St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another www.sjparish.net



The Second Sunday in Lent HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II February 28, 2021

oruary 28, 2021 10:30 a.m.

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY Elegy

William Grant Still (1895–1978)



Many exceedingly talented musicians of color have contributed to our classical music culture, and William Grant Still may be the greatest of them all. He was born into a musical golden era—early 20th-century America, where jazz, pop, classical, and even film music overlapped as never before—just as he was born into the vile system we now call Jim Crow. Because of all the firsts he managed to achieve, he became known as the Dean of African American Composers. Get to know his music at https://tinyurl.com/4623lywl.

SILENT PROCESSION

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People God's mercy endures for ever.

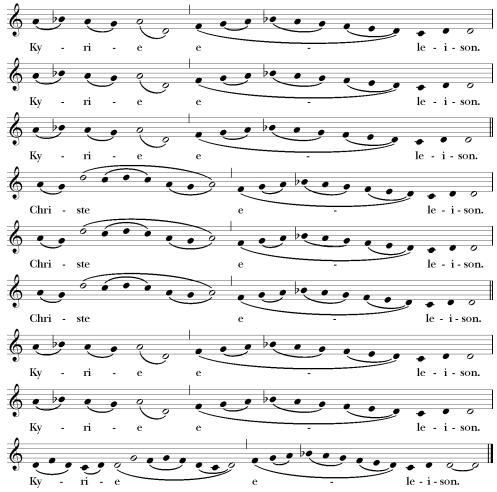
Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:

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.

KYRIE ELEISON



Music: Plainsong Mode I, Orbis Factor

Translation: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone

astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with

you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

All sit.

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

Then Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 22:22–30

The people say the responses in **bold**.

- 22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; * stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; * but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: * "May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; * he rules over the nations.

- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

THE SECOND LESSON

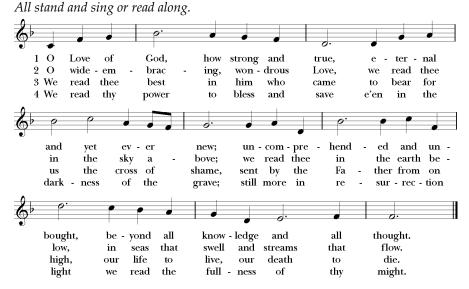
Romans 4:13-25

Tor the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 455, vv. 1, 2, 4 O Love of God, how strong and true

DUNEDIN



Words: Copyright: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

Music:

Dunedin, Vernon Griffiths (1894-1985)

Music: Reprinted from the New Catholic Hymnal by permission of the publishers, Faber Music Ltd, London.

THE GOSPEL Mark 8:31–38

All stand.

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

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Tesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

All sit.

The Reverend Margie Baker

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

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

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

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness. In your great compassion, hear our prayers.

We pray for the whole church, all leaders and ministers, and all the holy people of God. God of love, **hear our prayer**.

We pray for our nation, for all the nations of the earth, and for all who govern and judge. God of love, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who hunger, those who thirst, those who cry out for justice, those who live under the threat of terror, and those without a place to lay their head. God of love, **hear our prayer**.

We pray for those who are ill, those in pain, those under stress, and those who are lonely, especially those on our parish prayer list. God of love, **hear our prayer**.

In this season of Lent we pray for those who prepare for baptism, and we pray that we all might be given the grace and strength to repent and grow closer to you. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all affected by the coronavirus pandemic, especially healthcare personnel and other essential workers, the unemployed and underemployed, the sick and the grieving. God of love, **hear our prayer**.

We remember those who have died, who dwell with God in glory. God of love, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Lord Jesus, grant us the strength and wisdom to be your followers and to take up our cross to follow you, this day and always. **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

All sit.

AN UPDATE FROM THE WARDENS

Virginia Van Dyk

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM I will arise

arr. Robert Shaw, Alice Parker St. John's Adult Choir

I will arise and go to Jesus. He will embrace me in His arms. In the arms of my dear Savior, oh! there are ten thousand charms. Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love. Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace. Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. I will arise and go to Jesus. He will embrace me in His arms. In the arms of my dear Savior, oh! there are ten thousand charms.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.

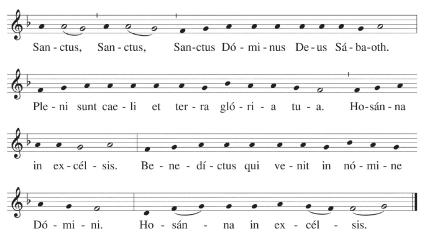
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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



Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme

Translation: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All remain standing or kneel.

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



Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme

Translation: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant

Gracious and risen Lord, we believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. We love you above all things and we desire to receive you into our souls. Since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you and unite ourselves wholly to you. Never may we be separated from you. **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 the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN vv. 1, 2, 4 $\,$ It is well with my soul

All read or sing along.





Words: Horatio Spafford (1828-1888), Music: Philip P. Bliss (1838-1876)

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Litanies

Jehan Alain (1911–1940)



Jehan Alain, a Parisian composer whose life was cut short when his plane was shot down during WWII, wrote this morning's closing voluntary. Litanies is a breathless and relentless prayer. The desperation of prayer in time of deep need is illustrated by a repetitive litany and rhythms written while traveling on a train – all building to a frenzy. Alain writes, "When the Christian soul in its despair can no longer find any new words to implore the mercy of God, it repeats the same incantation over and over again in blind faith. The limits of reality are surpassed and faith alone continues upward."

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Linda Spiers
Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker
Cantor: John Nowacki
Layreader: Wes Winterbottom
Organist: Scott Lamlein
Assisting Organist: Christa Rakich
Livestream Oversight: Ted Babbitt
Altar Guild: Buffy Ineson

To attend coffee hour immediately after the service and participate in our discussion of this week's spiritual practice, go to https://zoom.us/j/173504417

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 | Patricia |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Kim Green | Sue | Beth | Enid |
| Janet Ray | Billy Ulrich | Chris | Zachary |
| Brad Babbitt | Jonah Dahlstrom | Ellie Brown | Kimberley |
| Robert E. Eikel | Whitney Lynch | Judy Gardiner | Kent Lawrence |

Gwain Gillespie William Bittinger Anita Winters Susan Origlia & family

Erika Gray Coates Edward Keeley, Jr. Betty Knorr

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Joe Duffy Anne Walsh Cricket Barnes

Brielle Worrell Katy Hart Jonathan Hammond III

Scott Lamlein Rees Pinney Emma Evica Ann Newbury Alice Fraioli Peggy Dimmitt Lynn Brooks Kate Lovass Karan Emerick

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Erika and Bill Ulrich

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. David's, Gales Ferry; St. James', Glastonbury; St. Luke's, Glastonbury; Christ Church, Greenwich; and for prison ministry and prison chaplains, and the ECCT Faith Behind Bars & Beyond Ministry Network.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Go to our web site at http://www.sjparish.net/ for details.

Sunday School (K-5), 9:30 a.m. Sundays on Zoom

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

Sunday EYC (middle and high school), 5 p.m. on Zoom this week/outside starting March 7

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

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

Online book discussion on Love is the Way, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Resources for observing a holy Lent

St. John's is offering several resources to support your observation of Lent:

- Lent devotional Our fifth annual Lent devotional booklet created by St. John's members and friends is
 now available. You may pick up a printed copy from a bin at the back door of the church building (the
 ramped entrance), or get a digital copy via the Thursday e-newsletter or at this link:
 https://tinyurl.com/SJLent2021
- Cultivating spiritual practices For each week of Lent, we will share simple ideas for trying out a particular spiritual practice. Each Thursday's e-news will include a brief video and graphic about that week's practice. On Sunday mornings, we will hold an online Faith Forum after the 10:30 service, where you may ask questions, discuss ideas, or share your experiences. The forum will begin on Zoom after about 10 minutes of online coffee hour. This week's practice is prayer before meals; see the graphic on page 15 for details.
- Sunday evening Compline in the Cloister Garden (begins on March 7) The EYC (youth group) will begin holding their Sunday evening gatherings in person, outside in the Cloister Garden, starting on March 7. They will close their time together with Compline, which is an evening prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer. Everyone is invited to join the EYC for Compline, which lasts about 10 minutes. We will have a fire in our outdoor fire pit, and will only cancel in the event of significant precipitation or extreme cold.

Donate to Texas storm relief through Episcopal Relief and Development

The February 2021 winter storm, which devastated communities in Texas, Oklahoma and beyond, continues to wreak havoc. The ice and snow are melting and power has been restored to many, but the region continues to deal with burst pipes, lack of safe water supply, and uninhabitable housing. The U.S. Disaster Team at Episcopal Relief & Development is supporting affected dioceses as they respond. Go to https://tinyurl.com/donatetoERD to make a donation. Your gift will help provide emergency shelter, groceries and other supplies in affected areas.

COVID Vaccine Information

People 65 and older are now eligible to get a COVID vaccine, and on Monday 3/1, people 55 and older will become eligible.

The state's vaccine information site is: https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Vaccination-Scheduling-Options

You may also call 877-918-2224 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily for help scheduling an appointment.

West Hartford has two additional resources for vaccinations:

- The ARCH program will send a paramedic and nurse to someone's home to administer the vaccine if they face unusual/exceptional circumstances that prevent them from getting to a vaccination site. If you or someone you care for might be eligible for this program, go to this web site to fill out an application: https://westhartford.seamlessdocs.com/f/ARCH
- The public library's vaccination info line at 860-561-6998 is open from 10am to 5pm weekdays and 10am to 1pm on Saturdays to provide information about how to get a vaccine. They cannot make an appointment for you, but they can help you figure out what to do.

If you need assistance with transportation to a vaccine appointment, contact the church office and we will help as we are able.



Cultivating Spiritual Practice This week, we focus on prayer before meals. Using a little bit of silence and a few rounds of prayer, we can make space for the joys and challenges of life. Begin by saying "Let us pray" and then taking a few deep breaths. Go around the table and share a joy or gratitude from the

Now go around again and lift up a prayer. It can be for yourself, someone you know, or an issue that weighs upon you.

End with the Lord's Prayer or your preferred Grace.



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).

STAFF

| The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net) | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net) | Director of Music | | |
| The Rev. Walter McKenney (walter@sjparish.net) | Deacon | | |
| Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net) | Parish Manager | | |
| Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net) | | | |
| Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net) | | | |
| 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 | | |
| 2019–21: Ellen Flynn, David Grimaldi, Teresa Lohr | | | |
| 2020–22: June Aziz, Jyothsna Diaz, Anne Harney | | | |
| | | | |

2021–23: Robert Eikel, Kara Hart, Julia O'Brien, Martin Wheeler