

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II & THE BAPTISMS OF
John Thomas Samuel Bannon & Anthony James Giannios

April 28, 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

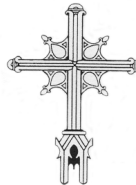


Scan to fill out online newcomer form.

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 image: The Empty Tomb by Mike Moyers



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY March on a theme by Handel Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 379 God is Love, let heaven adore him ABBOT’S LEIGH
All stand and sing.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

- Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.
- People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**
- 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, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 8:26–40

All sit.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 22:24–30

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

Make known the sav - - - ing deeds that God has done.

- 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 SECOND LESSON

1 John 4:7–21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN O blessed spring

BERGLUND

All stand and sing.

1. O bless - ed spring, where Word and sign em - brace us
 2. Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain
 3. When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their
 4. As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our
 5. Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for

in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
 heav - y har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will
 last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take
 this blest mys - te - ry: that Word and wa - ter thus re -

be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
 rain, the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
 move with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
 wing and trust the prom - ise of the spring.
 vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

Words: Susan Palo Cherwien (b. 1953)
 Music: Berglund, Robert Buckley Farlee (b. 1950)

THE GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

All sit.

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Priest says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents I present John Thomas/Anthony James to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Priest Will you be responsible for seeing that he 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 him 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 these people in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

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

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

All stand.

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was**

crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Priest

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People

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

Priest

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People

I will, with God's help.

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Leader

Let us now pray for these children who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth. Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People

Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The Priest says to the candidate

John Thomas/Anthony James, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

Priest Let us welcome the newly baptized.

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

THE BAPTISM HYMN Child of blessing, child of promise

STUTTGART

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 God to enfold me

David Kelley

Text: *from Carmina Gadelica*

God to enfold me,
 God to surround me,
 God in my speaking,
 God in my thinking.

God in my sleeping,
 God in my waking,
 God in my watching,
 God in my hoping.

God in my life,
 God in my lips,
 God in my soul,
 God in my heart.

God in my sufficing,
 God in my slumber,
 God in mine ever-living soul,
 God in mine eternity.



David Kelley is minister of music at Church of the Holy Comforter in Vienna, Virginia, where he serves as organist and director of an intergenerational choral program. He has a doctorate in organ performance from Peabody Conservatory; degrees in music theory, composition, and liturgical music; and professional certificates from the American Guild of Organists. Dr. Kelley has served on the faculties of training courses for the Royal School of Church Music in America and the AGO, and is a prize-winning choral composer.

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.**

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937); Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

All remain standing or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **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. All sing.

f Forcefully

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ our Pass - o - ver has been
sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast,
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Jeffrey Rickard, 1986; used by permission.

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.

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 MOTET Ave verum corpus

Stephanie Martin (b. 1962)

Text attributed to Pope Innocent VI (d. 1362)

Ave, verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine, vere passum immolatum in Cruce pro homine,
Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit sanguine, esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

*Hail, true body born of the Virgin Mary, who truly suffered, sacrificed on the Cross for man,
Whose pierced side overflowed with blood, Be for us a foretaste in the test of death.*



An award-winning composer and conductor, Stephanie Martin has wide musical interests ranging from Gregorian chant to gamelan; from Froberger to folksong. A guardian of musical heritage and a creative collaborator, she is known for imaginative programming and for creating sustainable musical communities.

THE COMMUNION HYMN 325 Let us break bread together on our knees

LET US BREAK BREAD

All remain seated and sing.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

All stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 344 Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Prelude and Fugue in F minor, BWV 534

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Margie Baker

Preacher: The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

Layreader: Matteo Donnelly

Psalterer: Tema Silk

The St. John's Adult Choir

Organist and Choirmaster: Christopher Houlihan

Acolytes: Caleb Worrell, Brielle Worrell, Allison Mani

Ushers: Jo Anne Burgh, Robert Eikel, Stewart Murchie, Julia O'Brien

Livestream Oversight: Mary Honyotski

Altar Guild: Bill Lockery, Brenda Zanta

Healing Prayer Minister: Chris Byrd

Nursery Staff: Nichole Segar, Caroline Thaxton, Olivia Thaxton

Sunday School Teachers: Taffy Wilcox, Margie Baker

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the baptisms of Anthony James Giannios and John Thomas Samuel Bannon.

Please stay after the service today to help make 200 sandwiches for the Loaves & Fishes feeding program.

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	Wendy
Brad Babbitt	Sue	Anita Winters	Bob Norton
Paul L. Peck	Whitney Lynch	Alison Gillespie	Joseph
Virginia Skeelee	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
Hale Walkoff	Brenda	G.F.	William Bittinger
Rod Farrell	Jeff Lewis	Ned	Ben Mabrey
Hillary Lord	Miranda	Roger	Mike
Madeline	Allison and Family	Everett	Rick
Helen Rosen	Erin Roben	Randy McCord	Richard Myers
Nick Willke	Linda	Rich Lammlin	Marian Moore
Ted Asta & Angelo Natoli	Betty	Betsy Curtler	

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton
Christian Dahlstrom

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Barbara Lennox	Zeke Latif
Ethen Worrell	Sophie Murchie
Tim Goetz	Oliver Layfield

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Mark's, New Canaan; Christ Church, New Haven; St. James', New Haven; and for parishes in transition, transition teams, and interim clergy.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of Bangladesh.

St. John's healing prayer ministry. Did you know that a healing prayer volunteer is available at all 10:30 services to pray with or for anyone? All are welcome to join them at the baptismal font after receiving communion. Our healing prayer team is always open to new volunteers who would like to learn more about this pastoral ministry. There will be two information/training sessions coming up, **TODAY and May 5 after the 10:30 service** in the St. John's Room. For more information, contact Wes Winterbottom at wesleywinterbottom@hotmail.com.

Choral Evensong, TODAY at 5 p.m. The ancient and beautiful service of Choral Evensong is held on select fourth Sundays of the month at St. John's. The final Choral Evensong of this program year is this evening, featuring the Anglican Singers. Join us for this contemplative service of music and prayer.

Pipes Alive! next Sunday, May 5, at 12:30 p.m. The May Pipes Alive! organ concert will feature Susan Carroll, organist at Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford. Free admission with donations accepted.

Save the dates!

- **Spring Fling & Food Auction fundraiser, Friday, May 31, 6:30 p.m.** All parish adults and friends are welcome. Enjoy good conversation, live music, appetizers, beverages, and silent and live auctions. Tickets will be sold on Sundays starting in mid-May.
- **St. John's at the Yard Goats, Sunday, June 16, 1:05 p.m.** Come cheer on Hartford's favorite minor league ball team at Dunkin Donuts Park with your St. John's friends. The Choir School will sing *America, the Beautiful* before the game starts.
- **Vacation Bible School for all ages, June 17 to 20, 5:30 to 8 p.m.** Prayer, Scripture, activities, and dinner centered on the theme of how God nourishes us. Open to everyone, regardless of age or affiliation with St. John's. Children age 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. \$30 per person, maximum \$100/family. Registration via Realm will be open soon.

EVENSONG

The Anglican Singers



April 28, 5pm

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

Events are also available livestreamed
at www.reddoormusic.org



St. John's Ministry of Healing Prayer

Healing ministers are available to pray with and for anyone who asks at the 10:30 service (at the baptismal font during communion).

We welcome new healing prayer volunteers, and will hold two brief information and training sessions this spring:

**Sundays, April 28 and May 5
after the 10:30 service in the St. John's Room**

Contact Wes Winterbottom at 860.521.5433 or
wesleywinterbottom@hotmail.com

No experience is necessary.

Please prayerfully consider if this ministry is for you.



ST. JOHN'S MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Join us this Spring as we explore stories of the beginning of the Church. Come hear and wonder about Peter, Paul, Stephen, and lesser-known but pivotal figures like Cornelius, Lydia, Tabitha, and even Ananias and Sapphira. What can we learn about following Jesus from these early Christians?

Mondays at 7pm in zoom

April 22-June 3 (no meeting May 27)

Questions? Email margie@sjparish.net

NEWS ABOUT THE MUSIC DIRECTOR SEARCH

Thank you to everyone who participated in last Sunday's wonderful celebration of Scott Lamlein's ministry at St. John's, and all that he, his wife Mary Beth, and son Francis did with and for our faith community over the past nearly 10 years. Please continue to pray for all of them as they undertake this major transition of moving to Atlanta, where Scott will be the new director of music at All Saints' Episcopal Church.

Interim music leadership: We are delighted to welcome **Christopher Houlihan**, organist and director of chapel music at Trinity College, who will be with us through the end of our program year on June 2. Christopher will be leading choir rehearsals and conducting choral anthems in addition to providing organ music for worship.

This summer, the choirs will take a much-deserved break, but we will continue to have an organist at the 10:30 service to accompany hymns and play voluntaries. Among the talented organists who will be here this summer are **Ted Babbitt, Christa Rakich, and Douglas Johnson**. We will also soon be organizing pianists and other musicians to help out at our less formal 9 a.m. outdoor summer services — please contact the parish office if you'd like to help in this way!

In late August, we will welcome **Walden Moore** as our **interim director of music**. Walden is about to retire from Trinity Church, New Haven, where he has served as organist and director of music for 40 years. He has many years of expertise working with choirs of both children and adults, having also served as clinician, guest conductor, and organist for choir festivals across the nation, and we are extremely fortunate that he will be leading our music program during this interim time. Walden's first Sunday at St. John's will be September 8, and he will remain here until a new permanent director of music can begin. During his tenure, he will be at St. John's two to three days a week, including Wednesdays for choir rehearsals and Sundays for worship.

Search committee: With Scott's help and input, we have assembled a search committee that incorporates key constituencies, including adult choir members, choir school parents, the head chorister, current vestry members, former wardens, Red Door board members and staff, and local organ talent with a good understanding of our music ministry at St. John's. The committee members are Buffy Ineson and Caleb Peck (chairs), Rich Barstow, John Nowacki, Nancy Skeelee, Tom Oberholtzer, Jx Eikel, Kate Eikel, Rebecca Bourret, Ray Giolitto, Karan Emerick, Jeff Verney, and Christopher Houlihan. The committee will begin meeting soon to plan their next steps.

Please pray for Christopher, Walden, the search committee, potential job candidates, our choirs, our parish leadership, and this entire Christian community of St. John's as we undertake the important work of continuing our tradition of musical excellence while selecting the person who will support, continue, and build upon that tradition into the future.

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. John's. Be with us and lead us as we seek our next director of music. We ask your wisdom and guidance for those on the search committee, all who are providing interim leadership, and our choirs. Grant us perception, faithfulness, patience, and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations, and trust that you will help us hire a faithful director who will nurture our music ministry and further God's mission at St. John's. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EYC THIS WEEK

This week EYC will begin outside writing chalk messages on the sidewalk around St. John's. Plus dinner, prayer, and games!

Sunday 4/28 5-7 PM

PIPES ALIVE!



**Susan
Carroll**

**May 5,
12:30pm**

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

Events are also available livestreamed at www.reddoormusic.org





Be part of the Mystery Wine Pull at the Spring Fling!

This is a fun one, and there are two ways to participate!

- For this year's Spring Fling, please donate a bottle of wine (Suggested Value = \$10 - \$50), preferably in advance but even at the door the evening of the event for our mystery wine pull!
- To sign up online, go to sjparish.net/winepull2024 to add your info to our google sheet or email coordinator Pia Mara Santomauro at piamarasantomauro@gmail.com.
- Bottles can be donated at coffee hour following the 10:30 service any Sunday leading up to the event, or dropped off at the parish office during the week.
- At the event, people can purchase a \$10 wine pull ticket at the door, which guarantees they take home a mystery wine of at least that value (and often even more!).

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*
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