

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



All Saints Sunday

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II & THE BAPTISM OF
SHERI-LEE JENNELL RHODEN-COOKE

November 5, 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 art: All Saints Day by Danielle Shroyer



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY	Prelude in G Major, BWV 550a Sonnenuntergang (Sunset)	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) Carson Cooman (b. 1982)
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Carson Cooman is a Boston composer with a catalog of hundreds of works in many forms—from solo instrumental pieces to operas, and from orchestral works to hymn tunes. His music has been performed on all six inhabited continents in venues that range from the stage of Carnegie Hall to the basket of a hot air balloon. Over 300 new compositions by more than 100 international composers have been written for him, and his organ performances can be heard on a number of CD releases and more than 6,000 recordings available online. Cooman is also a writer on musical subjects, producing articles and reviews frequently for a number of international publications.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 287	For all the saints, who from their labors rest	SINE NOMINE
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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. Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

*Revelation 7:9–17**All sit.*

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 34:1–10, 22

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

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and homophonic. The lyrics are: Taste and see that the LORD is good. The word 'LORD' is underlined in the original image, and 'is' has a long horizontal line underneath it, indicating a sustained note.

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!
- 9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.
- 10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.
- 22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

Antiphon

THE SECOND LESSON

1 John 3:1–3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 293 I sing a song of the saints of God
All stand and sing.

GRAND ISLE

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1–12

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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 CANDIDATE

The Priest says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents I present Sheri-Lee Jennell 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.

Then the Priest asks the following questions of the parents and godparents, who speak on behalf of the child.

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 this person in her 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 this child who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.
Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Bring her 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

Sheri-Lee Jennell, 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 servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her 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 Child of blessing, child of promise

STUTT GART

All sing as the baptismal party returns to their seats.

1 Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap - tized with the Spir-it's sign;
 2 Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre - a - tion, loved in - deed!
 3 Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you are, from God you came.
 4 Child of God your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.

With this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
 Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
 Back to God we hum-bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
 Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

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 The Beatitudes

arr. Richard Proulx (1937–2010)

Text: Matthew 5:3–12

Adapted from the Russian Orthodox liturgy

Remember your servants, Lord, when you come in your kingly power. Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn; for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness's sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when the world reviles you and persecutes you; and utters all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake: rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven. Remember your servants, Lord, when you come in your kingly power.

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.**

Celebrant This Holy Eucharist is offered to the glory of God, the people of St. John's Church, and on this All Saints Sunday, to the beloved of this parish who wait for us on the other shore.

John Alexander Amamoo	Frances Johnson	Byron Renz
The Reverend Anne Bracket	Virginia Griffen Kiely	Joan Renz
Joyce Anne Burke	Edward W. Lamlein, Jr.	Casper Roos
Sam Cooley	Shawn Lang	Duccio & Nina Rosselli del
Khalda Logan Eaton	John & Anita Lazarowski	Turco
James Ralph Evans	Helen Lockery	David St. George
Gordon Fowler	Susan Lockery	Mary Stoughton
Molly Fowler	Robert Lockery	Walter Szwecz
Edythe Freeouf	Janet Myers	Joe Terzo
Donald Gavin	Fred Marchion	Guy Verney
Fred Gondeck	Bill Moore	Julie Verney
Crispin Hollings	Joan Elizabeth Murphy	Donna Wagner
Bill & Toni Hutchinson	Donald O'Brien	Shirley Yeames

A period of silence is held.

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

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy on
 us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy on us.
 Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

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 Crossing the bar

Rani Arbo (b. 1968)
Words: Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar.



Rani Arbo grew up a cellist and chorister in New York City, where she had the opportunity to learn centuries of sacred music, from Hildegard to Poulenc to Paul Winter. After studying geology in college, she took up fiddle and fell for the rootsy sounds of old-time, Cajun, honkytonk, and bluegrass music. She co-founded the bluegrass-folk band Salamander Crossing in 1991, and founded daisy mayhem in 2000. She has toured and recorded with Joan Baez, John McCutcheon, and many others. She lives in Middletown, CT with drummer Scott Kessel and their young son.

THE COMMUNION HYMN 609 Where cross the crowded ways of life

GARDINER

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 618 Ye watchers and ye holy ones

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Fugue in G Major, BWV 550b

Johann Sebastian Bach

*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:** Linda Schatz**Psalterer:** Jamie Baker**The St. John's Adult Choir & Choir School****Organist and Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Assisting Organist:** Aletheia Teague**Acolytes:** Dorian Ciscel, Danielle Branco, Virginia Eikel**Ushers:** Jo Anne Burgh, Steve Crocker, Robert Eikel, Julia O'Brien**Healing Prayers:** Annabel Clapp**Livestream Director:** Mary Honyotski**Altar Guild:** Kate Eikel, Buffy Ineson**Sunday School Teachers:** Taffy Wilcox, Akilah Williams, Jeff Verney, Leah Lorenzo,
Matt Ciscel, Angela Allen-Peck, Colin Gillespie**Nursery Staff:** Sheryl Simoni, Lilah Lorenzo, Caroline Thaxton

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of the beloved of this parish whom we remember on this All Saints Sunday.

We're delighted to welcome Aletheia Teague as our assisting organist this morning, playing the Bach organ voluntaries. She is a bachelor of music candidate at the Juilliard School, and second-place winner in last year's Albert Schweitzer competition here in Hartford. Be sure to join us for her Pipes Alive! concert at 12:30.

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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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 Skeelee	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	Lucas
Rod Farrell	Nick Willke	Jon Nelson	Carolyn Engle
Hillary Lord	Marnie Mueller	Dan Minster	Amy Bittinger
G.F.	Emmy Aziz	Ben Mabrey	

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Trig Cooley	Britt Emerick
Maxom Goetz	Danielle Joslyn
Sydney Sherman	Jonah Richardson

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Kate & Robert Eikel

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Trinity, Wethersfield; St. Paul's, Willimantic, St. Matthew's, Wilton; and for all deacons, the Deacons' Council, and the Province I School for Deacons.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico.

EYC THIS WEEK

Global Philanthropy Leaders (GPL) returns this week! Join us for fellowship, Bible study, and micro-lending (and probably sardines). In Hubbard Hall. Please bring a tablet, phone, or laptop for lending. November 5, 5-7 pm. Dinner Provided.

Pipes Alive! with Aletheia Teague, TODAY at 12:30 p.m. The Pipes Alive! series begins a new program year with organist Aletheia Teague playing the St. John's organ today at 12:30 p.m. Pipes Alive! recitals featuring local organists playing a 30-minute program are held on the first Sunday of the month, November through June. The concert is free admission – donations welcome in any amount. Aletheia Johanna Teague is a student at The Juilliard School where she is completing her undergraduate degree in organ performance under Mr. Paul Jacobs.

Online book club, Tuesday, November 7, 7 to 8 p.m. in Zoom. The St. John's book club will meet online this Tuesday at 7 p.m. to discuss *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks. We'll send out an e-newsletter on Tuesday with the Zoom link.

Celtic Eucharist, Sunday, November 12, 5 p.m. Celtic worship, held in Hubbard Hall, is somewhat less formal than Sunday morning worship, and includes music, prayer, silence, and chant. All ages are welcome. Afterward, all are invited to stay for a potluck supper. Celtic worship is at 5 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month, October through May (with no service in December).

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.

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, materials, drinks, snacks, and good company! Feel free to bring your own scissors, clippers, hot glue guns, and decorations if you have them.

St. John's Christmas Festival, Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Save the date for this beloved annual fundraising event! There are many ways St. John's parishioners can help before, during, and after the event, so please read on and sign up!

- **Volunteer to help for an hour or more on the day of the festival**, by staffing sales tables, taking payments, helping with set-up and clean-up, serving food, and more. Sign up at sjparish.net/christmasfestivalhelp
- **Volunteer to make/contribute items to be sold at the festival:**
 - **Attend the wreath-decorating night on November 30.** Details are above. Contacts: Barbara Roos and Jyothsna Diaz
 - **Donate goods or services to the online auction.** The auction will be open December 1 to 10. Contacts: Lissie Brooks and Marcos Donnelly
 - **Make sweet or savory baked goods, jams, and other treats** to be sold at the Country Kitchen bake sale. Sign up at sjparish.net/christmasfestivaldonate. Contacts: Ginger Gillespie and Beth Kauczka
 - **Make knit goods or other crafts** to be sold in the craft area. Sign up at sjparish.net/christmasfestivaldonate. Contacts: Olivia Thaxton and Kiley Murphy (knit goods and crafts), Cait Semanie (potholders)
 - **Make batches of soup (using our recipes)** to be sold at the Festival Café. Sign up at sjparish.net/christmasfestivaldonate. Contact: Laura Roche
 - **Donate items for the annual theme basket raffle.** Watch for a letter, which will go out in the next few weeks to parish groups, and contribute one or more items to your group's theme basket. If you are a member of several groups, you are welcome to contribute to one or several baskets. **Donations of large wicker/woven/canvas baskets in new or gently used condition are also welcome.** Please drop them off at the church office. Contact: Matteo Donnelly

And of course, we hope everyone will attend the festival and invite friends, families, and neighbors! We will again sell special **St. John's Christmas ornaments** depicting Mary and infant Jesus as seen on one of our beautiful stained glass windows—an image captured by our wonderful resident photographer David McCary, and produced as tree ornaments by a local company. The ornaments will be on sale at the festival, as well as after 10:30 Sunday services in December and at other special events. A limited number of ornaments were produced, so make sure you buy a St. John's ornament to hang on your tree this year, and every year!

Wow! That was a lot of yuletide information to think about!! Thank you for reading to the end!! Questions? Please contact the Christmas Festival coordinator **Annabel Clapp** by email at annabeltrickett@yahoo.com or by text 860-808-6775.

Note that we will not be having a Chic Boutique, Attic Treasures, or book sale this year, so cannot accept donations of items for those sales areas as we have in the past.

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.

PIPES ALIVE!



Aletheia Teague

November 5, 12:30pm

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR
Events are also available livestreamed
at www.reddoormusic.org



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.

Is there additional income, other than pledges, that supplements the budget?

Yes, St. John's has other sources of income that also support the budget. We are fortunate to have an endowment that we draw on each year to supplement pledge income. It is, however, vital to the church's long-term financial health that we keep our annual draw low enough for the endowment to continue to grow. We also have income from outside groups that use our facility, fundraisers, and non-pledge gifts. All of these income sources are needed to support our programs and ministries, but sufficient pledge income is the key factor in limiting our endowment draw to a sustainable level.

What if I make a pledge but find I can't pay it in full?

A pledge is a good-faith commitment to enable church budgeting; it is not a legal obligation. Please don't let your uncertainty prevent you from making a pledge. You may adjust your pledge at any time by contacting the church office or one of the treasurers. Your pledge amount and any changes you make are confidential, shared only with certain staff members and lay leaders with direct responsibility for stewardship and finances.

Your pledge matters!

What matters most is that you pledge! We ask that you pledge even if the amount is not as much as you'd like it to be. Every pledge makes a difference, and everyone's pledge is needed.

A message from the stewardship chairs

Matt Ciscel & Laura Roche

In addition to our ongoing theme of **Grace, Gratitude, and Giving**, the stewardship drive this year is focusing on **Growth**. In recent years, St. John's has been blessed with many forms of growth, from spiritual and musical to outreach and education, and from leadership (clergy, staff, and lay) to families joining our parish. We also saw notable growth over the past year in pledges and donations. Our stewardship goal is to continue growing the number of households pledging and the average pledge in order to support the church's ongoing growth in all the other areas listed above. Pledges help parish leaders to plan for 2024, and no pledge is too small or pledge increase too little.

The great generosity of all parishioners enables the church to continue growing. Together, we sustain the vibrant and holy mission of God in our community. Thank you all for prayerfully participating in this pledge drive.



CELTIC WORSHIP

at St. John's

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12


5:00 PM

WITH POTLUCK SUPPER AFTER

Celtic Christian worship incorporates prayer, silence, music, and Holy Eucharist to nourish body, mind, and spirit.

Please bring something for the potluck if you are able (and come anyway if you're not!).

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!



CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR FAMILIES

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



Donations needed for the
fourth annual

ONLINE AUCTION

We're once again holding an online auction to supplement funds raised at the Christmas Festival. The auction will be open for bidding from December 1 to 10, 2023. Help make it a success by donating goods or services to inspire spirited bidding! Popular auction items include quality holiday gifts (toys, accessories, electronics, etc.), baked goods, time in a vacation home, gift cards, and professional services.

Contact Lissie Brooks (lissiebrooks@gmail.com) or Marcos Donnelly (wpbjmar@gmail.com) to discuss what you'd like to donate!

DEADLINE: Please contact Lissie and Marcos with all of the information about your auction item(s) by Wednesday, November 22.



WREATH
DECORATING
NIGHT

NOVEMBER 30
6:30 PM
HUBBARD HALL

ALL ADULTS WELCOME!
DRINKS, SNACKS &
MATERIALS PROVIDED

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)..... *Priest in Charge*
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)..... *Assistant Rector*
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)..... *Director of Music*
The Rev. Walter McKenney *Deacon*
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)..... *Parish Manager*
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)..... *Sexton*
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)..... *Financial Administrator*
Christa Rakich..... *Organ Artist-in-Residence*
Ralph Valentine *Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus*

VESTRY

Ginger Gillespie..... *Warden*
Stewart Murchie *Warden*
Anne Harney and David McCary *Co-Treasurers*

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