

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ

www.sjparish.net



The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

July 9, 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.



*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.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Melita

Christa Rakich (b. 1952)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 718 God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
All stand and sing.

NATIONAL HYMN

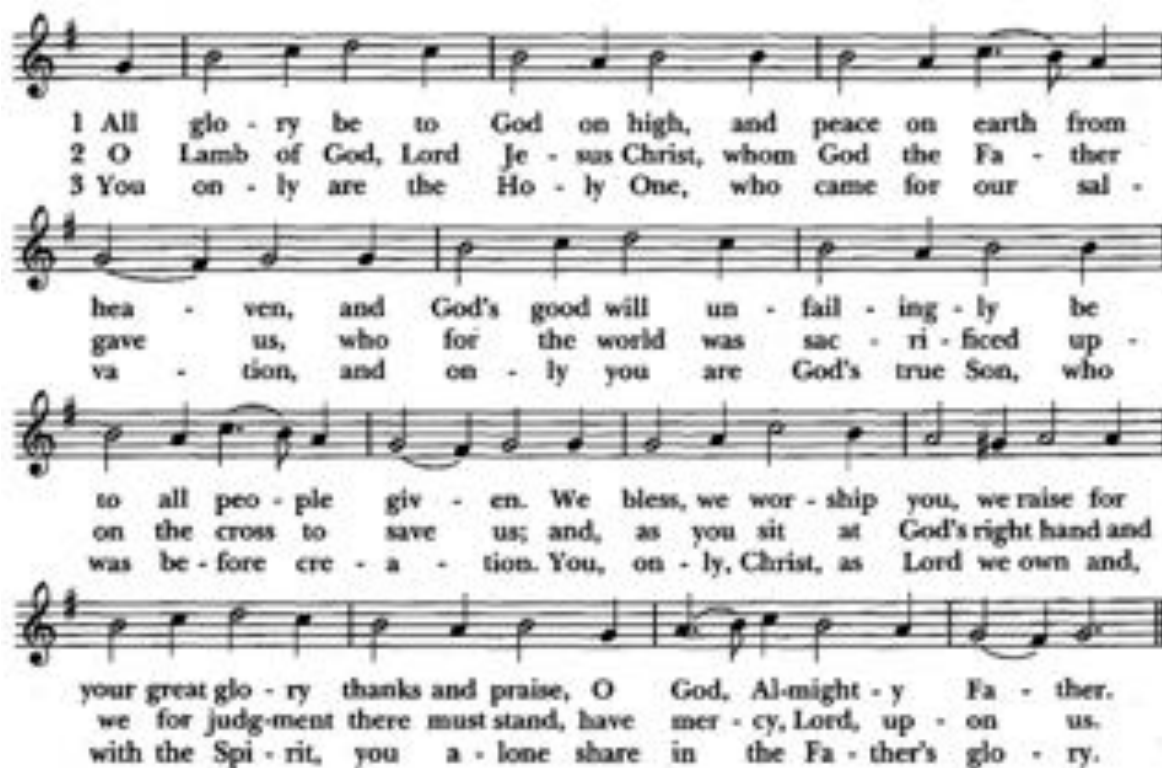
THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 - ry be to God on high, and peace on earth from
 2 O Lamb of God, Lord Je - sus Christ, whom God the Fa - ther
 3 You on - ly are the Ho - ly One, who came for our sal -

hea - ven, and God's good will un - fail - ing - ly be
 gave us, who for the world was sac - ri - ficed up -
 va - tion, and on - ly you are God's true Son, who

to all peo - ple giv - en. We bless, we wor - ship you, we raise for
 on the cross to save us; and, as you sit at God's right hand and
 was be - fore cre - a - tion. You, on - ly, Christ, as Lord we own and,

your great glo - ry thanks and praise, O God, Al-might - y Fa - ther.
 we for judg - ment there must stand, have mer - cy, Lord, up - on us.
 with the Spi - rit, you a - lone share in the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

Words: Nikolaus Decius (1493?-1541); tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. J.
 para. of Gloria in excelsis

Music: Allein Gott in der Höh, melody an. Nikolaus Decius (1493?-1541);

87. 87. 887

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 24:34–38, 42–49, 58–67

All sit.

The servant said to Laban, “I am Abraham’s servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.’ I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a

little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" —let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.' Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left." And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE

Song of Solomon 2:8–13

All say the response in unison.

**The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.**

**My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag.
Look, there he stands behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.**

**My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;
for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.**

**The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.**

**The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.**

Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 7:15–25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will

what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 693, vv. 1,2,4,5,6 Just as I am, without one plea

WOODWORTH

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

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

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

Jesus said to the crowd, “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Margie Baker

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, especially Michael Soucy, 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 Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele
 Rejoice greatly, o my soul

Anton Heiller (1923–1979)

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

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



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 302 Father, we thank thee who hast planted
All remain seated and sing.

RENDEZ À DIEU

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 482 Lord of all hopefulness

SLANE

All sing.

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 and Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Deacon: The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreader: Bill Lockery

Organist: Christa Rakich

Ushers: Carlos Diaz, Robert Eikel

Healing Prayers: David Grimaldi

Livestream Oversight: Ray Giolitto

Altar Guild: Bette-Jane Hardersen, 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:

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 Skeeel	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

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton
Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

David McCary	Bert Keating
Abigail Stretz	Leah Lorenzo
Barry Simson	Kristi Curran
Andrew Hicks	

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Ginny & Rich Flinchbaugh

Those who have died:

Michael Soucy, *relative of the Murphy/Thaxton family*

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. James', Poquetanuck; Christ Church, Redding; St. Stephen's, Ridgefield; and for ECCT and parish committees on investments, stewardship, planned giving, insurance, and personnel policy.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Anglican Church of Burundi.

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 below.

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 13. **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 sjparish.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.

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. Parishoner 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.



Rest, Pray, Love, Play

activities for everyone



We can pray, serve, gather, and rejoice in any season! We've compiled 30 activities to keep God at the center of our lives even when routines shift and we aren't at church as often. This summer, complete as many of them as you want. Pick up a copy at church or go to sjparish.net/summer.

St. John's Summer Sundays

9 a.m. outdoors

10:30 a.m. indoors & livestreamed

June 11 through September 3

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).....	<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 (dwright@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

Ginger Gillespie.....	<i>Warden</i>
Stewart Murchie	<i>Warden</i>
Anne Harney and David McCary.....	<i>Co-Treasurers</i>

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