

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net



Second Sunday of Advent

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

December 5, 2021

10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

To ensure everyone's safety, please observe the following guidelines. We will continue to follow the latest recommendations and monitor our local public health situation, and will revise these guidelines as needed:

- **Masks are required for all attending indoor services, regardless of vaccination status.**
- **Practice social distancing (at least 3 feet) with members of other households.**
- **Greet one another from a distance** with a nod, wave, peace sign, etc.

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 in this bulletin and in the blue hymnals in each pew.

If you are new to St. John's, or have been attending a while but the parish office doesn't yet have your information, please fill out one of the pew cards and put it in the offering box, or hand it to an usher or one of our clergy. Or fill out our online newcomer form at sjparish.net/newcomer-form.

Our ushers are here to 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. They have hearing assist devices available for those who need them. We're glad you're here!

Children are always welcome to be in church with their families. We encourage you to sit up front, as they will be more engaged if they can see and hear what's going on. Children are welcome here just as they are; please don't feel you must leave every time your little one makes a sound! We have children's bulletins, books, and other quiet activities available in the narthex (the entrance with the red doors) for children's use during the service. A nursery staffed by high school students is available on Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon; it also has a changing table and rocking chair for parents to use. Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday for all ages.

Cover image: VII: O Emmanuel by Robyn Sand Anderson, 2016



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY	Choral improvisation on <i>Vom Himmel hoch</i> (From heaven above)	Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)
	Prelude on <i>Psalm 42</i>	Paul Manz (1919–2009)

THE OPENING HYMN 59	Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding	MERTON
	<i>All stand and sing.</i>	

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

<i>Celebrant</i>	Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
<i>People</i>	And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.
<i>Celebrant</i>	We light this candle as a symbol of the purity of heart only God can bring. For he shall purify his people like gold and silver, until they shine forth his righteousness.
<i>People</i>	Come, Lord Jesus, come!

KYRIE ELEISON

Cantor, then all: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Cantor, then all: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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

Music: Litany of the Saints, adapted by Richard Proulx, ©1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; 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

Malachi 3:1-4

All sit.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free *Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah*
All stand and sing.

Unison

1. Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free,
 2. Now from the house of Da - vid a child of grace is given;
 3. On pris - on - ers of dark - ness the sun be - gins to rise,

who vis - its and re - deems us, and grants us lib - er - ty.
 a Sav - ior comes a - mong us to raise us up to heaven.
 the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes,

The proph - ets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;
 Be - fore him goes the her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,
 to guide the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace;

God shall ful - fill the prom - ise to bring our peo - ple peace.
 the proph - et of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of day.
 O bless our God and Sav - ior with songs that nev - er cease!

WORDS: Michael Perry, 1973 (Lk. 1:68-79)
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983

MERLE'S TUNE
 78.76 D

Words © 1973 Hope Publishing Co., music © 1983 Hope Publishing Co.

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:3–11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 65 Prepare the way, O Zion

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:1–6

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

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

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.

Let us pray to God of many names, God beyond all names, who is the beginning and the end of every story.

Blessed are you who join us together in the communion of Christ's body. Renew and energize your holy Church, in this parish and throughout the world, that we may be a resurrection people, manifesting your steadfast love in our common life of praise and service. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O perfect Wisdom, direct and rule the hearts of the leaders and shapers of society, raise up prophets of justice and peace, and empower your people for the holy vocation of repairing the world. May we entrust all our labors to the work of your providence. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Deliverer, you unlock every door and make a way where there is no way. Set free all who are afflicted or distressed in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our parish prayer list. Resurrect their hope, grant them peace and refreshment, and restore their joy. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O compassionate One, hold us in your mercy: heal the sick, mend the broken, protect the vulnerable, shelter the refugee, strengthen the weary, rescue the lost, and give courage to all who struggle. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Morning Star, bright splendor of the light eternal, illuminating all things with your radiance: Come, enlighten all who sit in darkness, and those who dwell in the shadow of violence and death. Shine your light on those who have died, and bring comfort to all those who mourn. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Celebrant God who has come, God who does come, God who is yet to come: Make us an Advent people, ready and alert to welcome and receive you in the stranger's face, the loving act, the moment of grace, the presence of healing, the birth of possibility, the gift of wonder. Let every heart prepare you room. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All remain standing or kneel.

All **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you 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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM No small wonder

Paul Edwards (b. 1955)
Text: Paul Wigmore (1925–2014)

Small wonder the star,
Small wonder the light,
The angels in chorus,
The shepherds in fright;
But stable and manger for God –
No small wonder!

Small wonder the kings,
Small wonder they bore
The gold and the incense,
The myrrh, to adore:
But God gives his life on a cross –
No small wonder!

Small wonder the love,
Small wonder the grace,
The power, the glory,
The light of his face;
But all to redeem my poor heart –
No small wonder!

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH*All stand.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below;
 Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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

Cantabile, then all:
 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.

Cantabile:
 Heav - en and earth are full of your glo -

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

ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

ho - san - na in the high - est.

Canto:

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

Music: Missa Emmanuel, Richard Proulx, ©1991, 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

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

Cantor

1. Je - sus, wis - dom and might - y Lord;
 2. Je - sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree; you take a - way the sins... of the world,
 3. De - sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el:

1,2. *All* have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us. 3. *All* grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: Missa Emmanuel, Richard Proulx, ©1991, GIA Publications, Inc..

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion at St. John's.

If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.

If you have mobility limitations and would like a priest to bring Communion to you in your seat, please let an usher know.

A healing minister is available to pray with you today; go to the baptismal font after you receive Communion.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM Prepare the way (2015)

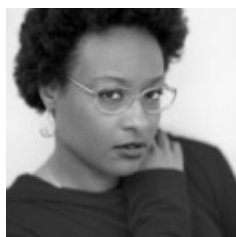
Zanaida Robles (b. 1979)

Text: Frans Mikael Franzen, adap. Charles P. Price

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 COMMUNION HYMN 81 Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

ES IST EIN ROS

All remain seated and sing.

THE PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Those worshipping online are invited to offer this prayer silently or aloud.

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 POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

All stand.

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 67 Comfort, comfort ye my people

PSALM 42

All sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Toccata in F

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

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 Todd FitzGerald

Layreader: Betty Knorr

Psalterer: Jx Eikel

The St. John's Youth Choir

The St. John's Schola: Rich Barstow, Helen Douglas, Candy Green, Mary Beth Lamlein, Odanice Olibrice, John Nowacki, Ram Tysoe, Abby White

Cantor: Abby White

Organist & Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein

Organ Scholar: Ted Babbitt

Acolytes: Dorian Ciscel, Caleb Worrell, Ethen Worrell

Ushers: Annabel Clapp, Julia O'Brien, Don Polk

Healing Prayers: Paul Shaker

Livestream Oversight: Ray Giolitto

Altar Guild: Bill Lockery, Nancy Pedersen

Nursery Worker: Kiley Murphy

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.

Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster; the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford; and the Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center.

All those whose hurts, burdens, and fears are unspoken or unknown.

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Jim Evans	Susan	Ellie Brown	Kimberley
Kim Green	Sue	Anita Winters	Kent Lawrence
Janet Ray	Whitney Lynch	Marrion	Clark Hendley
Brad Babbitt	William Bittinger	Marie	Maria Ferreira
Ward Farrell	Seamus Turco	Heather Pelletier	Mary
Mary A. Looney	David Lerner	Tom Reichenbach	Edie
Joanne	Joan	Duccio Rosselli del Turco	Gary Wait
Margaret Thomas	Susan Porta	Peter	Deb Christiansen

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Lissie Brooks	Anne Harney	Edward Nelson
Florie FitzGerald	Virginia Van Dyk	Bowie Thomas
Ann Hutchinson	Marshall Barnes	Emily Russell
Bobby Biondi	Lyn Walker	Sarah Thaxton
Easton Swift	Edward Hohl	Milo Evica
David Hrdlicka	Ellen O'Brien	

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

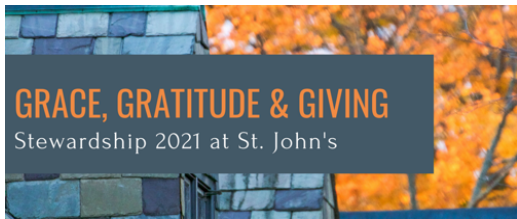
Edith & Bob Connolly
Teresa & Joel Lohr

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Thomas', Bethel; Christ Church, Bethlehem; Old St. Andrew's, Bloomfield; and for ministries to the homeless; parishes that offer a temporary or permanent shelter; Chapel on the Green, New Haven; Church by the Pond, Hartford; and all Ecclesia ministries.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Anglican Church of Burundi.



Thank you so much to all who have supported our stewardship campaign for 2022 thus far! For those of you who have not yet submitted a completed pledge card, it's not too late!!! Please consider pledging your financial support to St. John's for the coming year. If you need a pledge card, they are on the tables at both entrances to the church, or you may pledge online at sjparish.net/pledge. You may also call the church office and ask us to mail you a card. We are grateful for

everyone's contribution of whatever amount you are able to pledge. St. John's is a vibrant, flourishing and caring community because of our ongoing participation and financial commitment to it. - *Kim Byrd and Matt Ciscel, co-chairs of the Stewardship Committee*


 Thank you!


Total pledges as of 11/30/2021: 127

This list includes pledges received as of Tuesday, November 30.

The names of *new pledgers* are in italics.

Toby & Manny Aguiar, Bess & John Amamoo, June & Emmy Aziz, Janet & Brad Babbitt, Margie & Jenn Baker, Eleanor & Jack Barnes, Wendy & Rich Bartlett, Mike Biondi & Ginny Kemp, Eloise Biscoe, Shirley Blean, Lissie & Lynn Brooks, Kim & Chris Byrd, Buffy Cech, Francine & Stephan Christiansen, Martha & John Church, Alina & Matt Ciscel, Annabel & Elijah Clapp, Susan & Brian Clemow, Kate Coley, Trig & Sam Cooley, Edith & Bob Connolly, Steve Crocker & Rosa Guzzo, Jyothsna & Carlos Diaz, Pamela Dimock, Martin Dodd, *Marcos & Matteo Donnelly*, Helen Douglas, *Joe Duffy*, Hope & Bill Eakins, Nancy Eaton, Kate & Robert Eikel, Jx Eikel, Virginia Eikel, Bobby Eikel, Karan & Geoff Emerick, Carole & Tony Erdman, *Amy & Todd FitzGerald*, *Ginny & Rich Flinchbaugh*, Ellen & Ben Flynn, Danielle Foint, Ginger & Colin Gillespie, Tim Goetz, Anne & Craig Grant, Beth & Joel Grieco, David Grimaldi, Ann Hanlon, Bette-Jane Hardersen, Mary & John Hardy, Anne Harney, Cisalee Harrell, Kara & Matthew Hart, Susie & Ross Hatch, Anne & Randall Hayes, Patricia & Ronald Hensley, Priscilla Hexter, Ann Hutchinson, Tita & Douglas Hyland, Buffy & John Ineson, Carla Abdo-Katsipis & Iacovos Katsipis, *Beth & John Kauczka*, Mary Jo & Bert Keating, Sarah Kieffer, Betty Knorr, Ann Krissinger, Pamela Lamlein, Mary Beth & Scott Lamlein, Cindy & Jim Lawler, Karen Licht, Wendy & Tom Lincoln, *Bill Lockery*, Teresa & Joel Lohr, Lisa & Mike Mahoney, *Liz & Andy Marchion*, Enid & William McBride, Tina & David McCary, *Sarah & Robert McQuilkin*, Patrick Miller, Jean Mitchell, Marnie Mueller, Leah & Stewart Murchie, Liz & Alex Nelson, Ann Newbury, John Nowacki & Don Polk, Julia & Jim O'Brien, Harriet Odlum, Angela Allen-Peck & Caleb Peck, Nancy Pedersen, Agnes & Billy Peelle, Levi Pellin, Ginny & Mark Proft, Christa Rakich & Janis Milroy, Laura & John Roche, Barbara & Pieter Roos, Nina & Duccio Rosselli del Turco, *Stacey Samuel & Kelsey Bannon*, Judy Schaffer, Paul Shaker & Cleveland Williams, Jim Sharp, Nancy Skeelee, Mary & Spencer Sloan, Jackie & Paul Smith, Margaret & William Smith, Flora Speer, *Keely & Mark Stater*, Reid Sterrett, Dale & Christoph Stretz, John Swift & Lauren Mascola, Susan & Paul Thaxton, Sera & Abraham Thomas, Calvert Bowie Thomas, Margaret Thomas, Pat & Alex Vance, Pam & Jeff Verney, Audrey Walker, Lyn Walker & Tyler Smith, Joan Warner, *Jackie & Michael Wells*, Martin Wheeler & Deborah Ferrari, Ted Whittemore, John Wilcox & Virginia Van Dyk, *Taffy Wilcox*, Maggie & Sherwood Willard, Akilah Williams, Jeanne & Dennis Winkleblack, Wes Winterbottom, Brenda Zanta

Advent adult forums, Sundays, 9:30 a.m. We will continue exploring the “Way of Love” —an Episcopal resource focusing on key Christian practices—on the second, third, and fourth Sundays of Advent, when Todd FitzGerald and a parishioner will explore the practice of rest from different perspectives: 12/5 – Paul Shaker on resting in community, 12/12 – Lissie Brooks on resting in vocation, and 12/19 – Bette-Jane Hardersen on resting in creation. Join us!

Pipes Alive! today at 12:30 p.m. Today’s Pipes Alive! organ recital features Natasha Ulyanovsky, music director at Congregation Beth Israel, who will play a selection of pieces for Advent and Christmas. Free admission, with donations gratefully accepted. The recital will also be livestreamed at reddoormusic.org.

Online auction open through December 12 at 10 p.m. For the second year, we’re holding an online auction as part of the Christmas Festival fundraiser. Bidding is open from 4 p.m. on Friday, December 3 through 10 p.m. on Sunday, December 12. Come browse some terrific items donated by members of our St. John’s community—holiday treats and special meals, professional services, artwork, handcrafted housewares created with wood from our beloved copper beech tree, gifts, and a Vermont vacation home (big enough for more than one family!) for the 2022 Presidents Day weekend. Bidders who are not St. John’s parishioners are welcome except when noted on specific items. Go to biddingowl.com/StJohnsWH. Happy bidding!

Candlelight Festival of Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 12, 3 p.m. A holiday celebration of the return of choral music! An amazing start to the Advent season! In the tradition of King’s College, Cambridge, prepare your soul for the Christmas miracle with carols for choir and organ. This event is a long-standing tradition at St. John’s—a “must” to center your soul during the Advent season. Featuring the St. John’s Adult and Youth Choirs; Scott Lamlein, choirmaster; Floyd Higgins, organist.

Give to our Blessing Box. Our new Blessing Box, or “little free food pantry,” has been empty several times in the past week, which is a good thing because it means our neighbors are coming to the box when they are in need of food. The Blessing Box encourages all to take what you need, and give what you can. Stop by any time to drop off a few non-perishable food items, from peanut butter and cereal to pasta and snack bars, or hygiene items such as soap, toothpaste, or TP. The Blessing Box is designed to hold a small number of items. If the box is full, please hang onto your donations and try again another time. If you have large quantities of food to donate, please continue to put it in the wagon in the back of the church for delivery to the Grace Seventh Day Adventist Church food pantry on Prospect Avenue. Thank you!



A note on year-end giving. We are so grateful for the pledge payments and other gifts that we receive in the final weeks of the year. **For your contributions of cash or checks to appear on your 2021 year-end giving statement, they must be received in the St. John’s office by Tuesday, December 28.** Due to holiday schedules, contributions received after December 28 will get posted to St. John’s bank account in January, and will appear on your 2022 giving statement (even if they are in payment of a 2021 pledge). **If you would like to make an online pledge payment with your credit card and have it appear on your 2021 giving statement, please do so by Friday, December 24,** so there is plenty of time for your contribution to clear the merchant account and our bank account in December. **If you plan to donate stock** to St. John’s, please contact Financial Administrator Peggy O’Toole at peggy@sjparish.net or 860-523-5201 x311, before you or your broker initiate the stock transfer. Stock transfers can take up to two weeks. Thank you for your generous support of St. John’s.

Christmas flower donations. As is traditional, we will adorn the church with poinsettias for the Christmas Eve and Christmas services. We welcome donations in any amount in honor or memory of your loved ones, to help cover the costs of the poinsettias, and those names will be published in the Christmas Eve and Christmas bulletins. To donate, send in your contribution and names using the Christmas flower envelopes in the pews, which can be put in the offering plate, or by sending your contribution and names to the office. You may also email names to Ellen in the parish office at ellen@sjparish.net, and send in your contribution separately. **Names must be received by Monday, December 20.**

Can you guess which St. John's staff member this is? Not quite sure? That's because this photo is not an accurate reflection of what this person looks like NOW. Don't let this happen to you! Send us an updated individual or family photo for our parish directory!



We produce parish directories in-house using our membership database software and photocopier. Between now and January, we are updating contact information and parishioner photos, so we can print an updated directory after the new year. In addition to updated photos, we need **updated contact info** (especially if you've moved, changed your email, or dropped your landline in recent years).

And did you know that in addition to listing birthdays in the bulletin, we have started sending birthday cards to parishioners this year? We can only send one to YOU if we have your **date of birth** in our database! We will never share your birth year or age. We also like to recognize **wedding anniversaries**, so please send those dates too!

Send info and photos to Ellen at ellen@sjparish.net.

You can also access our parish directory through a password-protected smartphone app! Download the "ACS Church Life" app and then contact Ellen, who will provide you with a user name and password. The app allows you to look up contact info and photos of other church members, and to update your own record.

REST
Adult education for Advent

Join Todd FitzGerald, priest in charge, and a member of the parish each week to talk about the practice of rest.

SUNDAYS IN ADVENT
9:30 A.M.



12/5
Rest in community
with Paul Shaker



12/12
Rest in vocation
with Lissie Brooks



12/19
Rest in creation
with Bette-Jane Hardersen

ST. JOHN'S ONLINE AUCTION

Part of our 2021 Christmas Festival fundraiser.



**BID ON MORE THAN 30 UNIQUE ITEMS!
Gifts, artwork, food, professional services, and a VT vacation home for Presidents Day weekend!**

**OPEN DECEMBER 3 AT 4 PM
THROUGH DECEMBER 12 AT 10 P.M.**

Proceeds support St. John's ministries in the parish and community.

biddingowl.com/StJohnsWH

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 19, 2021

10:30 am

Come hear the story of God Among Us,
as told by the children and youth of
the parish.



Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of
St. John's Renowned Austin Organ

Pipes Alive!

Sunday, December 5, 2021
livestreamed from www.reddoormusic.org

Natasha Ulyanovsky
Organist




MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR
WWW.REDDOORMUSIC.ORG

Saint John's Choir
of Youth and Adults
Scott Lamlein, choirmaster
Floyd Higgins, organist

CANDLELIGHT FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

In the tradition of
King's College,
Cambridge, England

- Free admission
- Donations welcome
- In-person and
livestreamed
- Reception to follow

Sunday
December 12, 2021
3:00pm




RedDoorMusic.org

Music at the Red Door
St. John's Episcopal Church
679 Farmington Ave (near Prospect)
West Hartford, CT 06119

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



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8 a.m. Spoken Holy Eucharist

9:30 a.m. Christian formation for all ages

10:30 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist

(also livestreamed at sjparish.net/services)

5 p.m. Choral Evensong on select fourth Sundays of the month

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net).....	<i>Priest in Charge</i>
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)	<i>Assistant Rector</i>
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net).....	<i>Director of Music</i>
The Rev. Walter McKenney	<i>Deacon</i>
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net).....	<i>Parish Manager</i>
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net).....	<i>Sexton</i>
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net).....	<i>Financial Administrator</i>
Christa Rakich.....	<i>Organ Artist-in-Residence</i>
Ralph Valentine	<i>Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus</i>

VESTRY

Geoff Emerick	<i>Warden</i>
Virginia Van Dyk	<i>Warden</i>
Tim Goetz and John Roche	<i>Co-Treasurers</i>
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	