

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

November 19, 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.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Meditation on *How Great Thou Art*

Janet Linker (b. 1938)



Janet Rupp Linker received her bachelor's and master's degrees in organ performance from Capital University and the University of Michigan, respectively. Her first organ position at the age of 15 was at the Wauseon, Ohio, Evangelical Mennonite Church. She has taught organ for a number of years, both privately and at the Conservatory of Music at Capital University, and has arranged many organ and handbell settings in collaboration with Jane McFadden. For many years she played for various events at the Ohio Theatre, on the well-known "Mighty Morton" theatre organ.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 290 Come, ye thankful people, come

ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR

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. Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Judges 4:1-7

All sit.

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years. At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 123

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

Antiphon and chant by Michael Guimont



Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, plead-ing for his mer - cy.

To you have I lifted up my eyes,*
you who dwell in the heavens;

My eyes, like the eyes of slaves*
on the hand of their lords.

Antiphon

Like the eyes of a servant*
on the hand of her mistress,

So our eyes are on the Lord our God*
till we are shown mercy.

Antiphon

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.*
We are filled with contempt.

Indeed all too full is our soul*
with the scorn of the rich, the disdain of the proud.

Antiphon

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 9, vv. 4–6 Awake, awake to love and work
All stand and sing.

MORNING SONG

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14–30

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

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

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will

be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

All sit.

The Reverend Walter McKenney

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.

As we wait for Christ's return and do the work we've been given to do, let us pray on behalf of all the human family, 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 we may trust God's faithfulness and love as we live each day. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For this parish family, that God will inspire us with new visions of how to use our gifts and meet the greatest needs of the world around us, in the service of God and our neighbors. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For nations and peoples around the world, that peace, reconciliation, justice, and hope may become the only way forward in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan, and wherever there is violence and conflict. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For those who live and work in places of danger, those recovering from natural disasters, and for victims of violence, that they may be strong in the face of adversity and keep safe in the refuge of God's hands. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For those in our nation who are deeply divided one from another, that we may see each other as God's beloved children regardless of different opinions or experiences, and that God will enable us to listen deeply and speak honestly with love and compassion. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For the Thanksgiving holiday, that all who are hungry will be fed, and that our gratitude will foster peace and reconciliation, inspire hospitality, and bring us closer to God and one another. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all whose struggles are especially difficult to bear as the holiday season approaches, for those without a community of family or friends, those who are homeless or unemployed, and those who are sick or grieving, remembering especially those on our parish prayer list, that God will bring light and strength to their spirits. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all the departed, especially Bob Connolly, that having rejoiced in God's gifts in this life, they may enter into the joy of eternal life with God. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

Celebrant God of abundance, hear our prayers and grant that the gifts you have graciously bestowed on us may be used to your glory, so that being faithful to your purpose, we may become sharers in your heavenly kingdom. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit now and forever. **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

All stand.

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 Let all the world in every corner sing R. Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)
Words: George Herbert (1593–1633)

Let all the world, in every corner, sing:
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly.
The earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and king!

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and king!
The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
But, above all, the heart must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and king!

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,
 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 We shall walk through the valley Spiritual,
arr. Undine Smith Moore (1904–1989)

We shall walk through the valley in peace;
we shall walk through the valley in peace.

Refrain:

If Jesus himself shall be our leader,
we shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no sorrow there;
there will be no sorrow there. *Refrain*



Undine Eliza Anna Smith Moore, the “Dean of Black Women Composers,” was an American composer and professor of music in the 20th century. Moore was originally trained as a classical pianist, but developed a compositional output of mostly vocal music—her preferred genre. Much of her work was inspired by Black spirituals and folk music. Undine Smith Moore was a renowned teacher, and once stated that she experienced “teaching itself as an art.”

THE COMMUNION HYMN 339 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness SCHMÜCKE DICH
All remain seated and sing.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

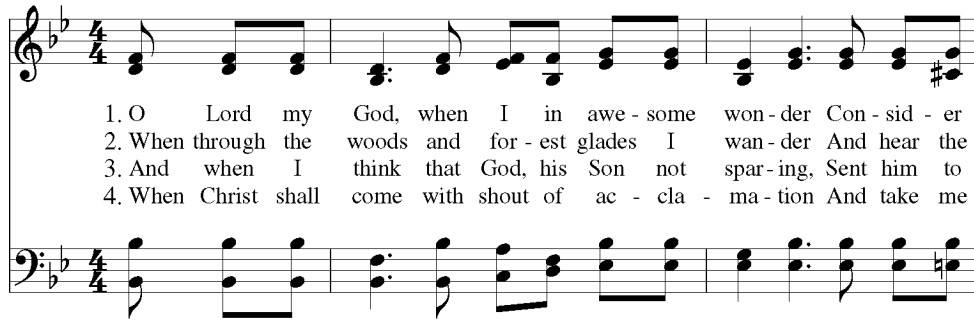
Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

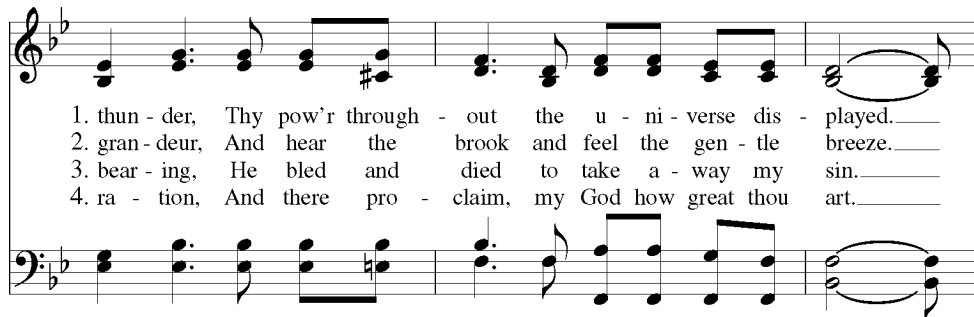
THE HYMN IN PROCESSION O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder HOW GREAT THOU ART

All sing.


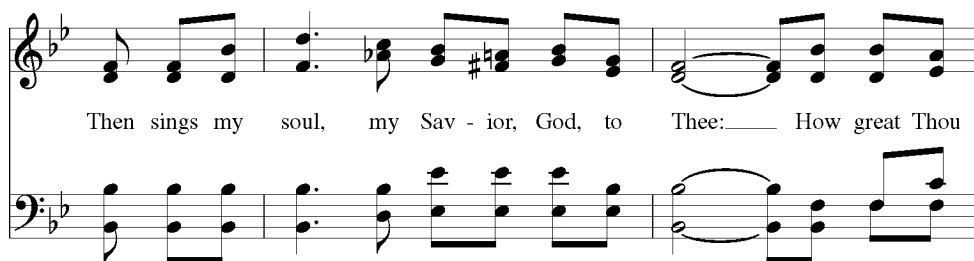
1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der Con - sid - er
 2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
 3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to
 4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



1. all the worlds* thy hands have made, — I see the stars I hear the roll - ing*
 2. birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, — When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 3. die, I scarce can take it in, — That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
 4. home, what joy shall fill my heart! — Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



1. thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played. —
 2. gran - deur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze. —
 3. bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin. —
 4. ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my God how great thou art. —



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee: — How great Thou

art, — how great Thou art! — Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to
 Thee: — How great Thou art, — how great Thou art! —

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960)
 Music: William M. Runyan (1870-1957)
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THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Prelude in C Major, BWV 545

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

*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 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.
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THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**Celebrant:** The Reverend Todd FitzGerald**Preacher:** The Reverend Walter McKenney**Assisting Clergy:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Layreader:** Robert Eikel**The St. John's Adult Choir & Choir School****Organist and Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Assisting Organist:** Bruce Henley**Acolytes:** Bradley Crocker, Atticus Finkell, Eden Baker**Ushers:** Geoff Emerick, Ellen Flynn, Mary Honyotski, Wes Winterbottom**Healing Prayers:** Wes Winterbottom**Livestream Director:** Elijah Clapp**Altar Guild:** June Aziz, Barbara Roos**Sunday School Teachers:** Taffy Wilcox, Akilah Williams, Jeff Verney, Leah Lorenzo, Angela Allen-Peck, Colin Gillespie**Nursery Staff:** Nichole Segar, Lilah Lorenzo, Olivia Thaxton

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Wendy Wright Collins, Elsa M. Lattey, Erik F. Lattey, Andrya Ramer, and Margaret Rehm Rothschild.

ST. JOHN'S EYC PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT FOR EVERYONE

**SUNDAY, 11/19****5:00PM-7:00PM**

Hubbard Hall

Bring a team of 4-6 folks, or show up and get put on a team. Questions will range from pop culture to history to Scripture and beyond.

This family-friendly trivia night is open to kids, youth, young adults, adults—in short, everyone!

Pizza provided (donations welcome). Bring a snack or sweet to share, or just come and enjoy!

FUN (& SILLY) PRIZES!

Use the QR code to register individually or as a team. Registration is helpful but not required. This is a FREE event. www.stjohnseyc.org



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	Wendy
Janet Ray	Sue	Anita Winters	Bob Norton
Brad Babbitt	Whitney Lynch	Alison Gillespie	Joseph
Paul L. Peck	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Joyce Flynn	Sarah Carroll
Virginia Skeelee	Gina Giusto	Rachel Boccio	Greg Highland
Grant Loevenbruck	The Yelland family	Joan Ackley	Rachel
John & Barbara Spannaus	Harry Barber	Guy Russo	Lucas
Jennifer Blean	Doug Larson	Harriet Odlum	Amy Bittinger
Tori	Dennis Simoni	Joan Warner	William Bittinger
Deborah	Brenda	Jon Nelson	Emmy Aziz
Hale Walkoff	Nick Willke	G.F.	Ben Mabrey
Rod Farrell	Marnie Mueller	Ned	Mike
Hillary Lord	Dominic Howell		Louis Nuechterlein

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton
Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Stella Spletstoesser	Margaret Smith
Matt Ciscel	Beth Grieco
Jaime Patten	Alvin Mani

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Mary & Spencer Sloan

Those who have died:

Robert (Bob) Connolly, *St. John's member and husband of Edith Connolly*

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. James', Winsted; All Saints', Wolcott; and for the Program & Budget Committee and the Faith & Order Commission.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of the Province of Myanmar.

Trivia Night hosted by the youth group (all ages invited), TODAY from 5 to 7 p.m. Our St. John's youth group invites all parishioners to join them this evening for a fun night of trivia (with prizes!). Come with your own team of four to six people, or let us assign you to a team. If you're able, please bring a snack or sweet to share and/or a small cash donation to help cover the cost of a pizza dinner.

Annual Christmas gift card collection for families in need. Deadline: November 27. We are once again collecting **gift cards in \$10 to \$50 denominations** to be distributed to families participating in Hartford Healthcare's Stronger Families/Stronger Futures program. The parents/caregivers appreciate being able to choose gifts, toys, clothing, and food that will make their family Christmas celebrations special. Please put gift cards in an envelope marked "Gift cards for families" and drop them off at the parish office or put them in the offering plate. **The deadline for donating gift cards is Monday, November 27.** We also welcome cash or check donations (with the purpose clearly noted), with which we will purchase cards. Questions? Contact Beth Kauczka at bkauczka@gmail.com.

Thanksgiving Day Eucharist, Thursday, November 23, 10 a.m. Start your Thanksgiving Day by giving thanks to God at our annual Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist, with hymns and sermon.

Sandwiches for Loaves & Fishes, next Sunday, November 26, at 9:30 a.m. We will make 200 sandwiches for the Loaves & Fishes feeding ministry next Sunday at 9:30 a.m., during the education hour. Please sign up to provide supplies or help with set-up at sjparish.net/sandwiches

New online Bible study series on Advent prophecies, starting Monday, November 27 at 7 p.m. The weekly online Bible study is on hiatus for a few weeks, and will resume November 27 through December 18 with a series on Old Testament Advent prophecies. All are welcome to attend one, several, or all sessions, which are held in Zoom. The Zoom link is included in the Thursday e-newsletter, or you may email Margie at margie@sjparish.net to be added to a special mailing list to receive a reminder email with the link every Monday.

Wreath decorating night, Thursday, November 30, 6:30 p.m. All parish adults are welcome to join in this festive annual tradition to make wreaths to sell at the Christmas Festival. We provide wreaths and some materials. If you're able, please bring scissors, pruning shears, hot glue guns, new or gently used decorations (ribbon, small ornaments, faux berries/flowers/greenery, etc.), and a snack or beverage to share. If you're not able to attend but have decorations to donate, please drop them off at the parish office.

St. John's Christmas Festival, Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Save the date for this beloved annual fundraising event! We're especially looking for more people to sign up to help on the day of the festival by helping with set-up and clean-up, serving as cashiers, and staffing the sales tables. **Please sign up for an hour or more at sjparish.net/christmasfestivalhelp**

Please also note that **today is the deadline for contributing cash donations toward your ministry group's themed raffle basket.** Members of the Altar Guild, layreaders, ushers, vestry, and various other committees received an email about two weeks ago with more information. If you haven't yet turned in your contribution, please put it in the offering plate today, clearly marked for Christmas Festival raffle baskets.

Questions? Contact the Christmas Festival coordinator **Annabel Clapp** by email at annabeltrickett@yahoo.com or by text 860-808-6775.

Pipes Alive! with Mary Pan, Sunday, December 3, 12:30 p.m. The Pipes Alive! series continues with organist Mary Pan playing the St. John's organ. This event will be presented in person and by livestream. Mary Pan is an organist, pianist, and choral director based in Rochester, New York. A native of Connecticut, she is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music and Yale Institute of Sacred Music. Free admission, with donations gratefully received.

Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 10, 3 p.m. It's an Advent favorite for a reason! Take a break from the holiday hubbub and prepare your soul for the Christmas miracle with this beautiful program of carols for choir and organ, in the tradition of King's College, Cambridge. This beloved event will fill the church, so arrive early to get a good seat. This event will be presented in person and by livestream, and will feature

the St. John’s Choir School and Adult Choir; Scott Lamlein, choirmaster; Floyd Higgins, organist. A reception will follow in Hubbard Hall. Free admission, with donations gratefully received.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ by coming to any of our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. On Christmas Eve, services are at 4 p.m. (featuring the St. John’s Choir School, with music starting at 3:45 p.m.) and 10 p.m. (featuring the St. John’s Adult Choir and a string quartet, with music starting at 9:30 p.m. — *note that the starting time is one hour earlier than in previous years*). On Christmas Day, there is one service at 10 a.m. with a sermon and carols.

Pledge statements and year-end giving. Statements were sent out recently to anyone with a balance remaining on their 2023 pledge. Most statements went out by email; if you didn’t receive it, or would like a paper copy instead, please contact Peggy O’Toole at peggy@sjparish.net. For gifts and pledge payments to be included on your 2023 year-end giving statement for tax purposes, they must be received in the parish office by **Tuesday, December 26**, whether you are paying by check, cash, or online via credit card or bank withdrawal. Contributions received after that date may not be deposited and posted in time to be included on your 2023 statement, even if in payment of a 2023 pledge. Thank you!

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.

PIPES ALIVE!



Mary Pan

December 3, 12:30pm

St. John’s Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR 

Events are also available livestreamed
at www.reddoormusic.org

Presented by
Music at
the Red Door

CANDLELIGHT FESTIVAL OF

Nine Lessons and Carols



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



Sunday, December 10, 2023

3:00pm

The Edward C. & Ann T. ROBERTS FOUNDATION

RICHARD P. GARMANY FUND
Hartford Foundation

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



Thank you!

This list includes pledges received as of Wednesday, November 15.
The names of *new pledgers* are in italics.

June & Emmy Aziz, Janet & Brad Babbitt, Mary & Bob Bainbridge, Margie & Jenn Baker, Eleanor & Jack Barnes, Shirley Blean, Rachel Boccio, Lissie & Lynn Brooks, Jo Anne Burgh, Kim & Chris Byrd, *Robert Caldwell, Keitha & Kevin Campo*, Betsy & Greg Chicares, Alina & Matt Ciscel, Elijah Clapp & Annabel Trickett-Clapp, Kate Coley, Molly Cooper, Steve Crocker & Rosa Guzzo, *David Dangremond*, Carol Davis, Vijaya Jyothsna & Carlos Diaz, Pam Dimock, Martin Dodd, Susan Donaldson, *Jayden Donnelly, Mason Donnelly*, Matteo & Marcos Donnelly, Joe Duffy, Linda Dunakin, Hope & Bill Eakins, Nancy Eaton, Bobby Eikel, Kate & Robert Eikel, Virginia Eikel, Karan & Geoff Emerick *Susan Fay & Craig Ahmer*, Amy & Todd FitzGerald, Ginny & Rich Flinchbaugh, Ellen & Ben Flynn, *Margaret & Mark Goad*, Tim Goetz, Anne & Craig Grant, David Grimaldi, *Nicole Douillet & Liana Guzman*, Ann Hanlon, Susan Harrison & Thomas Cloherty, Susie & Ross Hatch, Patricia & Ronald Hensley, Jenn & Ryan Hill, *Mary & Ryan Honyotski*, Buffy & John Ineson, Richard Jacques, Dianne Jones, Beth & John Kauczka, Martha Kayser, Mary Jo & Bert Keating, *Jeffrey Kinney & Rebecca Bourret*, Betty Knorr, Richard Lammlin, Wendy & Tom Lincoln, Bill Lockery, Lisa & Mike Mahoney, Lauren Mascola & John Swift, Bill McBride, Tina & David McCary, Patrick Miller, Marnie Mueller, Ginny & Mark Proft, Hal Rives & Marki Ware, Laura & John Roche, Barbara & Pieter Roos, Mary Russell, *Jo-Ann Sadosky, Susie & Mark Sarkisian*, Judy Schaffer, Jim Sharp, Margaret & William Smith, Carol & Charles Sonne, Dale & Christoph Stretz, Bowie Thomas, Margaret Thomas, Audrey Walker, *Audrey Weber & Kyle Baker*, Erica & George Weinstock, Jackie & Michael Wells, Ted Whittemore, Taffy Wilcox, John Wilcox & Virginia Van Dyk, Maggie & Sherwood Willard, Jeanne & Dennis Winkleblack, Wes Winterbottom, Brenda Zanta



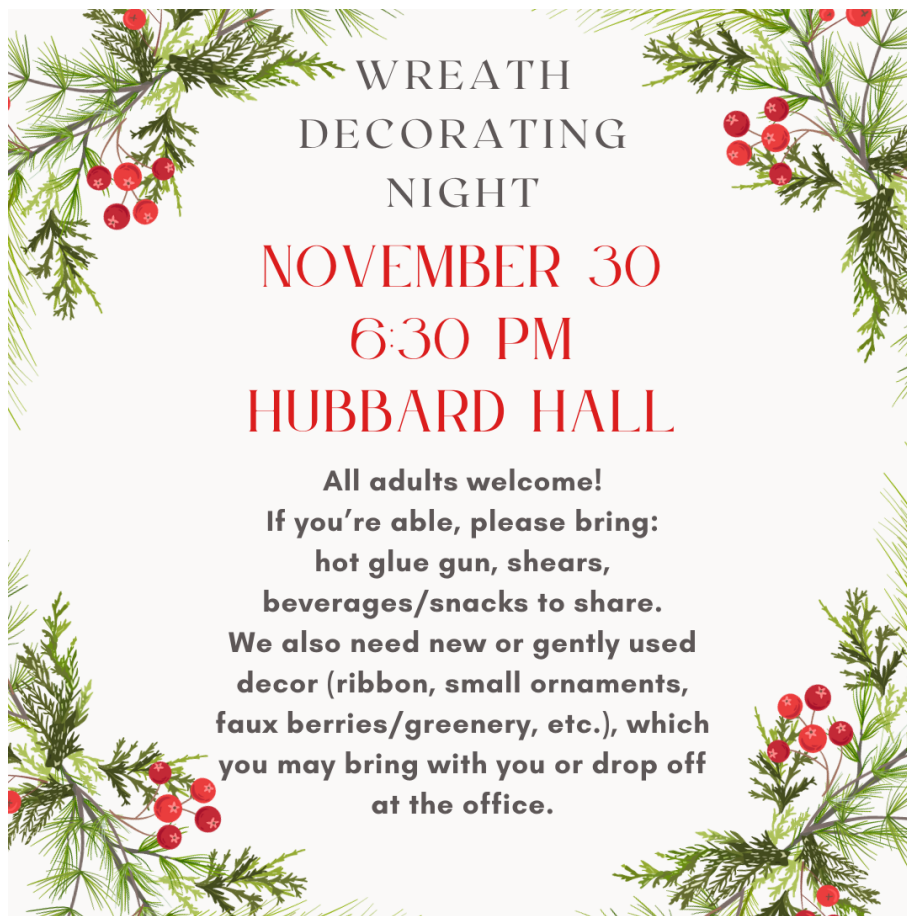
St. John's will once again support Hartford Healthcare's Stronger Families/Stronger Futures program by providing gift cards to families who participate in this program. The parents/caregivers appreciate being able to choose toys, clothes, and food that will make their families' Christmas special. We're collecting **gift cards valued at \$10 to \$50** from the following types of stores:

- Toys and clothing (Walmart, Target, Big Lots, Burlington, Kohl's, Marshall's, TJ Maxx, Savers, The Children's Place)
- Groceries (Shop Rite, Price Chopper, Stop & Shop, Aldi, Price Rite)
- Restaurants (Olive Garden, McDonald's, Chuck E. Cheese)

DEADLINE: MONDAY 11/27

Please put cards in an envelope marked "Gift Cards for Families" and drop off at the church office or in the offering plate.

Questions? Contact Beth Kauczka, bkauczka@gmail.com



WREATH
DECORATING
NIGHT

NOVEMBER 30
6:30 PM
HUBBARD HALL

All adults welcome!
If you're able, please bring:
hot glue gun, shears,
beverages/snacks to share.
We also need new or gently used
decor (ribbon, small ornaments,
faux berries/greenery, etc.), which
you may bring with you or drop off
at the office.

St. John's Church
CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Saturday, December 2
10am to 2pm

EVERYONE IS WELCOME - FREE ADMISSION

Food ☆ Crafts ☆ Wreaths ☆ Gifts

St. John's Episcopal Church
679 Farmington Avenue

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

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