

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

August 20, 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: Ginny Kemp



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Basse de Trompette
Prelude in D

Jean-Adam Guilain (d. 1703)
Johann K.F. Fischer (1665–1746)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 380 From all that dwell below the skies
All stand and sing.

OLD 100TH

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 (1490-1541); tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1986), rev.;
 para. of *Gloria in excelsis*

Music: *Allein Gott in der Höh*, melody att. Nikolaus Decius (1490-1541);

87, 83, 887

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son 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 45:1-15

All sit.

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve

life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 133

The people say the words in bold.

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 **It is like fine oil upon the head ***
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 **It is like the dew of Hermon ***
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 **For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: ***
life for evermore.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32

Iask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

*Matthew 15:10–28**Minister* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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 ANTHEM Sing, my soul, his wondrous love

Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)
Text found at Hymn 467

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are
 full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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 321 My God, thy table now is spread

ROCKINGHAM

All remain seated and sing.

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 539 O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling

TIDINGS

All sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello (1686–1739)

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 Todd FitzGerald

Preacher: The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreader: Christoph Stretz

The St. John's Summer Singers

Organist and Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein

Ushers: Dan Minster, Enid Oberholtzer

Healing Prayers: Karen Licht

Livestream Oversight: Mary Honyotski

Altar Guild: Barbara Roos, Carol Sonne

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.

Hymns used by permission of OneLicense, No. A-724992. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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	Sean Kuruvilla
Paul L. Peck	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Anne Beyersdorfer	Joseph
Virginia Skeele	Gina Giusto	Alison Gillespie	Sarah Carroll
Grant Loevenbruck	Mima Esponda	Joyce Flynn	Greg Highland
John & Barbara Spannaus	The Yelland family	Steve Chambers	Jane Nelson
Jennifer Blean	Harry Barber	Rachel Boccio	Rachel
Tori	Doug Larson	Joan & Larry Ackley	Guy Russo
Deborah	Dennis Simoni	Guy Russo	Deborah Seid
Hale Walkoff	Brenda	Harriet Odlum	Joanna Jones

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton
Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Eleanor Hayes	Alex Bleicher	Stephen Roberts
Kim Byrd	Jim Lawler	Dennis Winkleblack
William Roche	Cat Gillespie	John Swift

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Toby & Manny Aguiar
Sera & Abraham Thomas

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Epiphany, Southbury; St. Paul's, Southington; and for church musicians: organists; choirs and choir directors; bands; community chorister programs; parish and diocesan committees on liturgy, music, and worship.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of England.

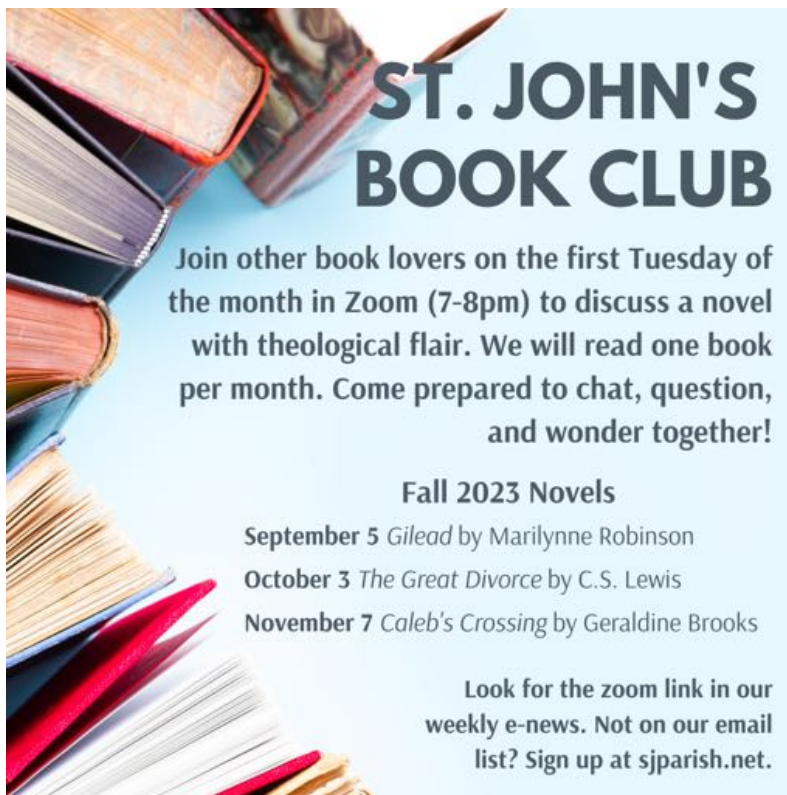
Summer Singers, rehearsal at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in August. The Summer Singers will sing at 10:30 services on the four Sundays in August. This is an opportunity to give choir a try — novices and experienced singers are all welcome! Rehearsal begins at 9:30 a.m. in the church each Sunday. Contact Scott Lamlein at music@sjparish.net to RSVP or if you have questions.

Blessing of the Backpacks at both services on Sunday, August 27. The annual Blessing of the Backpacks will take place on Sunday, August 27 at both the 9:00 and 10:30 services. Everyone returning to school this fall—students, educators, administrators, school employees—are invited to bring your backpack (or tote bag, laptop, lunch bag, or whatever you bring to school each day!) to receive a blessing and prayers for a fruitful new school year.

Kick-off Sunday activities for youth and adults, Sunday, September 10. On September 10, we return to our program year schedule with two services at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., along with Sunday School, nursery care, choir, and adult education. To celebrate and prepare for a new year ahead, we have some special activities. During the education hour (starting at 9:30 a.m.), children and youth (kindergarten through high school) will attend Sunday School, and adults will gather in Hubbard Hall for a **Celebration of Ministry brunch** with short introductions to several core parish ministries. Immediately following the 10:30 service, we'll have an **acolyte training with pizza lunch**. Children and teens in 3rd grade and above, including those in the Choir School, are eligible to serve as acolytes, and we ask that both new and returning acolytes attend the training. **Then at 1:30 p.m., ALL children, youth, and parents/caregivers are invited for an ice cream social** and a sneak peek at the program year ahead.

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.

August staffing schedule. Margie Baker, assistant rector, is away for the rest of August enjoying vacation with her family on the New Jersey shore, where she also serves as a priest for a summer chapel in Longport. Please hold off on contacting her about non-urgent matters until she returns on August 31. Todd and the rest of the staff are available to respond to time-sensitive and pastoral issues that come up.



**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 sjparish.net.

ST. JOHN'S
**SUMMER
SINGERS**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

The St. John's summer singers will sing at the 10:30 service on the four Sundays in August. No experience is necessary — seasoned choir members and novices are equally welcome, and you may participate on one, several, or all four Sundays. Meet in the church to rehearse at 9:30 a.m. on August 6, 13, 20, and/or 27.

Contact Scott Lamlein at music@sjparish.net with questions and to RSVP.



St. John's Episcopal Church
**BLESSING OF THE
BACKPACKS**

Join us on Sunday,
August 27 as we bless
our students,
teachers, and all who
work in schools as
they begin another
academic year.

9:00am and 10:30am





All adults are invited to our
Celebration of
Ministry
including brunch!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
9:30 AM IN
HUBBARD HALL

Come hear from St. John's ministry leaders about what's coming up this year and how you can be involved, while enjoying coffee, french toast casserole, bagels, fruit, and more!



Kick-Off Sunday
for children, youth, and families
Sunday, September 10



**Sunday School,
Nursery,
and
Choir School
return!**



PLUS Acolyte Training
for new and returning
acolytes at 12:00
& an Ice Cream Social
for ALL families at 1:30

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 (dwight@sjparish.net).....	<i>Sexton</i>
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)	<i>Financial Administrator</i>
Christa Rakich	<i>Organ Artist-in-Residence</i>
Ralph Valentine.....	<i>Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus</i>

VESTRY

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