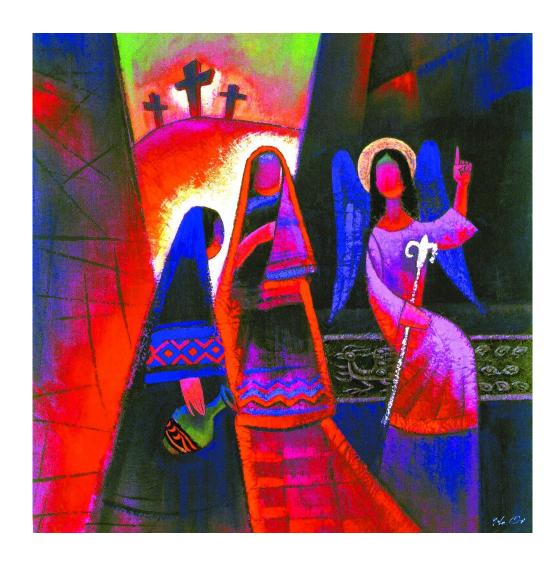
St. John's Episcopal Church

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



The Fifth Sunday of Easter HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

May 2, 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, which apply to everyone regardless of vaccine status.

- Wear a mask over your mouth and nose at all times. We have disposable masks should you need one.
- **Congregational singing is not currently permitted.** Quiet humming is allowed.
- 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!

Cover image: He is Risen by He Qi.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Largo *from* Symphony No. 9 "From the New World"

Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)



Antonin Dvořák wrote his Symphony No. 9, "From the New World," soon after arriving in America in 1893. A yearning melody from the second movement took on a new life as a popular American song that continues to be reinvented. One of Dvořák's students, William Arms Fisher, put words to the longing melody from the second movement. He called the new song, "Goin' Home," and had it published in 1922. It has been recorded and arranged numerous times since then, and appears frequently in popular culture. The transformation of Dvořák's music is a fitting legacy for his symphony about the New World, a work with a

message that transcends any one culture. "Instead of being something that's about only one aspect of our world," says Yannick Nézet-Séguin, "it's something that gives a message of unity."

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 379, vv. 1 & 2 God is Love, let heaven adore him

ABBOT'S LEIGH





Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt. Words:

Abbot's Leigh, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)

Words: Held by A.R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music: © 1942 Renewal 1970, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by Copyright: permission.

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia.

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no

secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that

we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE, vv. 1 & 2

FESTIVAL CANTICLE

Congregational singing is not permitted; you may hum quietly if you wish.



Text: Revelations 5:12-13; adapt. John W. Arthur (1922-1980); Music: Festival Canticle, Richard Hillert (b. 1923)
Copyright: Text: Reprinted from Lutheran Book of Worship © 1978, by permission of Augsburg Fortress on behalf of the publishers and copyright holders.
Music: © Richard Hillert.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Celebrant

Let us pray. Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People

Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 8:26–40

All sit.

n angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Lethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 22:24–30

The people say the words in bold.

- 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 1 John 4:7–21

eloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

THE GOSPEL John 15:1–8

All stand.

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

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

THE SERMON

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

As branches of Jesus, the living vine, we seek to abide in the Spirit of love and bring our prayers to God, saying: *Alleluia! Hear our prayer*.

For the Church, especially for Michael, our presiding bishop, and Ian and Laura, our bishops, that our faith may deepen, our hope be strengthened, and our love abound as we draw our life from the Risen Christ. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For this parish family, that the Spirit will help us bear witness to the good news of God's love, in deeds of justice and service to others. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For the grace of letting go, that God will help us let go of those things that need to be pruned, so that life and love may flow through us as signs of God's love. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For places overwhelmed by the coronavirus, especially India and Brazil, that God will slow the spread, strengthen all caregivers, and multiply opportunities for vaccinations. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For an end to violence in our cities and communities, that God will turn hearts from destructive deeds, open pathways for dialogue, and protect the innocent from harm. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For all those in need of our prayers, remembering especially those on our parish prayer list, that Christ will renew the gift of life within them, and strengthen them in God's love. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For those who have died, remembering especially Dan George, that they may abide in the love of God for ever. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who abides in all who love you. Hear the prayers we offer this day and give us your Spirit of peace, so that loving one another we may walk in the way that leads to eternal life. Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE ANTHEM Deep River

arr. Alan Bevan (b. 1951) Words and melody: African-American Spiritual Erica Shippee, soloist

Deep River, My home is over Jordan. Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

Oh, don't you want to go, To the Gospel feast; That Promised Land, Where all is peace?



First popularized by the Jubilee Singers, pictured here, Deep River is an anonymous African-American spiritual, popularized by Harry Burleigh in his 1916 collection Jubilee Songs of the USA. The song was first mentioned in print in 1876, when it was published in the first edition of The Story of the Jubilee Singers: With Their Songs, by J. B. T. Marsh. By 1917, when Harry Burleigh completed the last of his several influential arrangements, the song had become very popular in recitals. It has been called "perhaps the best known and best-loved spiritual."

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us 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

Congregational singing is not permitted; you may hum quietly if you wish.



Music: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (1937–2010); Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

All remain standing or kneel.

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

Congregational singing is not permitted; you may hum quietly if you wish.



Music: Jeffrey Rickard, 1986; used by permission.

THE PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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.**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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 I love to tell the story

Congregational singing is not permitted; you may hum quietly if you wish.



Words: A. Katherine Hankey (1831-1911) Music: William G. Fisher (1835-1912)

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Rigoudon from Idoménée

André Campra (1660–1774)

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

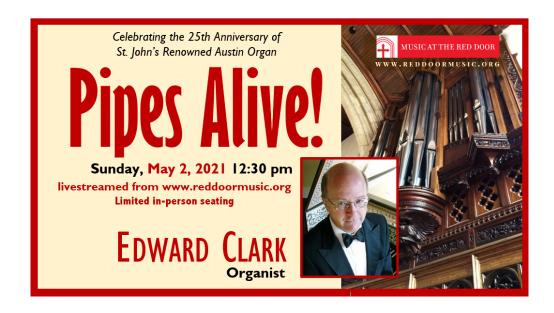
Celebrant: The Reverend Margie Baker **Preacher:** The Reverend Linda Spiers

Layreader: Jeff Verney Cantor: Erica Shippee Organist: Scott Lamlein Verger: Steve Crocker

Ushers: Annabel Clapp, Buffy Ineson Livestream Oversight: Ted Babbitt Altar Guild: Buffy Ineson

Immediately after the service, the Altar Guild will be dividing up the altar flower arrangements and wrapping smaller bouquets in florist foil. Please feel free to take one for yourself or to share!

All parents, children, and youth are invited to gather in the Cloister Garden after the service to meet with Margie for a discussion about plans for the 2021-2022 program year. The meeting will finish before Pipes Alive! begins at 12:30.



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
Ward Farrell	William Bittinger	Anita Winters	Clark Hendley
Mary A. Looney	Seamus Turco	Jennifer Bennet	David Lerner

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Brian Alemany	Eloise Biscoe	Judy Schaffer
Danielle Rucci	Scarlett Curtis	Georgia Lovass
Sophie Murchie	Cait Semanie	Rosa Guzzo
Clair Lovass	Callan Farrell	

Those who have died:

Dan George, brother of June Aziz

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Peter's, Monroe; St. Mark's, Mystic; St. Michael's, Naugatuck; and for retirement communities, especially Seabury and Armsmear; chaplains at retirement communities, and retired clergy chaplains.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East.



St. John's Summer Sundays

9 a.m. outdoors 10:30 a.m. indoors & livestreamed

June 6 through September 5

Are you new to St. John's? Help us get to know you!

We're delighted to see a number of new faces at Sunday morning worship. If you are new to St. John's, please fill out our online newcomer form at https://siparish.net/newcomer-form/ or fill out an information card on Sunday morning (found on hooks in each pew) and put it in the offering box. If you are worshipping with us online, we'd also love to hear from you! Fill out the online newcomer form or send us an email at office@sjparish.net.

Sunday service updates: Sign-ups, communion, summer plans

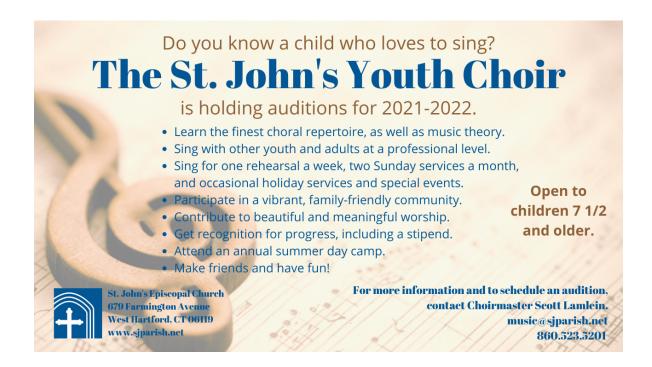
Effective immediately, we are longer requiring people to sign up to attend Sunday morning worship, as the number of people attending is consistently under our safe capacity limits. Next Sunday, we will also begin offering communion wafers to those who wish to receive them (with safety protocols that will be explained in the bulletin and announcements) and allowing worshippers to seat themselves while maintaining social distance. Social distance guidelines, universal mask wearing, and rules about congregational singing will remain in place, regardless of vaccine status. Summer Sunday services will be outdoors at 9 a.m. and indoors (as well as livestreamed) at 10:30 a.m. The summer schedule runs from June 6 through September 5.

Youth Choir auditions for 2021-2022 program year

All children age 7 1/2 and older are welcome to audition for our Youth Choir program. Children/families do not have to be members of St. John's to participate, so please share this information with any child you know who loves to sing! See the graphic below for more information.

Vacation Bible School, June 21-25

St. John's will hold Vacation Bible School from June 21 to 25, 9 a.m. to noon, for children entering kindergarten through 5th grade this fall. The program will largely take place outdoors and will explore themes around God's creation, plants, and animals, including work in our community garden. We welcome all children, regardless of whether they attend St. John's, so spread the word! We are also looking for adult and youth (middle and high school) volunteers to help out. Contact Margie for more information.



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 service of Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.

STAFF

The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net) Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net) The Rev. Walter McKenney (walter@sjparish.net) Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net) Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net) Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)	Director of Music Deacon Parish Manager Sexton
Christa RakichRalph Valentine	Organ Artist-in-Residence
VESTRY	
Geoff Emerick	Warden
Virginia Van Dyk	Warden
Tim Goetz and John Roche	Co-Treasurers
2019–21: Ellen Flynn, David Grimaldi, Teresa Loh	

2020–22: June Aziz, Jyothsna Diaz, Anne Harney

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