

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



The Fifth Sunday in Lent

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

March 21, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome worshippers back into the church. To ensure everyone's safety, please observe the following guidelines:

- **Wear a mask over your mouth and nose at all times.** Masks are required regardless of vaccine status. We have disposable masks should you need one.
 - **Practice social distancing with members of other households.** Observe signs and the directions of vergers and ushers about where to sit. Greet one another from a distance with a nod, wave, peace sign, etc.
 - **If you might need to get up during the service, please sit on the right side of the nave.** The first-floor restrooms are available should you need them. Please refrain from going into other areas of the building.
 - **Children must stay with their accompanying adult(s).**
 - **Enter through the red doors only, and leave through either the red doors or the side doors into the Cloister Garden portico,** as directed by a verger or usher.
 - **We will not be passing the plate during the Offertory.** You may leave your donation in the wooden offering box. We can also receive donations through the mail or online via our web site.
- Thank you!

It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you need to participate in the service is found here in this bulletin.

Our ushers and vergers are here to help create a welcoming and safe space for worship; please let them know if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. We're glad you're here!



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY *Adagio from Sonata II*

Felix Mendessohn (1809–1847)

SILENT PROCESSION

At the sound of the bell, please stand as you are able.

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

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: 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 Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31–34

All sit.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was

their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 51:1–13

The people say the responses in bold.

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 5:5–10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 170 To mock your reign, O dearest Lord

THE THIRD TUNE

All stand.

1 To mock your reign, O dear - est Lord, they made a crown of thorns;
 2 In mock ac - claim, O gra - cious Lord, they snatched a pur - ple cloak,
 3 A scep - tered reed, O pa - tient Lord, they thrust in - to your hand,

set you with taunts a - long that road from which no one re - turns.
 your pas - sion turned, for all they cared, in - to a sol - dier's joke.
 and act - ed out their grim cha - rade to its ap - point - ed end.

They did not know, as we do now, that glo - rious is your crown;
 They did not know, as we do now, that though we mer - it blame
 They did not know, as we do now, though em - pires rise and fall,

that thorns would flower up - on your brow, your sor - rows heal our own.
 you will your robe of mer - cy throw a - round our na - ked shame.
 your King - dom shall not cease to grow till love em - bra - ces all.

*The bracketed notes are to be treated as triplet groups.

THE GOSPEL

*John 12:20–33**Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.*All* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Linda Spiers

All sit.

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.

As we prepare for the Paschal feast, let us earnestly offer prayers and supplications to God.

For the holy catholic Church throughout the world, sharing the death and resurrection of Christ. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For this parish of St. John's, that we may be faithful to our mission and respond to the needs of those around us with compassion, joy, and truth. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For Michael, our presiding bishop; Ian and Laura, our bishops; for all who minister in Christ; and for all the holy people of God. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those who are preparing for new birth in the waters of baptism this Paschal season, and for Philip Samuel Nelson, who was baptized here yesterday. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For Margaret Thomas on the occasion of her 100th birthday tomorrow, and for all celebrating birthdays this week. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For all the peoples of the earth and for mercy, justice, and peace. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the sick and the suffering, and for all who are in danger or need, especially those on our parish prayer list. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the victims of the recent shootings in Atlanta, their families and loved ones, and all whose lives and communities have been scarred by gun violence and racism. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the faithful departed in Christ, and for those whose faith is known to God alone. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, God of eternal life, who lifted up your Son from death. Receive the prayers we offer this day for all who walk in darkness, and make your people children of light. Glory to you for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All remain standing or kneel.

THE SANCTUS

San - ctus, San - ctus, San-ctus Dó - mi - nus De - us Sá - ba-oth.
 Ple - ni sunt cae - li et ter - ra gló - ri - a tu - a. Ho-sán - na
 in ex - cé - l - sis. Be - ne - dí - ctus qui ve - nit in nó - mi - ne
 Dó - mi - ni. Ho - sán - na in ex - cé - l - sis.

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

A-gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun - di: mi-se-re-re no - bis.

A-gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun - di: do-na no-bis pa - cem.

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 473, vv. 1, 2, 4 Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

CRUCIFER

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.

Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain

the hosts of God in con - quer - ing ranks com - bine.
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

Words: George William Kitchin (1827-1912); alt. Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956) Music: *Crucifer*, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947);

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonata II

Felix Mendelssohn

The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God's Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say Amen at the end of the voluntary as a conclusion to our worship.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Margie Baker

Preacher: The Reverend Linda Spiers

Cantor: Erica Maas Shippee

Layreader: Jyothsna Diaz

Organist: Scott Lamlein

Vergers: Annabel Clapp, Steve Crocker

Ushers: Geoff Emerick, Karan Emerick

Livestream Oversight: Ted Babbitt

Altar Guild: Buffy Ineson

Online coffee hour will begin around 11:30 a.m., to give the clergy time to greet those who are at St. John's this morning.

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

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

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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 | 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 | Clark Hendley |
| Erika Gray Coates | | | |

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Jenn Baker | Elizabeth Hammond | Maggie Grant |
| William Sloan | Shirley Blean | Rich Barstow |
| Margaret Thomas | Laura Hicks | Stuart Carlisle |
| Andrew Worrell | Molly Fowler | Sahara Barrow |
| Livvy Lorenzo | Paul Farrell | |
| Cricket Booker | Emeline Carlisle | |

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Grace Church, Hartford; St. Martin's, Hartford; St. Monica's, Hartford; and for the ECCT Joint Leadership members of the Mission Council, Missionary Society, Standing Committee, Commission on Ministry, and Donations & Bequests.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of England.

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 service of Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m., in-person with limited attendance and livestreamed on YouTube, Facebook and the web site

Sunday EYC (middle and high school), 5 p.m. outdoors

Sunday evening Compline, 6 p.m. outdoors

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

Help assemble our College Care Packages, TODAY at 4 p.m.

We're sending some long-distance love to parish members who are away at college or boarding school. You can help by coming to pack everything up this afternoon at 4 p.m. We'll also be asking for volunteers to take a package or two and pay for shipping. Thank you to everyone who so generously purchased supplies for the packages.

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 at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/SJLent2021>
- **Cultivating spiritual practices** – For each week of Lent, we are sharing 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 blessing one another; see the graphic on page 14 for details.**
- **Sunday evening Compline in the Cloister Garden** – The EYC (youth group) is now holding their Sunday evening gatherings in person, outside in the Cloister Garden. 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.

Choral Evensong online, Sunday, March 28 at 5 p.m.

The St. John's Schola will present a service of Choral Evensong at 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 28. The service will be online-only, livestreamed from the St. John's nave. Evensong is an ancient tradition that includes singing, chanting, and prayers. It's a wonderful way to close out your weekend and prepare for the week ahead. Join us online at <https://www.reddoormusic.org/event/choral-evensong-mar-2021-schola/>

COVID Vaccine Information

People 45 and older are now eligible to get a COVID vaccine. 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 provides at-home vaccine administration to those who 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.

If you or someone you know needs transportation to a vaccine site, contact the church office and we will help as we are able.

Cultivating Spiritual Practice

This week we will bless others. Christians can invite God's blessing on things (grace before dinner) and one another (bless you!). This practice is ancient, lovely, and life-giving. Here are some ways to bless:

Bless people in your prayers, asking God to grant them whatever they may need: God bless X with peace and strength. God be with X as he awaits chemo.

Bless your family and friends at the end of a conversation: May God bless you with patience as you adjust to... May God grant you solace as you grieve.

Bless your children before bed or as they leave for school: May God bless you and protect you, May God grant you a peaceful night, May God bless you and protect you, and bring you home safely.





Come to church!

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday
at 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday:
8 a.m. outdoors
9 and 10:30 a.m. indoors

Limited attendance. Sign up at sjparish.net/GoToChurch
Sign-up for each service begins three days prior. Masks and social distancing required regardless of vaccine status.
The 10:30 a.m. Sunday services and Maundy Thursday/Good Friday evening services will also be livestreamed online.



Evensong

rest reflect worship

Sunday
March 28, 2021
5:00 p.m.

St. John's Schola
Scott Lamlein, director

View the livestream at
reddoormusic.org

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

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. (livestream video only).

STAFF

The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net) *Assistant Rector*
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)..... *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*

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