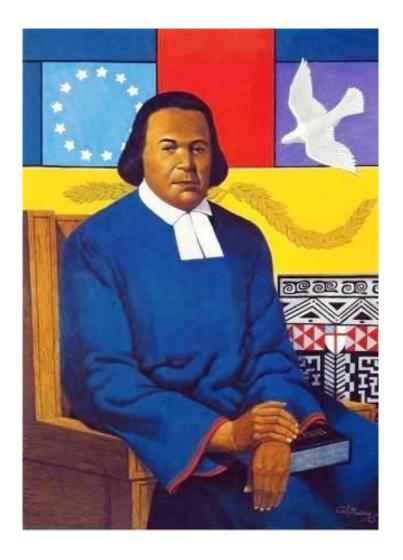
St. John's Episcopal Church

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



The Feast of Absalom Jones
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
February 12, 2023
10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

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 our online newcomer form by scanning the QR code or going to 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!



Scan to fill out online newcomer form.

Children are always welcome to be in church with their families. We encourage you to sit up front, as children 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. Our staffed nursery is open from 9 a.m. to noon on Sunday mornings for children age 5 and younger. Parents are welcome to drop little ones there for part or all of the service, and there is a changing table and rocking chair should your child need to be changed, fed, or soothed.



The Reverend Absalom Jones, a saint in the Episcopal Church, was born into slavery in Delaware in 1746, and ultimately purchased his own freedom and that of his wife. He founded the first Black Episcopal congregation, and in 1802, became the first African American to be ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church. He is remembered liturgically on the date of his death, February 13.

THE VOLUNTARY

Prelude on Beecher

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

THE OPENING HYMN 477 All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine *All stand and sing*.

ENGELBERG

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly

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

People Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Title: Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. Set us free, heavenly Father, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that,

honoring the steadfast courage of your servant Absalom Jones, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which you have given us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,

now and for ever.

People Amen.

All sit.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 42:5–9

hus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 126

Chanted by the choir, with the people singing the antiphon as indicated.

Anglican chant by Edward Rimbault (1816–1876)



- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, * then were we like those who dream.
- Then was our mouth filled with laughter, * and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- Then they said among the nations, *
 "The LORD has done great things for them."
- The LORD has done great things for us, * and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, * like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears * will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, * will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE Galatians 5:1–5

or freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Listen! I, Paul, am telling you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. Once again I testify to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obliged to obey the entire law. You who want to be justified by the law have cut yourselves off from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 470 There's a wideness in God's mercy

BEECHER

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL John 15:12–15

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

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father."

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 bring to God our prayers as we await the fulfillment of God's promises.

For our Church, that we may celebrate and welcome the diverse faces of Christ in our community, our worship, our ministries, and our leadership. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

For world leaders, that they may work to end the violence perpetrated by prejudice, deadly weapons, and cold indifference. May our nation and countries around the world become havens of peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

For this faith community, that we may respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and act together to end violence and racism. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

For our public officials, that the Spirit of Wisdom may help them work for quality education, fair housing, equal employment opportunities, and equal justice under the law for all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For solidarity in our human family, that we may be vigilant in our protection of and care for those who are most vulnerable and in need, especially those on our parish prayer list. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

For those who have died, especially those who have died in the pursuit of justice, that they may be welcomed into the great glory of God's love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Celebrant

O God, whose promise of justice and mercy sustains us, hear our prayers as we anticipate that time when all will stand reconciled before you in freedom and peace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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

All remain standing or kneel.

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 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 Thou God of truth and love

Malcolm Archer (b. 1952) Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

Thou God of truth and love, We seek thy perfect way, Ready thy choice to approve, Thy providence to obey: Enter into thy wise design, And sweetly lose our will in thine.

Why hast thou cast our lot In the same age and place? And why together brought To see each other's face? To join with softest sympathy, And mix our friendly souls in thee?

Didst thou not make us one, That we might one remain, Together travel on, And bear each other's pain; Till all thy utmost goodness prove, And rise renewed in perfect love?

O may thy Spirit seal
Our souls unto that day,
With all thy fulness fill,
And then transport away!
Away to our eternal rest,
Away to our Redeemer's breast!



Malcolm Archer's setting of this Charles Wesley text contains a highly lyrical melody and emotional connection. Pay special attention to the dramatic treatment of the middle verse: "Didst Thou not make us one, that being one we must remain? Together, travel on, and bear each others' pain." The text and tune lift up a universal message of following Christ, serving others, and God being with us in times of trouble.

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.

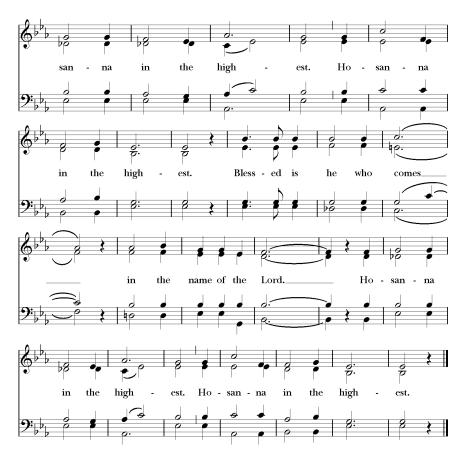
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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, for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations. 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: from Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 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.

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 children; 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,

AllOur 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.

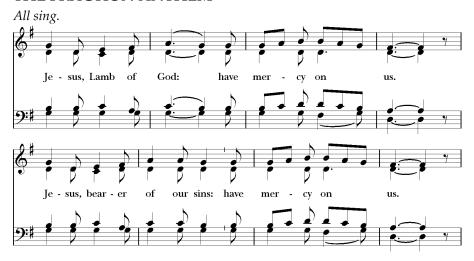
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia. People

THE FRACTION ANTHEM





 $\label{eq:music:music:music:music} \textit{Music: from Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. \textit{Richard Proulx (b. 1937)}. \\ \textit{Adaptation: Copyright } © 1985 \textit{ GIA Publications, Inc.}$

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. To receive, please kneel or stand at the altar rail. You may choose to receive bread only, intinct (dip) your wafer in the wine, or drink from the cup.

If you would like a blessing, 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. If you would like to pray with our healing prayer volunteer, go to the baptismal font at the back of the church after receiving Communion.

THE COMMUNION MOTET Oculi omnium

Charles Wood (1866–1926) Words: Psalm 144:15

Oculi omnium in te spirant Domine: et tu das illis escam in tempore opportune. Gloria tibi Domine. Amen. The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord: and thou givest them their meat in due season. Glory be to thee, O Lord. Amen.

THE COMMUNION HYMN 676 There is a balm in Gilead

BALM IN GILEAD

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.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **I**

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 599 Lift every voice and sing *All sing.*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Toccato from Suite for Organ

Florence Price (1887–1953)



Florence Price was an American classical composer, pianist, organist, and music teacher. Price was educated at the New England Conservatory of Music, and was active in Chicago from 1927 until her death in 1953. Price is noted as the first African American woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer, and the first to have a composition played by a major orchestra. Price composed more than 300 works. In 2009, a substantial collection of her works and papers was found in her abandoned summer home.

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 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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Psalm Antiphon from A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition ©2007 Carl P. Daw, Jr., and Kevin R. Hackett. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Margie Baker **Preacher:** The Reverend Todd FitzGerald **Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreader: Robert Eikel

The St. John's Choir School & Adult Choir Organist & Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein

Organ Scholar: Yingying Xia

Acolytes: Genella Evans, Dorian Ciscel, Bradley Crocker **Ushers**: Annabel Clapp, Donielle Joslyn, Dan Minster

Healing Prayers: Chris Byrd Livestream Oversight: Elijah Clapp Altar Guild: Bill Lockery, Barbara Roos

Nursery Workers: Lilah Lorenzo, Caroline Thaxton, Olivia Thaxton Sunday School Teachers: Taffy Wilcox, Jeff Verney, Matt Ciscel

Coffee Hour Host: Angela Allen-Peck

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of William E. Knorr and Robert W. Knorr.

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	Sam
Kim Green	Sue	Anita Winters	Paul Epstein
Janet Ray	Whitney Lynch	Mary Jo Keating	Nicole
Brad Babbitt	Don Cole	Robert Connolly	Wendy
Ward Farrell	Tom Reichenbach	Alicia Leggett	Bob Norton
Paul L. Peck	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Joan Renz	Jessica
Virginia Skeele	Gina Giusto	Anne Beyersdorfer	Emma Pinney
Marie Montas	Daisy	Gus Murchie	Steve and family
Ella	Carolyn Dodd		

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays:

Maisie Smith Beth Kauczka
Caroline Smith Ryan Hill
Susan Harrison Nancy Pedersen

Those getting married and celebrating anniversaries:

Mary Sypek & Ryan Honyotski (to be married on February 18)

Jordan Kinsky & Florencia Longo

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 the Union of Black Episcopalians CT and the Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation Ministry Network.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Episcopal Church in the Phillippines.

Celtic worship, Sunday, February 19, 5 p.m. This month's Celtic service will be next Sunday at 5 p.m., with a potluck supper afterward. St. John's Celtic services include prayer, reflection, music, and Holy Eucharist, and are less formal than Sunday morning services. People of all ages are welcome.

Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday, February 21 and 22. Mark the start of the Lenten season by joining us for a pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday (February 21) at 6 p.m., followed by a family-friendly service with imposition of ashes at 7 p.m. If you can help with the pancake supper by lending us a griddle or cooking/serving pancakes, please contact Margie at margie@sjparish.net. On Ash Wednesday (February 22), we will have three services in the church with imposition of ashes at 7 a.m., noon, and 7 p.m. The noon and evening services will include Holy Eucharist and hymns, and the evening service will also be livestreamed.

Planning meeting TODAY! Save the date: Spring Food Fling, Friday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. While it may be cold now, spring will soon arrive and with it our annual Spring Food Fling—a combined fundraiser and parish evening event for adults. Please save the date of Friday, April 28. TODAY immediately after the 10:30 service, please meet in the Reception Room if you are interested in helping to plan the event or simply want to learn more about it. Can't be there on the 12th but still want to help? E-mail Julia O'Brien at jpowellob@comcast.net. There will be roles big and very small for all who want to participate. Think spring!

New church directory coming! In a few weeks, we will print a new parish directory. The directory is also available online through the **Realm Connect** app for your tablet or smartphone. See below for information on how to access your Realm profile and make sure all of your information is correct (and how to add a photo!). **IMPORTANT:** If you do NOT want to be included in the parish directory, let Ellen know by March 1.



Realm, our cloud-based member management software. has tools to connect members with the church and each other. Setting up login access to your Realm profile allows you to:

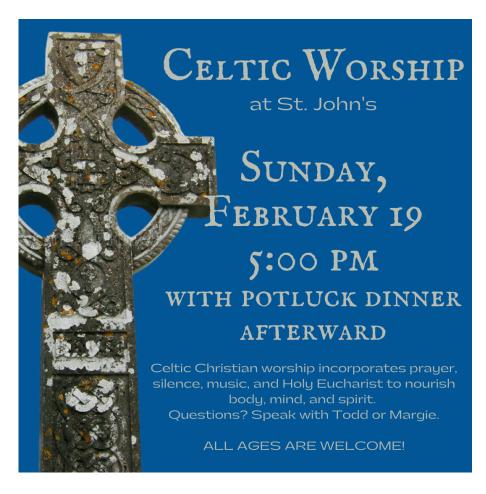
- Update your contact details, photo, and other info whenever you want.
- Access an online parish directory that is updated in real time.
- Track your pledge payments so you know what you've paid and what you owe.
- Make pledge payments or other contributions from your phone or computer, and set up recurring gifts.
- Register and pay for special events.

Start using Realm today!

Set up your login and personalize your Realm profile. Go to siparish.net/realmhowto for instructions OR contact Ellen in the parish office at ellen@sjparish.net



Get the Realm Connect app for your phone or tablet, so you can use Realm and access a parish directory on the go.





Tuesday, February 21

6 pm - Shrove Tuesday pancake supper

Suggested donation: \$5/person, \$10/family

7 pm - Family-friendly service w/ imposition of ashes

Wednesday, February 22

Services with imposition of ashes at

7 am, 12 noon, and 7 pm

All three services will be held in the nave. The 7pm service will include also be livestreamed online.

St. John's Episcopal Church

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679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119 860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8 a.m. Spoken Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Choral Holy Eucharist The 10:30 service is also livestreamed at sjparish.net/services. Choral Evensong or Celtic Eucharist at 5 p.m. on select Sundays. Daily Morning Prayer by phone at 6:45 a.m. Monday through Friday

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net)	Priest in Charoe		
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)			
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)			
The Rev. Walter McKenney	Deacon		
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	Parish Manager		
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)	Sexton		
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)			
Christa Rakich	Organ Artist-in-Residence		
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus		
VESTRY			
Ginger Gillespie	Warden		

2021-23: Annabel Clapp, Robert Eikel, Julia O'Brien

2022–24: Lissie Brooks, Marcos Donnelly, Rosa Guzzo, Mary Sypek

2023–25: Angela Allen-Peck, Eleanor Barnes, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer