

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

October 22, 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.

Cover photo: David McCary



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY The peace may be exchanged (from *Rubrics*) Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 569 God the Omnipotent! King, who ordainest RUSSIAN HYMN
All stand and sing.

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.

People **Amen.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
God the Fa-ther. A-men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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

Exodus 33:12–23

All sit.

Moses said to the Lord, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people’; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.” The Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The Lord’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” And the Lord continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 99

The psalm is chanted by the choir; the people sing the antiphon as indicated.

George Mursell Garrett (1834–1897)



- 1 The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

- 4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

Antiphon

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 684 O for a closer walk with God

CAITHNESS

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

*Matthew 22:25–32**Minister* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

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

The people say the words in bold.

With steadfast hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to God in the power of the Holy Spirit for all who are in any need or trouble, saying: Hear us, O Holy One.

For the Church and all its people, especially Michael, our presiding bishop; Jeff and Laura, our bishops; and the clergy and members of this parish, that through faith and love, God's name may be made known from the rising of the sun to its setting. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For this parish family, that we who are fashioned in God's image and who bear Christ's name may be signs of God's presence in our families, our workplaces, and our society. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all the people of the Holy Land, that God's mantle of peace and mercy will cover them in the midst of terrorism, war, occupation, and divisions. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all those working to bring peace to Israel and Gaza in the midst of violence, brokenness, and destruction, that they may find a path to justice and hope. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

With grateful thanksgiving for the goodness of life, we pray for Sarah Ineson and P.J. Reilly, who were married in New York City this weekend, and we name before God those in need of our prayers, remembering especially those on our parish prayer list; may God fill them with love and hope. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all who have died, that they may see the full vision of God's goodness and glory. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

Celebrant Loving and true God, who raised your Son from the dead, hear the prayers of those sealed and chosen by the Spirit, and grant that our lives may be governed by the standard of the Gospel and the currency of your kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All remain standing or kneel.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. 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 Lay up for yourselves

Ned Rorem (1923–2022)
 Words: Matthew 6: 20–21

Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt,
 And where thieves do not break through and steal.
 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.



Ned Miller Rorem was an American composer of contemporary classical music, and a writer. Best known for his art songs, which number over 500, Rorem was considered the leading American of his time writing in the genre. Frequently described as a neoromantic composer, he showed limited interest in the emerging modernist aesthetic of his lifetime. As a writer, he published numerous diaries in which he spoke candidly of his exchanges and relationships with many cultural figures of America and France.

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,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven 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.

Title: The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus

Music: William Mathias (1934–1992) Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

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



Title: The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei

Music: Gerard R. Near (b. 1942) Copyright © 1985 Aureole Editions, Dallas, Texas.

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

Philip Radcliffe (1905–1986)



Philip Radcliffe stated: "I attended evensong in the Chapel of my future College (King's College, Cambridge) and can still recall the impact made upon me by the quiet, other-world sound of the choir." He became a music fellow at King's College in 1931, and a lecturer between 1947 and 1972. He lived in King's for the rest of his life, never leaving it for more than a few weeks. Radcliffe's compositions include short choral pieces, liturgical music, songs, and a small number of instrumental works.

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 665 All my hope on God is founded

MICHAEL

All sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Toccata

Marius Monnikendem (1896–1977)

The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God's Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say Amen at the end of the Voluntary as a conclusion to our worship.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**Celebrant:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Preacher:** The Reverend Todd FitzGerald**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney**Layreader:** Betsy Chicares**The St. John's Adult Choir****Organist and Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Acolytes:** Elise Biondi, Virginia Eikel, Atticus Finkell**Ushers:** Matt Ciscel, Ellen Flynn, Mary Honyotski, Pia Mara Santomauro**Healing Prayers:** Ginger Gillespie**Livestream Director:** Francis Lamlein**Altar Guild:** Kate Eikel, Bill Lockery**Sunday School Teachers:** Ginger Gillespie, Margie Baker**Nursery Staff:** Sheryl Simoni, Caroline Thaxton, Olivia Thaxton

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Charles D. & Janet M. Peterson, Robert F. & Abbie V.S. Peterson, Thomas R. Tight, and George E. & Abbie B. Van Siclen

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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	Alison Gillespie	Sean Kuruvilla
Virginia Skeele	Gina Giusto	Joyce Flynn	Joseph
Grant Loevenbruck	Mima Esponda	Steve Chambers	Sarah Carroll
John & Barbara Spannaus	The Yelland family	Rachel Boccio	Greg Highland
Jennifer Blean	Harry Barber	Joan Ackley	Rachel
Tori	Doug Larson	Guy Russo	Deborah Seid
Deborah	Dennis Simoni	Harriet Odlum	Joanna Jones
Hale Walkoff	Brenda	Joan Warner	Lisa Burke
Rod Farrell	Nick Willke	Jon Nelson	Lucas
Hillary Lord	Marnie Mueller	Dan Minster	Carolyn Engle
G.F.	Amy Bittering		

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton
Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Raphael Katsipis
Ben Mabrey
Jean Mitchell

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Kim & Chris Byrd
Lisa & Paul Farrell
Susie & Ross Hatch

Those who were married this week:

Sarah Elizabeth Ineson & P.J. Reilly, *daughter and son-in-law of Buffy and John Ineson*

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Holy Spirit, West Haven; St. Paul's, Westbrook; and for the diocesan Episcopal Church Women, diocesan altar guild, local ECW chapters, and parish altar guilds.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Anglican Church of Korea.

HVAC project information sessions: Two sessions TODAY at 9:30 a.m. and noon. Because our 30-year-old HVAC (heating/ventilation/air conditioning) system is long past its expected lifespan and not as efficient as it should be, 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 at least one information session on this project. We will host two sessions today at 9:30 a.m. (during the education hour) and at noon (after the 10:30 service).

Choral Evensong, TODAY at 5 p.m. The next Choral Evensong service features music from our own St. John's Adult Choir and Choir School. Please join us for this ancient and beautiful form of worship that includes chant, music, and prayers.

Trunk or Treat, Sunday, October 29, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Join us in welcoming ghosts, superheroes, princesses, and other costumed friends from our community at the annual Halloween Trunk or Treat event. This is a very fun event with many ways to help:

- **Decorate your car and load up your trunk/cargo area with goodies to give out.** Or you can decorate a table (provided by the church). You are encouraged to come in costume and bring your friends and family!
- **Donate candy or other giveaways** (stickers, pencils, etc.).
- **Sign up** to help at sjparish.net/trunkortreat.
- **Spread the word!** We have paper flyers and digital images available for you to share on your social media feeds and with families from your children's school or extracurricular activities. While many Trunk or Treaters come from the St. John's neighborhood, any and all families with children are welcome! Contact Margie at margie@sjparish.net or Ellen at ellen@sjparish.net if you'd like flyers or digital images to share.

Sign up to bring sandwich supplies for next Sunday. Next Sunday, October 29, we will make 200 sandwiches for Loaves & Fishes after the 10:30 service. Please sign up to bring supplies and/or help with set-up at sjparish.net/sandwiches. Everyone is invited to stay after the service next week to help!

Items needed for Blessing Bags and Blessing Box. Please help us provide for our neighbors in need via our Blessing Bags (small bags with toiletries, winter accessories, socks, and snacks given out by the clergy and staff) and the Blessing Box (our little free food pantry located in the Abraham's Welcome garden area). **For Blessing Bags**, we are in need of full-size shampoo, toothpaste, and deodorant, along with warm socks, gloves, and hats for all genders. You may order from our Amazon wish list at sjparish.net/blessingbags, or pick up these items elsewhere and drop them at the church office. **For the Blessing Box**, please bring nonperishable items anytime and put them directly in the box. People especially like ready-to-eat options (nut butter, tuna snack packs, bread, crackers, trail mix, protein/granola bars, dried fruit, fruit sauce, pop-top cans of pasta or soup, etc.). If the box is full, please hang onto your items and try again the next time you are at church.

Resources for responding to war in the Holy Land. The national Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations has a web page dedicated to resources for responding to the Israel/Gaza conflict, including prayers, information from Anglican/Episcopal people and organizations in the Holy Land, and more. Go to episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/ and click on the top link. Episcopal Relief & Development also has information and welcomes donations to their Middle East fund. Go to episcopalrelief.org.

Chili Cook-off and Potluck Supper, Friday, November 3 at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to a chili cook-off and potluck supper hosted by the stewardship committee on the evening of November 3. If you'd like to make chili, contact Matt Ciscel at matt.ciscel@gmail.com. Otherwise, please bring a side, salad, or dessert to share if you are able. A movie will be available for children age 5 and older. Please join us and invite a friend!

Thank you for supporting a Journey Home family!

The Journey Home Adopt-a-Family project was a success this year! With your help, we provided Melissa and her four children with furniture, kitchen items, and housewares for their new home in Simsbury. Thank you to everyone who donated or helped deliver items—this project was a success because of your contributions! We look forward to supporting another individual or family next fall.

Pictured below are Todd FitzGerald (far left) and parishioner Mary Honyotski (far right) with Melissa and her children. Todd, Mary, and several other volunteers brought a final load of furniture and did a house blessing with the family last Saturday.



GRACE, GRATITUDE & GIVING

Stewardship 2023 at St. John's Church

It's time for our annual stewardship campaign, when we ask parishioners to pledge financial support for the coming year. Each week until Commitment Sunday (November 12), we'll be answering some common questions about pledging and the pledging process in the bulletin and e-newsletter. If you have other questions, please feel free to reach out to our stewardship co-chairs, Matt Ciscel (matt.ciscel@gmail.com) and Laura Roche (ldakeroche@aol.com), or the clergy.

How do I make a pledge?

You may fill out a paper pledge card (they are being mailed in the next two weeks, and will also be available to pick up at church), or you may pledge online via your Realm church membership account at <https://onrealm.org/sjparish> or on our web site at <https://sjparish.net/pledge/>. Return your completed paper pledge card to the church office, drop it in the collection plate at a Sunday service, or bring your completed card to church on **Commitment Sunday: November 12, 2023**, when all will be invited to bring their cards forward.

We ask that all pledge cards and online pledges be submitted on or before Commitment Sunday, so we can move ahead with the budget process for 2024.

How do I pay my pledge?

You may pay weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually via cash, check, or electronic fund transfer (EFT), such as through your bank's online bill pay system. You may also pay your pledge online, and set up recurring payments if you wish, at <https://sjparish.net/give-to-st-johns/> (click on the Give Now! button).

If you expect to pay weekly by check or cash, we can supply you with envelopes dated for each Sunday of the year, which you can use to mail payments or put them in the offering plate. Envelopes are particularly helpful if you plan to pay your pledge in cash, as envelopes are numbered to match them to a particular giver. The pledge card has a check box where you can indicate if you want to receive envelopes.

You may also pay your pledge with a donation of stock; please contact the financial administrator, Peggy O'Toole, **before initiating stock transfer** if you are interested in this option. Many companies have matching funds for charitable donations. If your company has such a plan, please share with us any paperwork we need to complete to get a matching gift.

Please note that for pledge payments/donations to appear on your year-end giving statement that you'll use for your tax return, we need to receive payments in time for them to be processed and posted to our bank account before the end of the year. Pledge payments posted after January 1 will be included on that year's giving statement, even if in payment of the previous year's pledge. For this year, **payments must be received in the parish office or processed online by December 27** for them to appear on your 2023 year-end giving statement.

EVENSONG



**St. John's Choir School
and Adult Choir**

October 22, 5pm

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

Events are also available livestreamed
at www.reddoormusic.org



TRUNK OR TREAT

SUNDAY, OCT. 29

4:00–5:30 PM

**COME ONE, COME ALL TO A SAFE AND
FAMILY-FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN EVENT IN
OUR PARISH PARKING LOT!**

No tricks, all treats! Dress up as your
favorite ghoul, goblin, princess, or pirate.
We've got carloads of candy, games, and
fun.

CANCELLED IN CASE OF HEAVY RAIN.



Want to help?
Sign up using
the QR code.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

679 FARMINGTON AVE, WEST HARTFORD

A decorative graphic with a blue border. It features stylized yellow suns with rays and blue snowflakes of various sizes scattered around the text. The suns are located in the top-left, top-right, middle-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners. The snowflakes are located in the top-right, middle-left, middle-right, and bottom-center areas.

**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.

New time added!

HVAC Project Updates
Sunday 10/22 at
9:30am OR noon

CHILI COOK-OFF & POTLUCK SUPPER

hosted by the Stewardship Committee

Friday, November 3, 2023

6pm



Everyone is welcome!

There will be a movie available for children 5 and older.

Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share.

*Contact Matt Ciscel at matt.ciscel@gmail.com if you'd like to
make chili for the cook-off.*

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	