

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

September 1, 2024

10:30 a.m.

HYMN OF PRAISE

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

Title: *Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis*
 Music: *Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

*Song of Solomon 2:8–13**All sit.*

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

*Psalm 45:1–2, 7–10**The people say the words in bold.*

- 1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.
- 2 **You are the fairest of men; ***
grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.
- 7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.
- 8 **Therefore God, your God, has anointed you ***
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- 9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.
- 10 **Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; ***
on your right hand is the queen,
adorned with the gold of Ophir.

THE SECOND LESSON

James 1:17–27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who

look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 660 O Master, let me walk with thee

MARYTON

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

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

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

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.” Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Margie Baker

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

**We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,**

begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father.
 Through him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven:
 by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE CONFESSION

The people say the words in bold.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our presiding bishop, for Sean our presiding bishop-elect, for Jeff and Laura our bishops,
 and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The people may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially Mary Russell and Estrid Eklof, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY MUSIC *Ruhig bewegt from Organ Sonata #2 (1937)* Paul Hindemith (1895–1963)
Quietly moving

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

*All stand.**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. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 sing.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven 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. —

*Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932)**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.

The Celebrant continues.

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.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

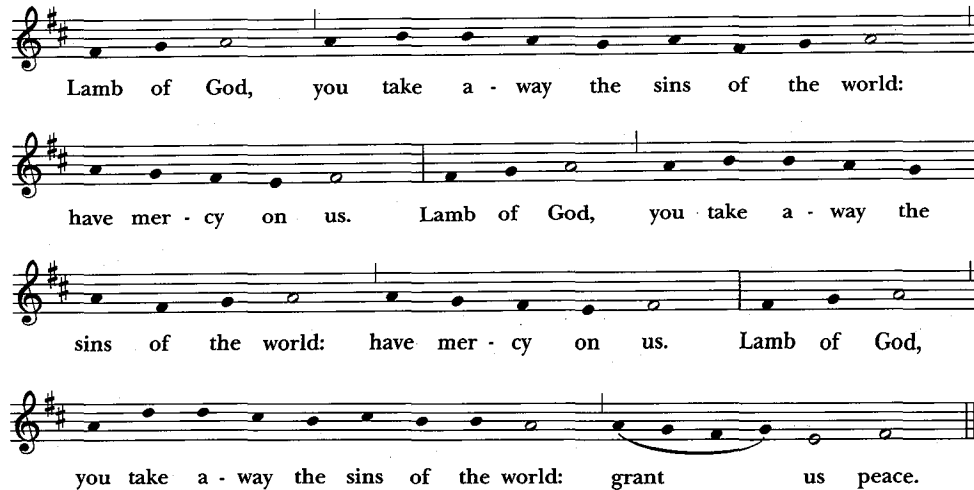
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. 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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: David Hurd (b. 1950)

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 volunteers, go to the baptismal font at the back of the church after receiving Communion.

THE COMMUNION MUSIC Adoration

Florence B. Price (1887–1953)

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 436 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

TRURO

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Gott sei gelobet
 God be praised

Heinrich Scheidemann (1595–1663)

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THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Deacon: The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreader: Jo Anne Burgh

Organist: Douglas Johnson

Ushers: Matt Ciscel, Annabel Clapp

Livestream Director: Jenn Baker

Altar Guild: June Aziz, Buffy Ineson

Healing Prayer Minister: Wes Winterbottom

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
Virginia Skeele	Whitney Lynch	Joyce Flynn	Joseph
Grant Loevenbruck	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Rachel Boccio	Sarah Carroll
John & Barbara Spannaus	The Yelland family	Joan Ackley	Greg Highland
Jennifer Blean	Harry Barber	Guy Russo	Rachel
Hale Walkoff	Doug Larson	Jon Nelson	Lucas
Rod Farrell	Jeff Lewis	G.F.	Amy Bittinger
Hillary Lord	Miranda	Ned	William Bittinger
Madeline	Allison and Family	Roger	Mike
Helen Rosen	Linda	Rich Lammlin	Rick
Nick Willke	Jacob Latranica	Daniel Zoltan	Richard Myers
Wayne Gollenburg	Rich & Ginny Flinchbaugh	Jim & Kathlyn Schofield	Carol
Uncle Rich Alpin	Tom Tata	John Scott	Paul Thaxton
Tracie O'Brien	Timothy Foga	Savanna D.	Frank Higginbotham
Naya			

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Jadzia Genece	Troy Gostyla
Benjamin Puzzo	George Hicks
Flora Speer	Julia O'Brien
Jayden Donnelly	Florencia Longo
Jack Adams	

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Sharon & Mike Henes
Lauren Mascola & John Swift

Those who have died:

Mary Russell, *aunt of Jenn Baker*
Estrid Eklof, *friend of Ann Hutchinson*

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Kent School; South Kent School; Pomfret School; Salisbury School; Wooster School; Rectory School; St. Thomas Day School, New Haven; Trinity Academy, Hartford; the Episcopal Church at UConn, Storrs; Berkeley Divinity School, New Haven; and Trinity College, Hartford.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola.

Acolyte lunch and training TODAY after the 10:30 service. All current acolytes are encouraged to attend, along with any youth (3rd grade and up) who would like to serve as an acolyte. Choir School singers may also serve as acolytes!

Help us stock up for our neighbors in need. We have two ministries for supporting neighbors in need who come to the church looking for help: **Blessing Bags** are small reusable tote bags given out by our clergy and staff and filled with necessities such as socks, winter accessories, t-shirts, toiletries, snacks, and water. The **Blessing Box** is a small self-service food pantry located in the Abraham's Welcome garden area on the Farmington Avenue side of the church property. We encourage parishioners to put nonperishable food (especially ready-to-eat items) directly into the Blessing Box as often as you can, but we also keep some food on hand in the office for days when the Blessing Box is empty and someone stops by looking for something to eat. As fall approaches, we'd like to stock up on items for these two ministries. We have an Amazon wish list, from which you can order and have items directly shipped to the church. Go to sjparish.net/blessingbags. Or you may purchase similar items at your preferred retailer and drop them at the church office any time. Thank you!

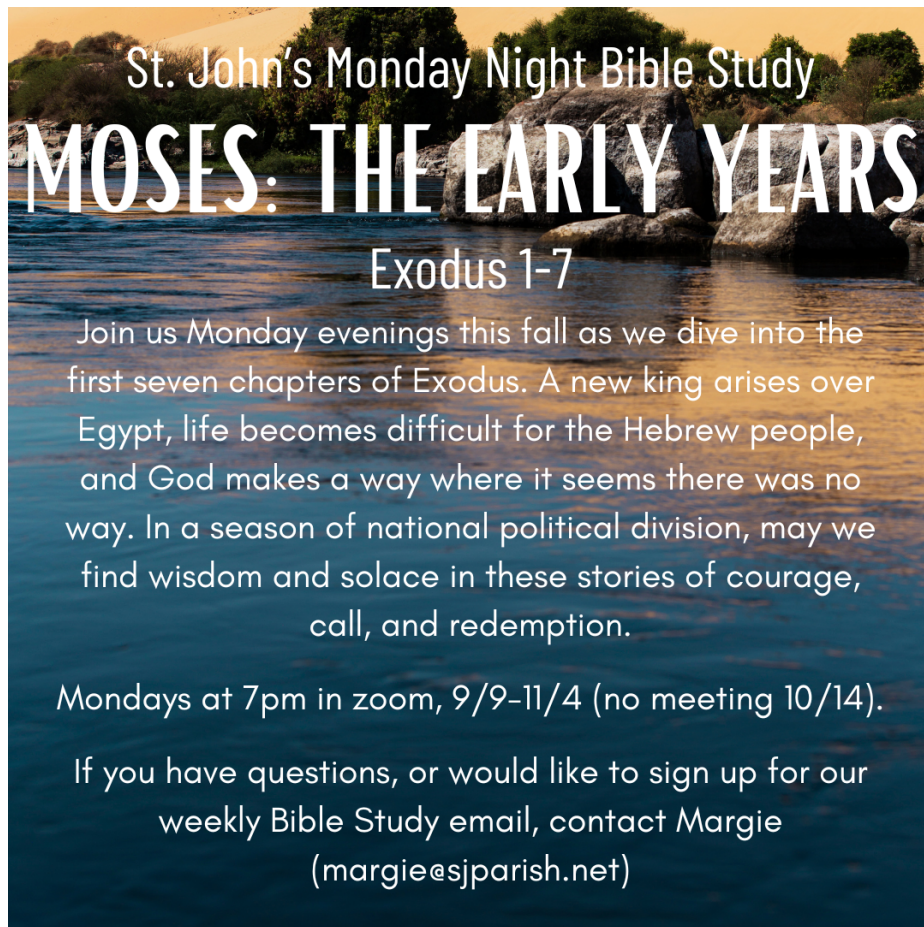
Program year worship schedule to resume next week.

- **Sundays:** Spoken Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and Choral Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m., along with Christian education for all ages at 9:30 a.m., and the staffed nursery open for children up to age 6, from 9 a.m. to noon.
- **On Sunday, September 8,** the adult Christian education time (9:30 a.m.) will include a **Celebration of Ministry brunch**, with plenty of delicious food and opportunities to learn more about some of our core ministries.
- **Wednesdays:** On Wednesday, September 11, we will resume weekly spoken Holy Eucharist at 5:30 p.m. This is a brief, contemplative service that takes place in the chancel (where the choir, clergy, and acolytes sit on Sunday mornings).

A new plan for coffee hour. Calling all coffee lovers, snack lovers, and people who like to socialize and enjoy each other's company. Let's make our great community even greater, and support our weekly coffee hour after the 10:30 Sunday service. The new plan is simple! **Please bring a sweet or savory snack to share at coffee hour according to the schedule below, based on the first letter of your last name.** If you won't be at church on one of your assigned Sundays, that's fine ... try again next month! Each family only needs to provide one thing—a box of donut holes, a dozen muffins, a bag of clementines, a cracker/cheese plate...whatever appeals to you! Homemade or store-bought are both fine. The schedule is as follows:

- Last name A through F: First Sunday of the month
- G through L: Second Sunday of the month
- M through R: Third Sunday of the month
- S through Z: Fourth Sunday of the month

Coffee hour will resume on September 8, the second Sunday of the month, so families with last names starting with G through L are up! Matteo Donnelly has graciously volunteered to coordinate this new process. Please contact him at mdpsych123@gmail.com with questions.



St. John's Monday Night Bible Study

MOSES: THE EARLY YEARS

Exodus 1-7

Join us Monday evenings this fall as we dive into the first seven chapters of Exodus. A new king arises over Egypt, life becomes difficult for the Hebrew people, and God makes a way where it seems there was no way. In a season of national political division, may we find wisdom and solace in these stories of courage, call, and redemption.

Mondays at 7pm in zoom, 9/9-11/4 (no meeting 10/14).

If you have questions, or would like to sign up for our weekly Bible Study email, contact Margie (margie@sjparish.net)



CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL PLANNING MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AFTER THE 10:30 SERVICE

Join our new chairperson Matteo Donnelly to begin planning for our best Christmas Festival yet!

The annual St. John's Christmas Festival (to be held this year on December 7) is a beloved tradition and a major fundraiser. Your energy and ideas are welcome!

Choir School and EYC Dinner Angels

Did you know that the Choir School (and some adult choir members) have dinner most Wednesdays at 6:00? And did you know that our youth group (EYC) share a meal most Sundays at 5:00? You can help feed our younger members by signing up to provide a meal for Choir School or EYC!



Choir School Dinner Signup
(sjparish.net/choirdinner)



EYC Dinner Signup
(sjparish.net/eyc)



Worship at St. John's

The regular worship schedule below resumes on Sunday, September 8.

Sundays

8am Spoken Holy Eucharist

9:30am Christian education for all ages

10:30am Choral Holy Eucharist (also livestreamed)

Professionally staffed nursery care for children up to age 6 is available from 9am to noon.

Wednesdays

5:30pm Spoken contemplative Eucharist

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net

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860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9 a.m. Sunday: Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden

10:30 a.m. Sunday: Holy Eucharist in the church (also livestreamed)

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net) *Rector*
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: Lauren Mascola, Linda Schatz, Brenda Zanta