

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



*The Renewal of Ministry
with the Welcoming of a New Rector*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

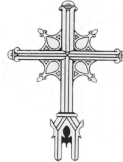
September 25, 2024

7:00 p.m.

About this evening's service

The catechism of the Book of Common Prayer (1979) indicates that there are four categories of ministers, beginning with lay people, and also including bishops, priests, and deacons. Baptism is seen as the sacrament that initiates Christians and empowers them for ministry. The rite that follows, *The Renewal of Ministry with the Welcoming of a New Rector*, incarnates mutuality among the ministers of the Church. By setting ordained leadership within the context of baptism, and commending a variety of gifts, this liturgy emphasizes and celebrates a mutual ministry that is shared by both lay and ordained people.

Photo credit: David McCary



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY	Trois Pièces, 1911	Nadia Boulanger (1887–1979)
	Adoration	Florence Price (1887–1953)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 537	Christ for the world we sing	MOSCOW
<i>All stand and sing.</i>		

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT

Bishop Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People **Glory to God for every and ever.**
Bishop There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God, Creator of all.**
Bishop The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Bishop Let us pray. O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE BISHOP'S WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION OF THE RECTOR'S CALL

The people sit. The wardens stand near the bishop.

Bishop People of St. John's, you have reflected on your ministry and discerned your choice for a new rector.
Wardens We have chosen and called Todd FitzGerald to be our rector, and he has accepted.
Bishop I commend your choice and affirm this call.

The bishop then reads the following Letter of Institution of a Minister.

Todd FitzGerald, Presbyter of the Church of God, you have been called to work together with your Bishop and fellow Presbyters as a pastor, priest, and teacher, and to take your share in the councils of the Church.

Now, in accordance with the Canons, you have been selected to serve God in St. John's Church, West Hartford, in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

This letter is a sign that you are fully empowered and authorized to exercise this ministry, accepting its privileges and responsibilities as a priest of this Diocese, in communion with your Bishop.

Having committed yourself to this work, do not forget the trust of those who have chosen you. Care alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. By your words, and in your life, proclaim the Gospel. Love and serve Christ's people. Nourish them, and strengthen them to glory God in this life and in the life to come.

May the Lord, who has given you the will to do these things, give you the grace and power to perform them.

The wardens escort Todd and stand with him in front of the altar rail.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 36:24–28

John Kauczka, chair of the St. John's layreaders, comes forward to present Todd with a Bible.

John Todd, with this Bible we proclaim and hear God's living Word. Join us in the ministry of telling the Good News to the world.

Rector Amen. Let us hear again the Good News of salvation.

All sit.

John A reading from the book of Ezekiel.

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

John Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 16:5–11

*Jx Eikel, head chorister, comes to the lectern to lead the Psalm. The people say the words in **bold** and sing the antiphon as indicated.*

- 5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the Lord always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life; *
**in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

Antiphon

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 6:3–11

Jyothsna Vijaya Diaz, former chair of the St. John's layreaders, comes to the lectern to read.

Jyothsna A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Jyothsna Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 488 Be thou my vision

All stand and sing.

SLANE

THE GOSPEL

*Mark 10:35–45**Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

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

THE SERMON

The Right Reverend Jeffrey Mello

All sit.

THE BAPTISMAL HYMN 296 (vv. 1 & 2) We know that Christ is raised

ENGELBERG

All stand and sing the first two verses of Hymn 296 as the altar party goes to the baptismal font.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

*All remain standing, facing the baptismal font.**Bishop* Todd and the people of St. John’s: In Holy Baptism we received full adoption through God’s grace and full empowerment for ministry through the Holy Spirit. Will you work together as partners in the mission of the Church, to reconcile all people to God through Christ?*People* **We will, with God’s help.***Bishop* The water of baptism signifies our eternal covenant with God. 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 Christ, 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.

We pray you, O God, sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that all who in baptism are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Rector Let us renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we renounce Satan and all his works, and promise to serve God faithfully in God’s holy Catholic Church.*Water is poured into the font as the bishop leads the renewal of baptismal vows.**Bishop* Do you believe in God the Father?*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***Bishop* 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.**
- Bishop* 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.**
- Bishop* 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.**
- Bishop* 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.**
- Bishop* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Bishop* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Bishop* 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.**
- Bishop* Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Bishop* May Almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, and called us to ministry in Jesus Christ, keep us in eternal life by his grace; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISMAL HYMN 296 (vv. 3 & 4) We know that Christ is raised ENGELBERG
All sing the last two verses of Hymn 296 as the bishop, rector, and associate rector sprinkle the people with baptismal water and return to the chancel.

A LITANY FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

*Molly Cooper, a member of St. John's, comes forward to present a prayer book to Todd and lead the prayers. The people say the words in **bold**.*

- Molly* Todd, with this Book of Common Prayer, we offer our prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings to God.
- Rector* Amen. In the Spirit of God, who searches the heart and knows our deepest needs, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all who yearn for Christ's healing.

Molly goes to the lectern to lead the intercessions.

Holy God, in whom all things in heaven and earth have their being, **have mercy on us.**

Jesus the Christ, through whom the world is reconciled to the Father, **have mercy on us.**

Holy Spirit, whose glory fills the world and searches the depths of God, **have mercy on us.**

Blessed Trinity, source of both unity and diversity, **have mercy on us.**

From blind hearts and petty spirits that refuse to see the need of all humankind for your love, **Savior, deliver us.**

From pride, self-sufficiency and the unwillingness to admit our own need of your compassion, **Savior, deliver us.**

From discouragement in the face of pain and disappointment, and from lack of persistence and thoroughness, **Savior, deliver us.**

From ignorance, apathy, and complacency that prevent us from spreading the Gospel, **Savior, deliver us.**

O God, we pray for the gifts of ministry. Inspire our minds with a vision of your kingdom in this time and place. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our eyes, that we may see your glory in all creation. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the hunger for hope and stories of refreshment. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our lips, that we may tell in every tongue and dialect the wonderful works of God. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our hearts, that we may discern the mission to which you call us. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our feet, that we may take your Good News into our neighborhoods, communities, and all parts of the world. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Touch our hands, that we may each accomplish the work you give us to do. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Strengthen and encourage all who minister in your name in lonely, dangerous, and unresponsive places. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Open the hearts and hands of many to support your Church in this and every place. **Hear us, O Christ.**

Bishop O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you, bring the nations into your fold, pour your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR HEALING AND RECONCILIATION

Wes Winterbottom, chair of St. John's healing prayer ministry, comes forward to present Todd with a flask of oil.

Wes Todd, with prayer, companionship, and laying on of hands, we bring the reconciling presence of Christ to those who seek healing. Join us in this ministry by calling us to repentance, and assuring us of God's forgiveness and love.

Rector Amen. Live without fear: Your Creator has made you holy, loves you eternally, and reconciles you to one another.

THE PEACE

Rector The peace of Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

THE RECTOR'S WELCOME

All sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Buffy Ineson, chair of St. John's Altar Guild, and Bill Lockery, Altar Guild member, come forward to present Todd with the bread and wine.

Buffy Todd, when we share the bread and the cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Join us at God's table to offer and bless our gifts of bread and wine.

Rector Amen. Together, let us keep the feast.

The offering from tonight's service is designated for the Grace Episcopal Church food pantry.

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Ubi caritas

Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

Words from the Maundy Thursday liturgy

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

*Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.*

The ushers collect offerings and bring the offering plates forward. The bishop gives thanks for these gifts and the symbolic gifts that have been presented to Todd.

Bishop We offer thanksgiving to God for the ministries represented by these symbols and for these offerings, and ask God's grace to live ever more fully into the commitments we have made in Baptism.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All stand.

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

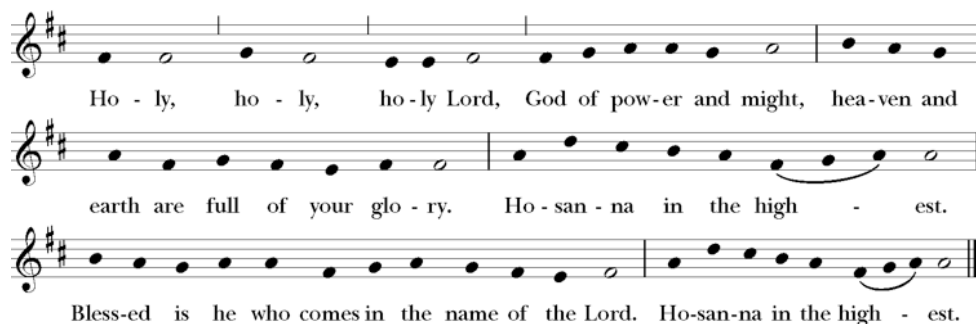
Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time, you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices as we say:

THE SANCTUS



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.

Setting: From New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950)

All remain standing or kneel.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw the world to himself yet we were heedless for his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bishop As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,

**and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND FRACTION ANTHEM

The bishop breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: From New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950)

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bishop Come God's people, come receive Christ's heavenly food.

To receive communion, 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 ANTHEM Draw us in the spirit's tether Harold W. Friedell (1905–1958)
Text attributed to Percy Dearmer (1867–1936)

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name,
Two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluya! Alleluya! So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully.

COMMUNION HYMN 576 God is love
All sing.

MANDATUM

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER
All stand or kneel.

Bishop Let us pray.

People **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Bishop We have celebrated this new pastoral relationship in the great prayer of the Church. Todd, I commend to your love and care the people of St. John's. My siblings in Christ, I commend to your love and care your new rector, colleague, and friend, Todd.

THE PRESENTATION OF A STOLE AND THE BLESSING

Associate Todd, as priests of the Church, we are called to pronounce God's blessing upon God's people.

Rector Receive this stole and work alongside us to proclaim God's goodness and love.

Rector God's blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always.

People **Amen.**

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 607 O God of every nation

LLANGLOFFAN

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY Now thank we all our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

Marche Triomphale

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.

Hymns used by permission of OneLicense, No. A-724992. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Psalm Antiphon from A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition ©2007 Carl P. Daw, Jr., and Kevin R. Hackett. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant and Preacher: The Right Reverend Jeffrey Mello

Assisting Clergy: The Reverend Todd FitzGerald and the Reverend Margie Baker

Deacon: The Reverend Walter McKenney

Layreaders: John Kauczka and Jyothsna Vijaya Diaz

Psalterer: Jx Eikel

Intercessor: Molly Cooper

The St. John's Adult Choir & Choir School

Organist & Choirmaster: Walden Moore

Assisting Organist: Alan Murchie

Bishop's Chaplain: Caleb Worrell

Acolytes: Bradley Crocker, Atticus Finkell, Brielle Worrell, Zeke Latif

Ushers: Jo Anne Burgh, Robert Eikel, Don Polk, Erica Weinstock

Livestream Operator: Elijah Clapp

Altar Guild: Buffy Ineson, Bill Lockery

Join us for ice cream and baked treats in Hubbard Hall after the service!

In thanksgiving for his installation as rector, Todd FitzGerald and his wife Amy have given St. John's a new dogwood tree, which has been planted in front of the church, next to the Farmington Avenue entrance driveway.

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

Sundays at 8 a.m.: Spoken Holy Eucharist

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.: Choral Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.: Spoken Holy Eucharist

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*
Walden Moore (rwmoore56@gmail.com)..... *Interim Director of Music*
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)..... *Financial Administrator*
Robin Brown *Seminarian Intern*
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