

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Last Sunday after Pentecost:

Christ the King

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

November 24, 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.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Requiescat in pace*

Leo Sowerby (1895–1968)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 57 *Lo, he comes with clouds descending*
All stand and sing.

HELMSLEY

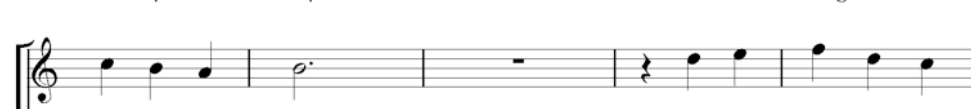
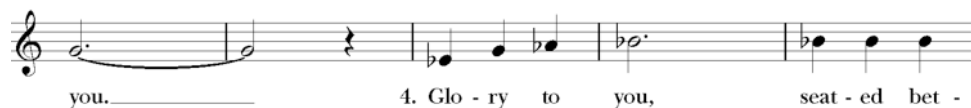
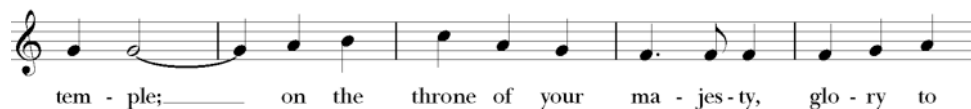
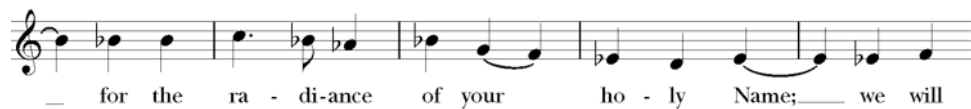
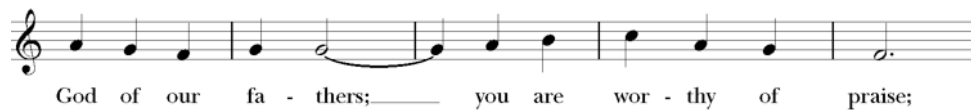
THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SONG OF PRAISE Glory to you

All sing.

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and high-ly ex - alt you Glo-ry to you! high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Setting: John Rutter (b. 1945)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 23:1–7

All sit.

These are the last words of David: The oracle of David, son of Jesse, the oracle of the man whom God exalted, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the favorite of the Strong One of Israel: The spirit of the Lord speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue. The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me: One who rules over people justly, ruling in the fear of God, is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land. Is not my house like this with God? For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure. Will he not cause to prosper all my help and my desire? But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away; for they cannot be picked up with the hand; to touch them one uses an iron bar or the shaft of a spear. And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 132:1-13

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



- 1 Lord, remember David, *
and all the hardships he endured;
- 2 How he swore an oath to the Lord *
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:
- 3 "I will not come under the roof of my house," *
nor climb up into my bed;
- 4 I will not allow my eyes to sleep, *
nor let my eyelids slumber;
- 5 Until I find a place for the Lord, *
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."
- 6 "The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; *
we found it in the fields of Jearim.
- 7 Let us go to God's dwelling place; *
let us fall upon our knees before his footstool."
- 8 Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, *
you and the ark of your strength.
- 9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; *
let your faithful people sing with joy.
- 10 For your servant David's sake, *
do not turn away the face of your Anointed.
- 11 The Lord has sworn an oath to David; *
in truth, he will not break it:
- 12 "A son, the fruit of your body *
will I set upon your throne.
- 13 If your children keep my covenant
and my testimonies that I shall teach them, *
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore."

Antiphon

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who

pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN Signs of endings all around us

TON-Y-BOTEL

All stand and sing.

1. Signs of end-ings all a - round us— dark - ness, death, and win - ter days
 2. Can it be that from our end - ings, new be - gin - nings you cre - ate?
 3. Speak, O God, your Word a - mong us. Bar - ren lives your pres - ence fill.

shroud our lives in fear and sad - ness, numb - ing mouths that long to praise.
 Life from death, and from our rend - ings, realms of whole - ness gen - er - ate?
 Swell our hearts with songs of glad - ness, ter - rors calm fore - bod - ings still.

Come, O Christ, and dwell a - mong us! Hear our cries, come set us free.
 Take our fears, then, Lord, and turn them in - to hopes for life a - new:
 Let your prom - ised realm of jus - tice blos - som now through - out the earth;

Give us hope and faith and glad-ness. Show us what there yet can be.
Fad-ing light and dy-ing sea-son sing their Glo-ri-as to you.
your do-min-ion bring now near us; we a-wait the sav-ing birth.

Words: Dean W. Nelson (b. 1944) © 1988 Dean W. Nelson
Music: Ton-y-Botel, Thomas John Williams (1869-1944)

THE GOSPEL

John 18:33–37

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

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

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

Robin Brown

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

The people say the words in bold.

Let us offer prayers for all in need through our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose power we put our faith and hope, saying: Hear us, O Holy One.

For the Church and all its people, especially Sean, our presiding bishop; Jeff and Laura, our bishops; our parish clergy; and all of God's people, that we will know the peace and unity of Christ's all-encompassing love. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For this parish family, that Christ's example of service and humility will move us beyond faithful attendance into prayerful witness and righteous action. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For the nations of the world, especially for the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan, and all places threatened by war and violence, and their leaders will be moved to act with wisdom, compassion, and justice for the good of all people. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For those who are hungry or homeless, for refugees and immigrants, and for those in prison, that they will receive sustenance, help, and hope through the loving acts of those who see in them the face of Christ. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our parish prayer list, that they will know the healing grace of Christ. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

For all the departed, especially Fred Mascola and Kathleen Lodge, that they may be lifted into the eternal splendor of new life in heaven. **Hear us, O Holy One.**

Celebrant Holy God, look upon your people as we rejoice in your justice and mercy, and grant that the prayers we make may reveal Christ's reign in our time. We ask this through Jesus Christ, in whose glorious name and loving power we put our trust. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant 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.

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 King of glory, King of peace

Andrew Clarkson
Words found at Hymn 382

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.

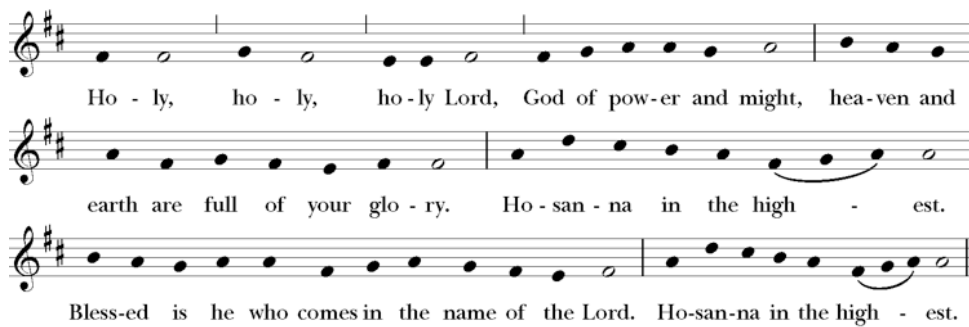
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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 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



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.

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.

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 AND FRACTION ANTHEM

The Celebrant 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

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

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 ANTHEM E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come

Paul Manz (1919–2009)

Peace be to you and grace from him
 Who freed us from our sins,
 Who loved us all and shed his blood
 That we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!

THE COMMUNION HYMN 598 Lord, when first thou cam'st to earth
All remain seated and sing.

MIT FREUDEN PART

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 573 Father eternal, ruler of creation
All stand and sing.

LANGHAM

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Improvisation on Langham

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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:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Preacher:** Robin Brown**Assisting Clergy:** The Reverend Todd FitzGerald**Layreader:** Jo Anne Burgh**Psalterer:** Danielle Foint**The St. John's Adult Choir****Organist & Choirmaster:** Walden Moore**Acolytes:** Danielle Branco, Bobby Eikel, Virginia Eikel**Ushers:** Geoff Emerick, Ellen Flynn, Stewart Murchie**Livestream Operator:** Mary Honyotski**Altar Guild:** Matteo Donnelly, Bill Lockery**Healing Prayer Minister:** Annabel Clapp**Nursery Staff:** Nichole Segar, Lilah Lorenzo, Livvy Lorenzo**Sunday School Teachers:** Audrey Baker, Jenn Baker, Margie Baker, Donnie Joslyn

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Virginia (Ginny) Flinchbaugh, Alexander & Roselle Winterbottom, Josephine Matel, David Derby, and Phyllis Derby

Join us for coffee hour in Hubbard Hall after the service!

This Sunday, food is provided by those with last names starting S through Z.

Next Sunday, food will be provided by the Donnelly family.

Please also stay after to help make 200 sandwiches for Loaves & Fishes.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT FOR EVERYONE



**SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 24
5-7 PM
HUBBARD HALL**

**FUNDRAISER FOR
DIGNITY GROWS!!**

Bring a team, or join one when you arrive. Questions range from pop culture to Scripture and beyond. This family-friendly event is open to kids, youth, young adults, adults—in short, everyone!

This is a free event, AND we're raising money for Dignity Grows, a locally-based nonprofit (dignitygrows.org). Suggested donation of \$10/person, cash or check.

Pizza and soft drinks provided. Bring a snack or sweet to share, or just come and enjoy! Register at sjparish.net/trivia

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
Helen Rosen	Allison and Family	Roger	Mike
Nick Willke	Linda	Rich Lammlin	Rick
Wayne Gollenburg	Jacob Latranica	Daniel Zoltan	Richard Myers
Uncle Rich Alpin	Tom Tata	Jim & Kathlyn Schofield	Carol
Tracie O'Brien	Timothy Foga	John Scott	Paul Thaxton
Naya	Miriam Myers	Mindy	Frank Higginbotham
Bruce Adams	Shoemaker Family	Eric Zoltan	Todd
Dennisse Salazar	Ken & Ellie	Elizabeth Myers	Peter Stanton & family

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Beth Grieco	Eleanor Taylor	Jane Harris
Alvin Mani	Jack Patten	John Samuel Bannon
Sandy Pond	Alice Yelland	Kevin Campo

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Pat & Alex Vance

Those who have died:

Fred Mascola, *father of St. John's member Lauren Mascola*

Kathleen Lodge, *aunt and sister-in-law of St. John's members Karan Emerick and Bill McBride*

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. James', Winsted; All Saints', Wolcott; St. Paul's, Woodbury; and for the Program & Budget Committee and the Faith & Order Commission.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Anglican Church of South America.

Midweek contemplative Eucharist, every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the chancel.

Trivia Night for all TONIGHT from 5 to 7 p.m. We'll provide pizza; bring a snack to share if you wish. This event is for everyone, including visitors. Come with your own team or just show up and we'll assign you to one! **If you plan to attend, please register for FREE at sjparish.net/trivia so we know how much pizza to order.**

Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist, Thursday, November 28 at 10 a.m. Begin your holiday by gathering to worship and give thanks to God in a service with communion and hymns.

Stronger Families/Stronger Futures project to support families at Christmas. This annual project to help parents/caregivers in the Stronger Families/Stronger Futures project purchase gifts and food for their family Christmas celebrations is underway. The process is slightly different than the past few years, and there are several ways to participate. You may select a child's tag from our mini Christmas tree in Hubbard Hall, and commit to providing that child's with a \$100 gift card and children's book by our deadline, OR you may donate money with which we will purchase gift cards (cash or check written to St. John's), OR you may donate a children's or YA book. See the graphic on page 19 for full details. **NOTE:** Please do not wrap the gift cards or books, or attach them together, and please leave only books (not gift cards) in the donation bin in Hubbard Hall, as we need to secure the gift cards in the office. Gift cards can be handed directly to a volunteer who is staffing the project table on Sunday mornings, or delivered to the office during the week.

Help us prepare for another successful Christmas Festival. The annual Christmas Festival fundraiser is coming up on Saturday, December 7. Please help out in one or more of the following ways:

- **Sign up to help at the festival on December 7.** We need volunteers to set-up and clean-up, serve as cashiers, and assist at the various sales areas. **Sign up at sjparish.net/christmasfestivalhelp.**
- **Make soup to be sold at the festival.** A favorite festival tradition involves having church members make large batches of one of three signature soup recipes (turkey chili, clam chowder, or vegetarian smoky tomato). The soups are sold in frozen quarts, which make for handy meals for holiday company or busy December weeknights, and are also sold by the bowl in our Festival Café. If you would like to help out by making a few quarts, please contact Lindsey Carlisle at smclbc@comcast.net for the recipes. We will have quart containers and ready-made labels available to pick up in the church kitchen by Monday, November 18. The church kitchen is available for larger batch cooking; please consult with the parish office to schedule a time. Please deliver soups to the church kitchen freezer by Thursday, December 5.
- **Wreath decorating night, Thursday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Hubbard Hall.** All parish adults are invited to help decorate fresh evergreen wreaths to be sold at the Christmas Festival. We provide the supplies (although we welcome volunteers to bring hot glue guns, gloves, and clippers/heavy shears if you have them). Bring a snack or beverage to share if you'd like.

Important information for youth: Confirmation class and Camas pilgrimage. If you are or have a youth in 7th through 12th grade, please read on:

- **Confirmation class in January and February.** Youth in 7th through 12th grade are invited to attend confirmation class with Todd FitzGerald at noon (after the 10:30 service) on 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, and 2/9, along with an extended (non-overnight) retreat on Friday evening, February 21 (6 to 9 p.m.) and Saturday, February 22 (9 a.m. to noon). Confirmation with the bishop will be at St. John's on **Sunday, February 23**. Contact Todd at todd@sjparish.net with questions or to sign up.
- **Youth pilgrimage to Camas, Scotland** in June 2025 for high schoolers — those entering 9th grade in the fall of 2025 through those graduating in June 2025. **A \$50 non-refundable deposit is due by December 1.** Contact Todd at todd@sjparish.net or Ellen at ellen@sjparish.net.

A few notes on pledging and online pledge payments:

- **Even as we gather pledges for 2025, we need to continue to receive your 2024 pledge payments so we can pay our bills for the rest of this year!** Pledge statements went out by email in October and we will send another round in early December. You may also check your Realm account or call the parish office if you're not sure how much the unpaid balance of your 2024 pledge is.

- **If you haven't yet submitted a pledge for 2025**, you may do so in several ways: **Blank pledge cards and envelopes** are available at either entrance to the church, and can be mailed or placed in the offering plate. **You may pledge online** at sjparish.net/pledge or via your online Realm account. The sooner you submit your 2025 pledge, the easier it will be for the vestry to pass a realistic budget before the end of the year.
- **If you pay your pledge via recurring online gifts set up in Realm**, please make sure to login to switch the target fund from the *2024 Annual Pledge Fund* to the *2025 Annual Pledge Fund* once your 2024 pledge is fully paid and you want your recurring gifts to be applied to 2025.

Pipes Alive! featuring Walden Moore, Sunday, December 1 at 12:30 p.m. Our own Walden Moore, interim director of music, will play a half-hour organ recital at 12:30 on December 1. Free admission with donations welcome.

St. John's intergenerational book club meetings: In-person on December 1 at noon (Reception Room), virtual on December 5 at 7 p.m. (Zoom). This month's book club pick, *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by T.J. Klune, is appropriate for both youth and adults. We have two copies left in the office on a first-come, first-served basis.

Year-end giving deadline is December 26. In order for your pledge payments and contributions to appear on your 2024 giving statement, they must be received in the parish office or online no later than December 26. This allows several days for contributions to be deposited and posted before the end of the year. Contributions received after that date may not appear on your 2024 statement, even if in payment of a 2024 pledge. Thank you!

Women Together to begin a new book discussion on December 3. Women Together is a group that gathers weekly to explore our Christian faith and practice through book discussion, prayer, and fellowship. We meet on Tuesdays from 2 to 3:15 p.m. in St. John's Reception Room. On December 3, we will begin discussing *In the Bleak Midwinter through Advent and Christmas* by Rachel Mann (2019), which explores Advent and Christmas through the poetry of Christina Rossetti, whose work was made into favorite carols, including *In the bleak midwinter* and *Love came down at Christmas*. If you haven't read the book, you are welcome to come and join the discussion anyway. The books we choose are usually available at libraries and from Amazon and other booksellers. Women Together has been attended by women from St. John's, Trinity, St. James's, and St. Monica's. Please contact Sarah Kieffer at kieffer2468@gmail.com if you would like additional information.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7
10AM TO 2PM

HOW TO HELP

- **Sign up to help** for an hour or two on the day of the festival:
sjparish.net/christmasfestivalhelp
- **Make soup** to be sold in quarts and at the Festival Café. Email Lindsey Carlisle at smclbc@comcast.net
- **Decorate wreaths** (adults only) on December 5 at 6:30pm



This list includes pledges received as of Tuesday, November 19.
The names of *new pledgers* are in italics.

Eti Akpan, June Aziz, Janet & Brad Babbitt, Mary & Bob Bainbridge, Audrey & Kyle Baker, Margie & Jenn Baker, Eleanor & Jack Barnes, Wendy & Richard Bartlett, Marian & David Beers, Eloise Biscoe, Shirley Blean, Carlos Branco & Allison Tichy, Rachel Boccio, *Paula Bokros*, Lissie & Lynn Brooks, *Robin Brown*, Kim & Chris Byrd, Keitha & Kevin Campo, Betsy & Greg Chicares, Alina & Matt Ciscel, Elijah Clapp & Annabel Trickett-Clapp, Kate Coley, Edith Connolly, Molly Cooper, *Ruth Crespi*, Steve Crocker & Rosa Guzzo, David Dangremond, Young Hee & Dave Derby, Pam Dimock, Martin Dodd, Jayden Donnelly, Mason Donnelly, Matteo & Marcos Donnelly, Susan Donaldson, Christine Doty, Linda Dunakin, Hope & Bill Eakins, Nancy Eaton, Bobby Eikel, Jx Eikel, Kate & Robert Eikel, Virginia Eikel, Karan & Geoff Emerick, Susan Fay & Craig Ahmer, Martha Fine, Amy & Todd FitzGerald, Ellen & Ben Flynn, Margaret & Mark Goad, Emma & Jerry Goetz, Tim Goetz, Anne & Craig Grant, *Kevin Graver & Donald Giustiniani*, Beth & Joel Grieco, David Grimaldi, Liana Guzman & Nicole Douillet, Bette-Jane Hardersen, Anne Harney, Cisalee Harrell, Jane Harris, Sue Harrison, Anne & Randall Hayes, Patricia & Ronald Hensley, Jenn & Ryan Hill, Bob Hoffman, Mary & Ryan Honyotski, Frisha Hugessen, Ann Hutchinson, Tita & Douglas Hyland, Buffy & John Ineson, Richard Jacques, Dianne Jones, Donielle & Rick Joslyn, Iacovos Katsipis & Carla Abdo-Katsipis, Beth & John Kauczka, Mary Jo & Bert Keating, *Kelly & Bob Kennedy*, Sarah Kieffer, Jeffrey Kinney & Rebecca Bourret, Betty Knorr, Ann Krissinger, Debbie & David Kvam, Cindy & Jim Lawler, Barbara Lennox, Bill Lockery, Lisa & Mike Mahoney, Liz & Andy Marchion, Bill McBride, Tina & David McCary, Patrick Miller, Leah & Stewart Murchie, Enid & Tom Oberholtzer, Julia & Jim O'Brien, Caleb Peck & Angela Allen-Peck, Nancy Pedersen, Agnes & Billy Peelle, Deb & Bill Reardon, Rai Reyes, Hal Rives & Marki Ware, Laura & John Roche, Barbara & Peter Roos, *Lynn & Peter Russell*, Jo-Ann Sadosky, Stacey & Kelsey Samuel Bannon, Susie & Mark Sarkisian, Judy Schaffer, Nancy & Michael Scheetz, Nancy Skeelee, Mary & Spencer Sloan, Kirk Smith, Carol & Charles Sonne, Dale & Christoph Stretz, John Swift & Lauren Mascola, Bowie Thomas, Sera & Abraham Thomas, Pat & Alex Vance, Pam & Jeff Verney, Lyn Walker & Tyler Smith, Anne & John Walsh, Janet Ward, *Tim Watt & Amity Gaije*, *Sara & Patrick Wigmore*, John Wilcox & Virginia Van Dyk, Taffy Wilcox, Wes Winterbottom, *Nancy Wright*, *Matthew Yelland & Danielle Pieratti*, Brenda Zanta

HOLY DARKNESS, HOLY LIGHT

Monday Night Bible Study
November 25-December 23

Darkness can be a place of fear, but it can also be a place of rest, wonder, and growth. Join us this Advent as we explore stories and psalms about night and darkness in Scripture. As always, there is no preparation and there are no one-size-fits-all answers.

Come wonder with us!

Monday nights at 7pm in zoom. If you have questions, or if you would like to be added to our emails, contact margie@sjparish.net



WREATH
DECORATING
NIGHT

DECEMBER 5

6:30 PM

HUBBARD HALL

All adults welcome!

**If you're able, please bring:
hot glue gun, clippers,
beverages/snacks to share.**

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR FAMILIES

St. John's will once again support Hartford Healthcare's Stronger Families/Stronger Futures program by helping participating families celebrate the holidays. There are three ways to participate:

Choose a family's tag off our tabletop tree at coffee hour any Sunday from 11/3 to 12/1 (while the tags last), and return a \$100 gift card and a children's book for that family to the church. The tag will include the number and ages of children, and their preferred retailer (Walmart, Target, etc.). Please return the gift card and book, with the tag, by **Sunday, December 8**. You may hand them to a volunteer staffing the coffee hour table or drop them at the church office by the deadline.

OR

Donate any amount (cash or check written to St. John's), and we will purchase gift cards as needed for participating families. You may give your donation to a volunteer staffing the coffee hour table, or put it in an envelope (clearly marked for this project) and put it in the offering plate or mail to the office. We apologize that we cannot accept credit card donations for this project.

OR

Donate a new children's or YA book by placing it in the marked bin outside the office door.

DEADLINE: SUNDAY 12/8

Questions? Contact Beth Kauczka, bkauczka@gmail.com

PIPES ALIVE!



Walden Moore

**December 1,
12:30pm**

St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford

MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR 

Events are also available livestreamed at www.reddoormusic.org

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, Brenda Zanta