items from the St. John's Pageant costume set. **So what do you need to do? Email Margie (margie@sparish.net) with your chosen scene, plus a backup.**

Scene 1 The Prophets Isaiah and Micah: narrator, Isaiah, Micah

Scene 2 The Annunciation: narrator, Mary, Angel Gabriel

Scene 3 Road to Bethlehem, no room at the inn: Mary, Joseph, innkeeper, (donkey)

Scene 4 Birth of Jesus: innkeeper, innkeeper's wife, Mary, Joseph, (donkey)

Scene 5 Angels appear to the shepherds: shepherds, Angel Gabriel, angels

Scene 6 Angel Choir: angels, shepherds, sheep

Scene 7 Adoration of the shepherds: shepherds, Mary, Joseph

Scene 8 Wise men follow the star: three wise men, Herod, advisors

Scene 9 Wise men worship Jesus: three wise men, Mary, Joseph

Scene 10 Prologue of John: narrator

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

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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