

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II & THE BAPTISM OF

Wesley Key Goetz, Angelina Marie Finkell,
Atticus James Finkell, and Alice Marybeth Yelland

September 17, 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. Our professionally staffed nursery for children age 0 to 5 is open from 9 a.m. until after the 10:30 service; parents/caregivers are welcome to drop off their children in the nursery for part or all of the service. The nursery is also equipped with a changing table and rocking chair for parents/caregivers to use as needed.

Photo credit: David McCary



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Meditation on *New Britain*

Frederick Swann (1931–2022)



Frederick Lewis Swann was an American church and concert organist, choral conductor, and composer. He began playing the organ for church services as a 10-year old, graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in music, and later studied at the School of Sacred Music of Union Theological Seminary in New York. One of the best-known organists of the 20th and early 21st century, Swann was the director of music and organist at New York City’s Riverside Church, and organist emeritus of the Crystal Cathedral. Playing the organ on the weekly Hour of Power television program, he was seen by an estimated audience of 20 million viewers in 165 countries.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 390 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

All stand and sing.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**
Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray. O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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

*Exodus 14:19-31**All sit.*

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 114

The people say the words in **bold**, and sing the antiphon as indicated.



- 1 Hallelujah!
When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 **Judah became God's sanctuary ***
and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 **The mountains skipped like rams, ***
and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 **You mountains, that you skipped like rams? ***
you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 **Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water ***
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

*Antiphon**Antiphon*

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 14:1–12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 671 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound

NEW BRITAIN

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21–35

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

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Margie Baker

All sit.

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Priest says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

For Wesley, the parents and godparents speak on her behalf.

Parents and Godparents I present Wesley Key to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Priest Will you be responsible for seeing that she is
being brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God’s help.

Priest Will you by your prayers and witness help her to grow into
the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God’s help.

For Angelina, Atticus, and Alice, the parents and godparents present them to be baptized, and they speak on their own behalf.

Parents and Godparents I present Angelina Marie/Atticus James/Alice Marybeth to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Priest Do you desire to be baptized?

Angelina/Atticus/Alice I do.

Then the Priest asks the following questions of the parents, godparents, and candidates.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Priest addresses the Congregation saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Priest Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

All stand.

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Priest Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Priest Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Priest Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

- Priest* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Priest* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Priest* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Priest* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Priest* Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

- Leader* Let us now pray for these children who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth. Deliver them O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
- People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Open their hearts to your grace and truth.
- People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
- People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
- People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
- People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Send them into the world in witness to your love.
- People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Leader* Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
- People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Priest* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

- Priest* The Lord be with you.
- People* **And also with you.**
- Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son,

we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The Priest says to the candidate

Wesley Key/Angelina Marie/Atticus James/ Alice Marybeth, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the candidate's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying
You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.

All **Amen.**

Priest Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

All **Amen.**

Priest Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

THE BAPTISM HYMN 296 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

ENGELBERG

All sing as the baptismal parties return to their seats.

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 Oh, how can I keep from singing

Robert A. Harris (b. 1938)

Traditional folk hymn

My life flows on in endless song,
Above earth's lamentation
I hear the real though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm
I hear the music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul. Since love is lord of heaven and earth
Oh, how can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest round me roars,
I know the truth; it liveth.
What though the darkness round me close,
Songs in the night it giveth.

No storm can shake my inmost calm
I hear the music ringing.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth
Oh, how can I keep from singing?



Dr. Robert A. Harris is currently a professor emeritus at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music. He also serves as director of music and choirmaster at the Winnetka Congregational Church in Winnetka, IL. Dr. Harris held the position of professor of conducting and director of choral organizations at NYU from 1977 to 2012. Active as a conductor, composer, clinician, lecturer, and adjudicator, he has also held guest professorships in conducting at Wayne State University in Detroit, the University of Texas in Austin, and the University of South Africa in Pretoria.

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.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

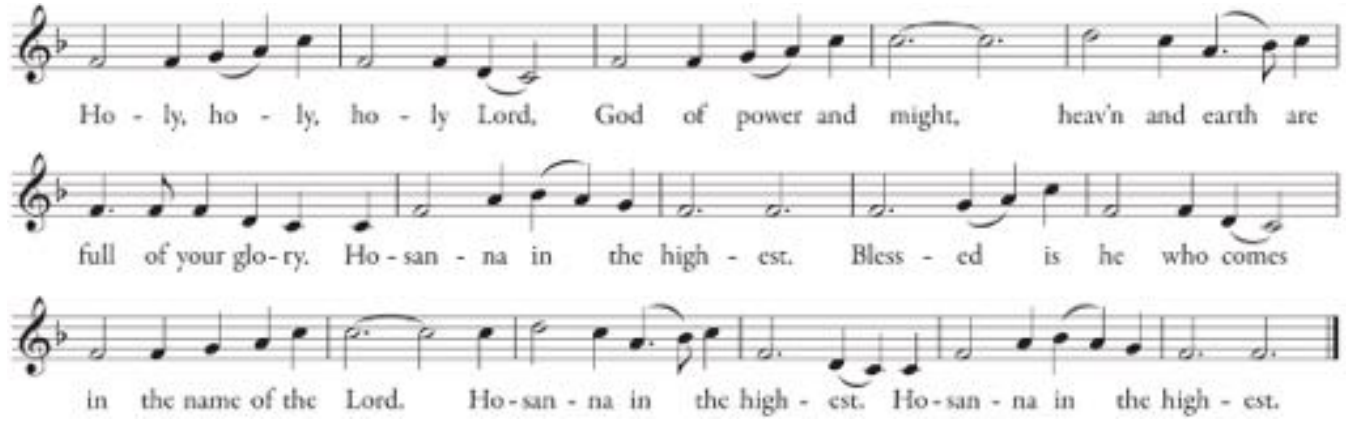
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

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 FRACTION ANTHEM Be known to us, Lord Jesus Gary James (b. 1957)

The refrain is introduced by the choir, then all repeat. The choir sings the verses, and all join in the refrain.



The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. *Refrain*
 One body are we, alleluia, for though many, we share one bread. *Refrain*

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THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant Take this bread, share this wine. In these Christ comes to us with love from God. 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 ANTHEM The Lord's Prayer John Tavener (1944–2013)

THE COMMUNION HYMN 516 Come down, O Love divine

DOWN AMPNEY

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 397 Now thank we all our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

All sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Chorale Improvisation on Nun danket alle Gott

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

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 Margie Baker

Deacon: The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreader: Christoph Stretz

Psalterer: John Nowacki

The St. John's Adult Choir

Organist and Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein

Acolytes: Elise Biondi, Danielle Branco, Allison Mani

Ushers: Kenny Cortavarria, David Grimaldi, Karen Licht, Enid Oberholtzer, Don Polk

Healing Prayers: Sarah Kieffer

Livestream Director: Ray Giolitto

Altar Guild: Kate Eikel, Buffy Ineson

Sunday School Teachers: Jenn Baker, Margie Baker

Nursery Staff: Sheryl Simoni, Caroline Thaxton, Olivia Thaxton

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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	Robert Connolly	Bob Norton
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	Steve Chambers	Greg Highland
Jennifer Blean	Harry Barber	Rachel Boccio	Rachel
Tori	Doug Larson	Joan Ackley	Deborah Seid
Deborah	Dennis Simoni	Guy Russo	Joanna Jones
Hale Walkoff	Brenda	Harriet Odlum	Jimmy
Rod Farrell	Nick Willke	Joan Warner	Lisa Burke
Hillary Lord	Marnie Mueller		

Those being baptized today:

Angelina and Atticus Finkell, *daughter and son of Gregg Finkell & Pia Santomauro*
 Wesley Goetz, *daughter of Tim Goetz & Neha Pande*
 Alice Yelland, *daughter of Danielle Pieratti & Matthew Yelland*

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton
 Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Phoebe Carlisle	Helen Cooke
Maggie Mahoney	Bradley Crocker
Lisa Farrell	William Smith
Mac Mahoney	Ted Whittemore
Katie Mahoney	Meg Babbitt

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Julia & Jim O'Brien

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. John's, Stamford; Calvary, Stonington; St. Mark's, Storrs; and for children and children's ministries, and ministries for children with special needs.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

St. John's Online Parish Directory



- **Our membership management software, Realm, includes an online directory** that members can access through the St. John's Realm web site (onrealm.org/sjparish) or the Realm Connect smartphone app.
- **The only people who can access this directory are other parish members** approved by the parish office who have set up login credentials.
- **If you do NOT want to be listed in the password-protected online directory**, please let Ellen in the parish office know ASAP.
- **You may receive an automated email from Realm informing you of a "privacy change."** This notification just means that Ellen has changed your profile settings to ensure that you are included in the directory. If it says that your information is available to "Anyone in the church," keep in mind that "anyone" refers only to people with login credentials who are known to the parish office. At no time is your information accessible online to those not affiliated with the church.
- **If you have not yet logged into Realm to see all it can do, give it a try!** With a Realm account, you can access the online directory, track your pledge progress, make a pledge, set up one-time or recurring pledge payments or gifts, see a list of previous pledge payments and gifts, communicate with your volunteer groups, register and pay for events (such as the annual Choir School camp), and more.
- **To be approved and set up login credentials, go to our St. John's Realm web site at onrealm.org/sjparish** and click the link to request login access. Once Ellen approves your access, you will receive an email invitation with instructions for how to set up your credentials. Set-up involves creating a password and verifying your email address, so make sure to complete all of the steps.
- **A link to Realm is always available on the main menu of our web site at sjparish.net.**
- **Once you have login credentials set up, download the Realm Connect app on your phone**, so you always have access to the directory and your own information on the go.
- **Please upload a recent photo of yourself/your family**, as the online directory is most useful when it includes photos to help everyone match names and faces.

Coffee hour returns: Hosts needed! Coffee hour is an opportunity after each 10:30 service to greet one another over a cup of coffee. It is held each week either outdoors or in Hubbard Hall, and we need people to sign up as hosts. **Hosting is easy!** Your primary job as host is hospitality—staffing our Information Station cart and greeting people. You do not have to make coffee, and providing food is welcome but optional. In addition, **any parishioner is welcome to bring food to any coffee hour to share**, with no sign-up required. Go to sjparish.net/sundayvolunteers to sign up as a host.

HVAC project information sessions: Sunday, September 24 at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday, October 22 at noon. Because our 30-year-old HVAC (heating/ventilation/air conditioning) system is long past its expected lifespan and not as efficient as we would like, the St. John's House Committee has spent more than a year researching options for installing a new, more efficient system. In addition, an HVAC Financing Committee has been exploring how we might pay for this major project via loans, donations, grants, and financial incentives. Parishioner support for and understanding of this project is vital. We're therefore encouraging all adult parishioners to attend one of two upcoming information sessions on this project: Next Sunday, September 24 at 9:30 a.m. (during the education hour) or after church on Sunday, October 22. Please make plans to attend one of these sessions so you can be fully informed as our parish community takes on this significant project.

Help a Simsbury mom furnish a new home for her family via Journey Home. St. John's is once again furnishing a home for a Journey Home client who is moving into permanent housing after experiencing homelessness. Melissa and her four children are moving into a new apartment in Simsbury, and we need your help getting them the furniture and housewares they need. See the list of what is needed on page 16 of this bulletin, and contact Mary Honyotski at maryhonyotski@gmail.com if you have items to donate or can help transport items to the apartment.

Women Together discussion group resumes on Tuesday, September 19 at 2 p.m. Women Together gathers weekly to explore our Christian faith and practice through book discussion, prayer, and fellowship. We will resume meetings on September 19 in the Reception Room at St. John's, when we will begin discussing *The Night is Long but Light Comes in the Morning: Meditations for Racial Healing* by Catherine Meeks. For the first meeting, we will discuss the foreword and part 1 (through page 34), although if you aren't able to read to that point before the first meeting, please come anyway! The books we choose are usually available at libraries, Amazon, and through other booksellers. Women Together has been attended by women from several local Episcopal churches, including St. John's, Trinity, St. James's, and St. Monica's. Please contact Sarah Kieffer at kieffer2468@gmail.com if you would like additional information.

Choral Evensong, Sunday, September 24, 5 p.m. The first Choral Evensong of the new program year will feature music from the St. John's Schola. Evensong is an ancient and beautiful service featuring music, chant, and prayer offered in a contemplative setting. Please join us and bring a friend.

Dreams: A musical journey with Afro-Cuban inspired jazz, dance, and drums, Friday, September 29, 7:30 p.m. You'll find it impossible to sit still during this evening—our first major Music at the Red Door event of the new program year—featuring Afro-Cuban influenced rhythms and soulful, creative music and dance. We will welcome dancers Chantal Edwards and Savanna Jones, along with Ed Fast and Congabop for this upbeat treat for young and old alike! This event will be presented in person and by livestream. Free admission with no tickets required; donations are welcome.

DATE CHANGE: October online book club meeting, Tuesday, October 10, 7 p.m. The October meeting of the new St. John's online book club has been moved to October 10 (instead of October 3). We will discuss *The Great Divorce* by C.S. Lewis. Book club meetings are in Zoom; the Zoom link is included in the e-news.

Area chairpeople needed for the annual St. John's Christmas Festival, Saturday, December 2 at 10 a.m. Annabel Clapp has again stepped up to chair this beloved annual event, which is one of our major fundraisers. In the coming months, we'll be looking for volunteers and donations of various kinds. For now, Annabel is looking for some people to provide leadership for various festival areas, including the **Festival Café, the Chic Boutique (gently used jewelry and accessories), the Country Kitchen Bake Sale, and Attic Treasures (good quality, gently used household items)**. We need a chairperson for each area to help recruit and instruct other volunteers, sort and price items for sale, work with the parish office to obtain supplies, etc. If we don't have a volunteer to chair a particular area, that area will not be included in this year's festival. If you can help, please contact Annabel by email at annabeltrickett@yahoo.com or by text at 860-808-6775.

Help furnish an apartment!

Items needed:

- 2 twin beds
- 3 twin size comforters and/or blankets
- 2 couches or loveseats
- 5 dressers
- 1 coffee table
- 3 end tables/night stands
- 1 kitchen table w/ 5 chairs
- 1 TV stand
- 8 place settings of dishes
- 8 drinking glasses
- 1 set of cooking utensils
- 3 lamps
- 1 toaster

St. John's is partnering with Journey Home—a community organization working to end homelessness in Connecticut—to furnish an apartment for their client Melissa and her four children, aged 5-15, who are moving into an apartment in Simsbury.

Here's how you can be part of this project:

- Donate one of the listed items in good (or new!) condition.
- Help with picking items up and bringing them to the family's apartment.

We are only collecting the specific items listed here. If you have items to donate, want to help with pick-up and drop-off, or have any questions, e-mail Mary Honyotski of the Community Service Committee at maryhonyotski@gmail.com.



St. John's



A decorative graphic with a white background and a blue border. It features several yellow suns with rays and blue snowflakes of various sizes scattered around the text. The suns are located in the top-left, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners, while the snowflakes are scattered throughout the page.

A cool church in the summer, a warm church in the winter...

This is what we want and expect when we come to St. John's. But our 30-year-old HVAC (heating/ventilation/air conditioning) system is inefficient and long past its expected lifespan. Our House Committee has been working for more than a year to consider options for replacing the HVAC system with more efficient, environmentally sustainable equipment. An HVAC Financing Committee has been exploring how we can pay for this project through loans, donations, grants, and/or financial incentives. It's time for the parish to hear what these committees have learned, and how we can all support the project to ensure that our thriving parish and beautiful facilities will be cared for in a sustainable way for many more years.

HVAC Project Updates

Sunday 9/24 at 9:30 am OR

Sunday 10/22 at noon

Please plan to attend one of these sessions.

EVENSONG

St. John's Schola



September 24, 5pm

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR, INC.

Events are also available livestreamed
at www.reddoormusic.org



Presented by
Music at
the Red Door

DREAMS



Afro-Cuban Jazz, Dance and Drums

- Free admission
- In-person and livestreamed
- Donations welcome (suggested donation: \$20)
- Reception to follow



Friday, September 29, 2023
7:30pm

The Edward C. & Ann D.
ROBERTS
FOUNDATION

HOWARD GARDNER FUND
&
Hartford Foundation

Music at the Red Door
St. John's Episcopal Church
679 Farmington Ave
West Hartford, CT 06119
RedDoorMusic.org



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



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8 a.m. Sunday: Spoken Holy Eucharist

9:30 a.m. Sunday: Christian education for all ages

10:30 a.m. Sunday: Choral Holy Eucharist (also livestreamed)

5 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month (*October – May, no service in December*): Celtic Eucharist in Hubbard Hall

5 p.m. on select fourth Sundays of the month: Choral Evensong

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	