# St. John's Episcopal Church

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



# The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II July 16, 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 siparish.net/newcomer

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. We do not offer staffed nursery care over the summer, but a changing table and couches are available in the Education Wing for parents to use as needed.

Photo credit: David McCary



#### ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Sei gegrüsset, Jesu gütig, Variation 10, BWV 768 J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Hail to you, kind Jesus

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 48 O day of radiant gladness *All stand and sing.* 

ES FLOG ENS KLEINS WALDVOGELEIN

#### 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 forever. 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. **Amen.** 

#### THE HYMN OF PRAISE





#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Celebrant Let us pray. O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and

grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; 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

Genesis 25:19-24

All sit.

hese are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him

Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 119:105–112

All say the response in unison.

- 105 Your word is a lantern to my feet \* and a light upon my path.
- 106 I have sworn and am determined \* to keep your righteous judgments.
- 107 I am deeply troubled; \* preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.
- 108 Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips, \* and teach me your judgments.
- 109 My life is always in my hand, \* yet I do not forget your law.
- 110 The wicked have set a trap for me, \* but I have not strayed from your commandments.
- 111 Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; \* truly, they are the joy of my heart.
- 112 I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes \* for ever and to the end.

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 8:1–11

Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does

not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 440 Blessed Jesus, at thy word

LIEBSTER JESU

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL *Matthew* 13:1–9, 18–23

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

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

esus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen! Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Walter McKenney

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 AND THE CONFESSION

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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our presiding bishop, for Jeff and Laura our bishops, and for all bishops and other ministers; For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The people may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence.* The people may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your Name;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 MUSIC Improvisation on Liebster Jesu

Christa Rakich (b. 1952)

#### THE PRESENTATION HYMN

**OLD 100**<sup>TH</sup>

All stand and sing.

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

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

#### The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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: Land of Rest, arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889–1983)

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

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

#### THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the people of God.

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 HYMN 530 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word *All remain seated and sing*.

GOTT SEI DANK

#### 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 or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 HYMN IN PROCESSION 632 O Christ, the Word incarnate *All sing*.

**MUNICH** 

### THE DISMISSAL

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

#### THE VOLUNTARY Fugue on America

Eugene Thayer (1838–1889)

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 Walter McKenney

Layreader: Robert Eikel
Organist: Christa Rakich
Ushers: Geoff Emerick, Don Polk
Healing Prayers: Wes Winterbottom
Livestream Oversight: Jenn Baker
Altar Guild: Bill Lockery, Brenda Zanta

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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, and the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford. All those whose hurts, burdens, and fears are unspoken or unknown.

#### Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Kim Green	Susan	Ellie Brown	Paul Epstein
Janet Ray	Sue	Anita Winters	Wendy
Brad Babbitt	Whitney Lynch	Mary Jo Keating	<b>Bob Norton</b>
Ward Farrell	Tom Reichenbach	Robert Connolly	Emma Pinney
Paul L. Peck	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Anne Beyersdorfer	Sean Kuruvilla
Virginia Skeele	Gina Giusto	Alison Gillespie	Joseph
Grant Loevenbruck	Mima Esponda	Joyce Flynn	Sarah Carroll
John & Barbara Spannaus	The Yelland family	Gus Murchie	Greg Highland
Jennifer Blean	Nick Willke	Steve Chambers	Jane Nelson
Tori	Harry Barber	Rachel Boccio	Rachel
Deborah			

#### Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Christian Dahlstrom

#### Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Steve Chambers Cisalee Harrell
Patrick Reardon Bob Bainbridge
Sarah Kieffer Emily Cortavarria
Annabel Trickett-Clapp Charnley Parr
Eleanor Barnes John Walsh

Jack Curran

#### Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Janet & Brad Babbitt Heidi & Jeff Gostyla David & Tina McCary Lissie & Lynn Brooks

#### In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Paul's, Riverside; St. Andrew the Apostle, Rocky Hill; Christ Church, Roxbury; and for wardens, treasurers, clerks, all vestry members, and elected delegates.

#### In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

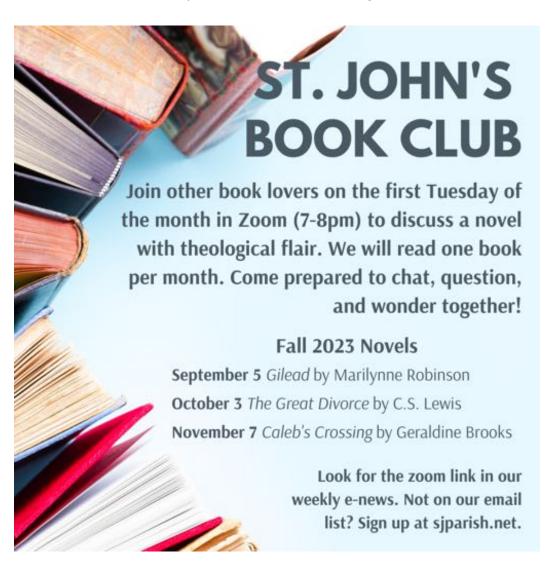
Pray for the Anglican Church of Canada.

**Volunteer for our Kids Community Music Camp! August 21–25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** We already have more than 20 campers signed up for our week-long day camp in August, and we need lots of help to make it happen! Contact Ellen in the parish office if you can be a camp support volunteer or provide a lunch. More details in the graphic on page 13.

**Support our neighbors this summer.** With fewer donations going to food pantries and no school breakfast and lunch programs, many of our neighbors struggle to have enough to eat over the summer. Help feed our neighbors by donating food to our Blessing Box and our collection for the West Hartford Food Pantry. Details are in the graphic on page 15. **We can also use full-size toiletries and summer socks and t-shirts** to keep on hand in the office for people in need. Go to siparish.net/blessingbags for our Amazon wish list.

**July staffing:** Todd FitzGerald, our priest in charge, is on vacation for the month of July in Maine, where he also preaches and presides at a summer chapel in Cape Neddick on Sundays. Todd is "offline" for the month, so if you have non-urgent matters to discuss with him, please wait to contact him until he returns to the office on August 1. Margie Baker (assistant rector) and the rest of the staff are available to address pastoral, liturgical, administrative, and other needs in Todd's absence. If there is an urgent matter requiring Todd's attention, Margie or Ellen will contact him.

**Online St. John's book club to start in September.** The brand new St. John's book club will meet monthly on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. online (Zoom), starting in September. In the graphic below are the first three books we will read and discuss, so you can get a head start on reading over the summer! The Zoom link will be included in the e-newsletter on the Thursday before each book club meeting.



# Volunteers needed!

Help give our campers a wonderful week of music, creativity, and friendship.



# AUGUST 21 - 25 9AM TO 3PM HOW YOU CAN HELP:

PROVIDE A LUNCH: Homemade or purchased, for kids and volunteers (30 to 40 people). We can provide guidelines/ideas on what to serve. We ask that you help SERVE and CLEAN UP the lunch you provide if possible! Lunch happens around noon.

BE A CAMP SUPPORT VOLUNTEER: Help supervise and support campers as they move through different activities, including music and dance classes and outdoor play time. While we would love volunteers to commit to all 5 days, if that's not possible you can commit to mornings only, afternoons only, 2-3 days out of the week, etc.

ADULTS, COLLEGE STUDENTS, & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE ALL WELCOME. CONTACT ELLEN IN THE PARISH OFFICE (ELLEN@SJPARISH.NET OR 860.523.5201).

# Donating Food at St. John's

We now have TWO ways for you to donate nonperishable food to our neighbors in need.

## Blessing Box

### WHAT:

The Blessing Box is a small wooden box in the "Abraham's Welcome" garden space in front of the church.

### HOW:

This is a "self-service" mini food pantry: Leave what you can, take what you need. Ready-to-eat food is especially welcome. If the box is full, hang onto your items and try another time. The box gets a lot of use from our neighbors, so needs regular refilling!

# **Town Food Pantry**

### WHAT:

We give donated food to the West Hartford Food Pantry on a regular basis for town residents in need.\*

### HOW:

Leave nonperishable items in the wagon in the back of the church. Parishioner Eleanor Barnes periodically delivers collected food to the food pantry at Town Hall.

\*We previously gave food to the Grace Seventh Day Adventist food pantry on Prospect Avenue, but they are closed temporarily.

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

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



#### **SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

9 a.m. Sunday: Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden 10:30 a.m. Sunday: Holy Eucharist in the church and livestreamed Daily Morning Prayer by phone at 6:45 a.m. Monday through Friday Contact parish office for call-in details.

#### **STAFF**

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net)  The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)  Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)  The Rev. Walter McKenney  Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)  Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)  Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)  Christa Rakich	
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus
VESTRY  Cingar Cillagnia	Wardon
Ginger GillespieStewart Murchie	Warden
Anne Harney and David McCary	Co-Treasurers
2021–23: Annabel Clapp, Robert Eikel, Julia O'Brien	CO Treasurers

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

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