

# St. John's Episcopal Church

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

[www.sjparish.net](http://www.sjparish.net)



## *The Second Sunday in Lent*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

*February 25, 2024*

*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](http://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 located in the Education Wing is open on Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon; parents/caregivers are welcome to drop off children in the nursery for part or all of the service. The Education Wing and nursery also have changing tables and seating that parents/caregivers may use as needed.

*Cover art: Lenten Labyrinth by Mike Moyers. From the artist: "Labyrinths are ancient meditation tools. Unlike mazes, labyrinths are not puzzles to solve. They have the same entrance and exit point. The traveler merely wanders to the center and then journeys back out. The purpose is to journey into prayer and meditation while traveling through the labyrinth's many twists and turns...Because this labyrinth is meant to trigger your own contemplation, I won't go into great detail explaining its meaning. I will, however, get you started. The labyrinth begins and ends with the black path at the bottom. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with Good Friday. Both are services about darkness, and death. Likewise, this Lenten labyrinth begins and ends with the darkness of the cross...The center is left blank. Empty, unpainted canvas. That is your place."*



## ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY    Choral Dorian

Jehan Alain (1911–1940)

### THE SILENT PROCESSION

*All stand at the ringing of the bell.*

*Celebrant*    Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People*        **God's mercy endures forever.**

*Celebrant*    If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 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.

## KYRIE ELEISON

*All chant.*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
 Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
 Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

*Music: Plainsong Mode I, Orbis Factor*

*Translation: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

## THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

*All sit.*

**W**hen Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.” God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALTER

Psalm 22:22–30

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



- 22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; \*  
**stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;**  
**all you of Jacob’s line, give glory.**
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
 neither does he hide his face from them; \*  
**but when they cry to him he hears them.**
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
**I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.**
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
 and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: \*  
**“May your heart live for ever!”**
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, \*  
**and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.**
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; \*  
**he rules over the nations.**
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
**all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

- 29 My soul shall live for him;  
 my descendants shall serve him; \*  
**they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.**
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
**the saving deeds that he has done.**

*Antiphon*

THE EPISTLE

*Romans 4:13–25*

**F**or the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 455 O Love of God, how strong and true

DUNEDIN

*All stand and sing.*

THE GOSPEL

*Mark 8:31–38*

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

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

**J**esus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

THE SERMON

*All sit.*

The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

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 confidence and trust let us pray to God.

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; Jeff and Laura, our bishops; our parish clergy; and the people of St. John's. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness we may share the good news of God's love in our words and our actions. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For peace in the world, especially in the Holy Land, Ukraine, South Sudan, and all places consumed by violence and chaos, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, especially those on our parish prayer list, and for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger, that they may be relieved and protected. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For those whom we have injured or offended, and those who have injured or offended us. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For grace to amend our lives and practice the loving, humble, and merciful way of Jesus. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

In communion with all the departed who have walked in the way of holiness, especially Dennis Simoni, let us pray to God. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

*Celebrant* God of love, you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting, and generosity; accept our Lenten discipline, and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 I will arise

Traditional

arr. Alice Parker (1925–2023) &amp; Robert Shaw (1916–1999)

I will arise and go to Jesus. He will embrace me in His arms.  
 In the arms of my dear Savior, oh! there are ten thousand charms.  
 Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above.  
 Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.  
 Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace.  
 Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
 I will arise and go to Jesus. He will embrace me in His arms.  
 In the arms of my dear Savior, oh! there are ten thousand charms.



*We mourn the loss of Alice Parker, who died on December 24, 2023. The American Record Guide said of her, "Alice Parker is a national treasure: America's reigning queen of choral music." Of her collaboration with Robert Shaw, Parker wrote, "My twenty-years' experience with...Shaw, an immersion in folk music of many kinds, has had a profound effect on my own understanding of song. I learned to see each tune as a small universe, setting up its own rules of pitch and rhythm, mood and dance. If I understand that universe, and work within it for my setting, the result is an organic whole that allows the original melody to flourish."*

### THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

*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 al - so 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.



It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## THE SANCTUS

*All chant.*

San - ctus, San - ctus, San - ctus Dó - mi - nus De - us Sá - ba - oth.

Ple - ni sunt cae - li et ter - ra gló - ri - a tu - a. Ho - sán - na

in ex - cél - sis. Be - ne - dí - ctus qui ve - nit in nó - mi - ne

Dó - mi - ni. Ho - sán - na in ex - cél - sis.

*Music: Gregorian Chant, Deus Genitor alme*

Translation: *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

*All remain standing or kneel.*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.



## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*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.*

## THE COMMUNION MOTET Ave verum corpus

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

*Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine,  
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine,  
cuius latus perforatum fluxit aqua et sanguine:  
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.*

Hail, true body, born of the Virgin Mary,  
which having truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for mankind,  
whose pierced side flowed with water and blood:  
May it be for us a taste of things to come in the trial of death.

## THE COMMUNION HYMN 337 And now, Father, mindful of the love

UNDE ET MEMORES

*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 401 The God of Abraham praise

LEONI

*All sing.*

## THE DISMISSAL

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

## THE VOLUNTARY Litanies

Jehan Alain



*Jehan Alain, a Parisian composer who died when his plane was shot down during WWII, wrote this morning's organ music. The opening voluntary is a haunting Choral that explores modal tonalities. Litanies is a breathless and relentless prayer. The desperation of prayer in time of deep need is illustrated by a repetitive litany and rhythms written while traveling on a train—all building to a frenzy. Alain writes, "When the Christian soul in its despair can no longer find any new words to implore the mercy of God, it repeats the same incantation over and over again in blind faith. The limits of reality are surpassed and faith alone continues upward."*

*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**Layreader:** Jyothsna Diaz**Psalterer:** Virginia Eikel**The St. John's Adult Choir & Choir School****Organist and Choirmaster:** Scott Lamlein**Acolytes:** Caleb Worrell, Jamie Baker, Atticus Finkell**Ushers:** Steve Crocker, Robert Eikel, Stewart Murchie**Healing Prayers:** Enid Oberholtzer**Livestream Director:** Jenn Baker**Altar Guild:** June Aziz, Jo-Ann Sadosky**Sunday School Teachers:** Robert Eikel, Akilah Williams, Jeff Verney, Leah Lorenzo,  
Matt Ciscel, Angela Allen-Peck, Colin Gillespie**Nursery Staff:** Nichole Segar, Lilah Lorenzo, Caroline Thaxton

*Please stay after the service to make sandwiches for Loaves & Fishes.*

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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	Wendy
Brad Babbitt	Sue	Anita Winters	Bob Norton
Paul L. Peck	Whitney Lynch	Alison Gillespie	Joseph
Virginia Skeele	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Joyce Flynn	Sarah Carroll
Grant Loevenbruck	Gina Giusto	Rachel Boccio	Greg Highland
John & Barbara Spannaus	The Yelland family	Joan Ackley	Rachel
Jennifer Blean	Harry Barber	Guy Russo	Lucas
Tori	Doug Larson	Jon Nelson	Amy Bittinger
Deborah	Brenda	G.F.	William Bittinger
Hale Walkoff	Nick Willke	Ned	Ben Mabrey
Rod Farrell	Jeff Lewis	Craig W.	Mike
Hillary Lord	Miranda	Ryan W.	Dan Minster
Madeline	Allison and Family	Roger	Rick
Helen Rosen	Erin Roben	Dan Lazarowski	

**Those serving in the military:**

Alex Thaxton  
Christian Dahlstrom

**Those celebrating birthdays this week:**

Blythe Peck	Sreesha Kocherla
Bill Reardon	Scott Lamlein
Brielle Worrell	Ann Newbury
Joe Duffy	

**Those celebrating anniversaries this week:**

Ginny & Mark Proft

**Those who have died:**

Dennis Simoni, *husband of Sheryl Simoni, one of our professional nursery staff*

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for St. Barnabas', Greenwich; Christ Church, Guilford; St. John's, Guilford; Grace & St. John's, Hamden; and for all parish-based mission partnerships, ECCT-wide mission partnership networks, and the Companions in Mission Network.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the Anglican Church of Tanzania.

**Choral Evensong TODAY 25 at 5 p.m.** The ancient and beautiful service of Choral Evensong is presented on the fourth Sunday of selected months at St. John's. Join us today at 5 p.m. for this time of music and worship. This event will be presented in person and by livestream. Sung by the Choirs of St. Patrick – St. Anthony Church, Hartford; Gabriel Löfvall, choirmaster; Madison H. Thompson, organist. This event is free admission, donations welcome in any amount.

**Midweek Holy Eucharist, Wednesdays in Lent at 5:30 p.m.** Through Wednesday, March 20, St. John's will offer a short service of spoken Holy Eucharist at 5:30 p.m.

**Lent online Bible study begins on February 26 at 7 p.m. in Zoom.** The next cycle in our ongoing Monday night online Bible study will explore the different ways that Jesus prayed. The Bible study is held online in Zoom, and all are welcome to attend one, several, or all sessions. There is no homework or preparation required. The Zoom link is shared in our regular Thursday e-newsletter, or you may contact Margie at [margie@sjparish.net](mailto:margie@sjparish.net) to be added to a dedicated email list to receive a reminder and link every Monday.

**Pipes Alive! next Sunday, March 3, at 12:30 p.m.** The Pipes Alive! series continues with organist Natasha Ulyanovsky playing the St. John's organ next Sunday at 12:30 p.m. This event will be presented in person and by livestream. The concert is free admission—donations welcome in any amount.

**How you can support youth at St. John's.** The young people of the parish are currently involved with two fundraisers. The EYC (youth group) is raising money to support Dignity Grows, a Hartford area nonprofit that provides hygiene supplies to those in need. The Choir School is raising money via a Lyman Orchards pie sale to purchase new choir robes. **This is the final Sunday for both fundraisers—see page 19 for details!**

**The easiest way for you to participate in either fundraiser is through the dedicated ordering/donation web site for each project, using the QR codes on the graphics on page 19. However, if you would prefer to donate to either fundraiser by cash/check rather than participating online, please note the following:**

- Clearly mark your check or cash envelope for "Dignity Grows" or "Choir School robes." Make checks payable to St. John's.
- Because we will be forwarding your funds for a specific purpose outside of the church's operating budget, these donations are NOT tax-deductible and will NOT be listed on your 2024 giving statement.
- Donations given directly to the church for either purpose may only be made by cash or check. If you wish to donate online, please use the dedicated web sites for each project (see page 19 of this bulletin). We cannot accept online donations for these projects via the St. John's web site or Realm.
- We will hold off on depositing donations until each fundraiser is over, so your check will not clear immediately.

### Some reminders about safety and security at St. John's

At St. John's, we strive to practice openness and hospitality while also safeguarding our congregants, our neighbors, and our historic property. Please review the following information and contact the clergy or a parish staff member if you have any questions.

- All employees, along with volunteers who work with children, oversee money, and fill certain other roles, undergo a **background check** and complete a **Safe Church training course** provided by the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.
- **Security cameras and a computerized locking system** on church doors allow us to control and monitor traffic in the building. The doors are usually left unlocked during worship services and major events. For smaller events (such as meetings), the doors are programmed to unlock about 15 minutes before an event begins, and lock again about 15 minutes after. Should you arrive early to an event, you may need to wait a few minutes until the doors unlock. If you arrive more than 15 minutes late, you may need to call or text someone in the meeting to come let you in.
- **If you need to stop by the church during the week**, please call the office first to ensure that the doors will be open or a staff person will be available to let you in.
- **Should anyone approach you on church property asking for money**, please refer them to one of the clergy or invite them to come back during office hours. We have toiletries, winter accessories, and food available for neighbors in need. Please support this ministry by **putting food in the outdoor Blessing Box (self-service food pantry) as often as possible**, and **responding to periodic requests to replenish other supplies (e.g., see the graphic on page 18)**.
- **If you feel unsafe or notice a health or safety hazard on church property**, do not hesitate to inform a staff member, alert an usher (during worship services), or call the police, either at their non-emergency number (860-523-5203) or 911.

Thank you!

# EVENSONG



The Choirs of  
St. Patrick-St. Anthony

**February 25, 5pm**

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

Events are also available livestreamed  
at [www.reddoormusic.org](http://www.reddoormusic.org)



## EYC THIS WEEK

This week we're playing  
**STUMP THE PRIEST** with  
special guest Todd! Plus  
prayer and games. Dinner  
provided.

Sunday 2/25 5-7 PM



# PRAYING LIKE JESUS

Lenten Bible Study  
Mondays at 7pm in zoom  
February 26-March 25

Join us Mondays in Lent as we explore some of the ways Jesus prayed in the gospels. From temptation in the desert to the transfiguration, from the Lord's Prayer to the cross, Jesus shows the disciples and all of us how to pray. As always, there is no homework, no preparation, and no one-size-fits all answers. Come wonder with us!

**Questions? Email [margie@sjparish.net](mailto:margie@sjparish.net)**

# PIPES ALIVE!



**Natasha  
Ulyanovsky**

**March 3, 12:30pm**

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR 

Events are also available livestreamed at [www.reddoormusic.org](http://www.reddoormusic.org)



## Support our neighbors!

Help replenish supplies for those in need who come to the church looking for help. We especially need full-size toiletries (shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant), warm men's socks, men's insulated/waterproof gloves, and ready-to-eat snacks/meals for the Blessing Box (small self-service food pantry outdoors).

Please put food donations directly in the Blessing Box. You may drop off other donations at the parish office or shop from our Amazon wish list (link below).

Thank you!

[sjparish.net/blessingbags](https://sjparish.net/blessingbags)

# CONTEMPLATIVE HOLY EUCHARIST

Simple, spoken Eucharist with  
space for silence and prayer.

Wednesdays in Lent at 5:30

St. John's Episcopal Church  
679 Farmington Ave, West Hartford CT

## The St. John's youth group (EYC) is raising money for Dignity Grows.

Dignity Grows is a local nonprofit that provides hygiene supplies to people in need. Our youth group has a goal of raising \$2,500, which will allow them to fill 250 bags with much-needed hygiene items.

The youth have raised funds for this project through several special events, and also invite parishioners and friends to donate directly to their project online.

To donate online, use this QR code or go to <https://dignitygrows.org/event-donations/> and select the "St. John's Youth Group" fundraiser.



## Who wants PIE?

The St. John's Choir School is selling pies from Lyman Orchards to raise money for new choir robes.

From classics like apple and strawberry-rhubarb to chocolate peanut butter pie, Lyman offers a variety of flavors to suit all tastes. They also offer ready-to-bake cookie dough and other delicious treats.

All orders will be delivered to the church by Maundy Thursday so they make a perfect dessert for your Easter celebration!

To order, talk to any of our choristers, or use the QR code below to order online, where there's also an option to simply make a donation if you prefer.

Thank you for your support!



**Orders must be placed  
by February 26**

# 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)..... *Associate Rector*  
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)..... *Director of Music*  
The Rev. Walter McKenney ..... *Deacon*  
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)..... *Director of Operations & Communications*  
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

Eleanor Barnes ..... *Warden*  
Stewart Murchie ..... *Warden*  
Anne Harney and David McCary ..... *Co-Treasurers*

2022–24: Lissie Brooks, Marcos Donnelly, Rosa Guzzo, Mary Honyotski

2023–25: Angela Allen-Peck, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer

2024–26: Ginger Gillespie, Lauren Mascola, Linda Schatz, Brenda Zanta