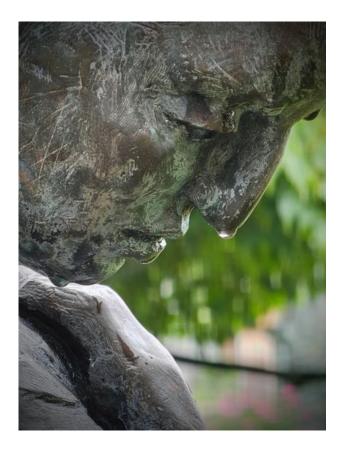
St. John's Episcopal Church

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



The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II July 23, 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



Scan to fill out online 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 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 Short Prelude & Fugue in F, BWV 556 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 365Come, thou Almighty KingMoscowAll stand and sing.Moscow

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

All sing. 1 All glo God on high, peace . TY be to and on earth from 2 0 of God, Lord Lamb Je - sus Christ, whom God the Fa ther 3 You ly the Ho . hy One, who came for our sal on are good will fail ing - ly and God's hea ven. um . he gave 115, who for the world was sac . ri - ficed up ły God's true Son, who V2 tion. and on you are . peo - ple bless, we wor - ship you, we raise for all giv en. We 60 . the CT085 us; and, 35 you sit at God's right hand and on to save be - fore tion. You, on - ly, Christ, as Lord we own and, cre was . a . ther. your great glo - ry thanks and praise, O God, Al-might - y Fa we for judg-ment there must stand, have mer - cy, Lord, up on 115. with the Spi - rit, you a - lone share in the Fa - ther's glo ry. Words: Nikolans Decius (14907-1541); tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev.; para. of Gieris in moduli 87. 87. 887 Music: Alleis Gott in der HiA, melody an, Nikolaus Decius (14907-1541);

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son 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

All sit.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of

Genesis 28:10-19a

the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

THE PSALTER

The people say the words in bold.

- Lord, you have searched me out and known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places * and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * **but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**
- 4 You press upon me behind and before * and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; * it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? * where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning * and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me * and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, * and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; * darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; * try me and know my restless thoughts.
- 23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me * and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

Psalm 139:1–11, 22–23

THE SECOND LESSON

rothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh – for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 601 O day of God, draw nigh All stand and sing.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

esus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

THE GOSPEL

Romans 8:12-25

ST. MICHAEL

The Reverend Margie Baker

THE SERMON *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.

- AllHave 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

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.AllAnd also with you.

THE WELCOME *All sit.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY MUSIC Meditation on Deep River

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

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

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, 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





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.

OLD 100TH

Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)

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.

CelebrantAlleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.PeopleTherefore 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 309 O Food to pilgrims given

O Welt, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN

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 or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

PeopleEternal 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 344 Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing *All sing.*

SICILIAN MARINERS

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY The Rejoicing *from* Royal Fireworks Music Georg Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

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 and Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker Deacon: The Reverend Walter McKenney Layreader: Bill Lockery Organist: Scott Lamlein Ushers: John & Laura Roche Healing Prayers: Sarah Kieffer Livestream Oversight: Scott Lamlein Altar Guild: Kate Eikel, Buffy Ineson

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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:

0, 1	,		
Kim Green	Susan	Ellie Brown	Paul Epstein
Janet Ray	Sue	Anita Winters	Wendy
Brad Babbitt	Whitney Lynch	Mary Jo Keating	Bob Norton
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	Doug Larson		

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

JP Evans	Priscilla Hexter	Juliette Peck
Malcolm Latif	Danielle Foint	David Kvam
Francis Lamlein	Brad Babbitt	John Wilcox

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Eleanor & Jack Barnes Carolyn & Stanley Giliberto Amy & Todd FitzGerald

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. John's, Salisbury; Trinity, Seymour; Christ Church, Sharon; and for parish office volunteers, curates, seminary interns, parish assistants and associates, and missional curacies.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of the Province of Central Africa.

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.

ST. JOHN'S **BOOK CLUB** Join other book lovers on the first Tuesday of the month in Zoom (7-8pm) to discuss a novel with theological flair. We will read one book per month. Come prepared to chat, question, and wonder together! Fall 2023 Novels September 5 Gilead by Marilynne Robinson October 3 The Great Divorce by C.S. Lewis November 7 Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks Look for the zoom link in our weekly e-news. Not on our email list? Sign up at siparish.net.

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)	Priest in Charge
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)	Assistant Rector
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)	Director of Music
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)	Financial Administrator
Christa Rakich	Organ Artist-in-Residence
Ralph Valentine	

VESTRY

Ginger Gillespie	Warden
Stewart Murchie	Warden
Anne Harney and David McCary	Freasurers
2021–23: Annabel Clapp, Robert Eikel, Julia O'Brien	
2022–24: Lissie Brooks, Marcos Donnelly, Rosa Guzzo, Mary Honyotski	
2023–25: Angela Allen-Peck, Eleanor Barnes, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer	