

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

FESTAL EUCHARIST

December 24, 2024

10:00 p.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.

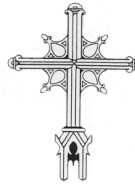
If you are new to St. John's, or have been attending a while but the parish office doesn't yet have your information, please fill out our online newcomer form by scanning the QR code or going to sjparish.net/newcomer



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!

Cover art: Nativity by He Qi



THE PRELUDE

The St. John's Adult Choir, string quartet, and organ

Concerto Grosso, Op. 6 No. 8, Per la notte di Natale
Vivace, Grave, Allegro

Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)

My Lord has Come

Will Todd (b. 1970)

Shepherds, called by angels,
called by love and angels;
no place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.

Sages, searching for stars,
searching for love in heaven;
no place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.

His love will hold me,
his love will cherish me,
love will cradle me.
My Lord has come.

Lead me, lead me to see him,
sages and shepherds and angels;
no place for me but a stable.
My Lord has come.

Concerto Grosso, Op. 6 No. 8, Per la notte di Natale
Adagio, Allegro, Adagio

Arcangelo Corelli

In the Bleak Midwinter

arr. Becky McGlade (b.1974)

Text: Christina Rossetti

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone,
Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.
Our God, Heav'n cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.
What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him,
Give my heart, I give my heart.

Concerto Grosso, Op. 6 No. 8, Per la notte di Natale
Largo, Pastorale

Arcangelo Corelli

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
FESTAL EUCHARIST

THE OPENING HYMN O come, all ye faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

All stand and sing.

arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

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 for ever. 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.

People **Amen.**

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 - might - y 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. O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

People **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2–7

All sit.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

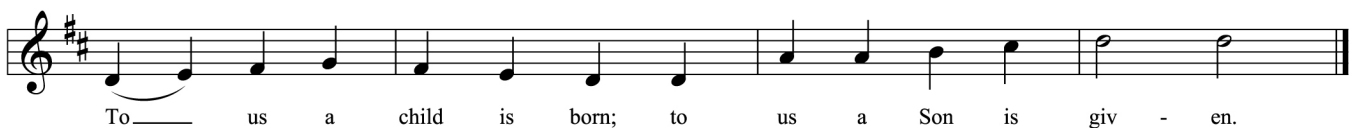
Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalms 96

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



- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 **Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; ***
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 **For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; ***
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

6 **Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! ***
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

Antiphon

7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
 ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

8 **Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; ***
bring offerings and come into his courts.

9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
 let the whole earth tremble before him.

10 **Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! ***
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
 let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
 let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12 **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy**
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

13 **He will judge the world with righteousness ***
and the peoples with his truth.

Antiphon

THE EPISTLE

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN Good Christian friends, rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

All stand and sing.

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

Music: In dulci jubilo, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the

angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

THE SERMON

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

*The people say the words in **bold**.*

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into marvelous light.

Christ born for us, Son of God given for us: Help us to know you, to worship you, and to serve you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Wonderful counselor, you order all things with your wisdom: Help the Church reveal the mystery of your love and be filled with the Spirit of truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: Guide the leaders of the nations and bring in your reign of justice and righteousness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: Protect by your mercy all your children, bless our families, and renew our communities. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: By your healing power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, in you heaven is come down to earth and earth is raised to heaven: Hold in your hand all those who have passed through death in the hope of your coming kingdom, especially Marnie Mueller. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant God of love, who has come to us in Jesus, our Emmanuel: Open our hearts, that he may be born in us today. Hear our prayers, receive our praises, and fill our lives.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Before the marvel of this night

Carl Schalk (b. 1929)
Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda

Before the marvel of this night, adoring fold your wings and bow,
then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow.
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease.
Sing peace, sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made.
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss.
Sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,
now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.
Into one song compress the love that rules the universe above.
Sing love, sing God is love!

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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

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

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.

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

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 ANTHEM Here is the little door

Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

Text: Frances Chesterton (1869–1938)

Here is the little door
 Lift up the latch, oh lift!
 We need not wander more
 But enter with our gift;
 Our gift of finest gold
 Gold that was never bought or sold;
 Myrrh to be strewn about his bed;
 Incense in clouds about His head;
 All for the child that stirs not in His sleep
 But holy slumber hold with ass and sheep
 Bend low about His bed
 For each He has a gift;
 See how His eyes awake
 Lift up your hands, O lift!
 For gold, He gives a keen-edged sword
 (Defend with it thy little Lord!)
 For incense, smoke of battle red
 Myrrh for the honored happy dead;
 Gifts for His children, terrible and sweet;
 Touched by such tiny hands
 And Oh such tiny feet.

THE COMMUNION HYMN What child is this

GREENSLEEVES

All remain seated and sing.

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds
guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to
bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Music: Greensleeves, English melody; harm. Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871

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 POSTCOMMUNION HYMN Silent night

STILLE NACHT

All stand and sing. The clergy and acolyte will come around to light candles on the aisles; please pass the flame until all candles are lit.

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round your vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts—sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)

Music: Stille Nacht, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

THE BLESSING

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

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION Hark! the herald angels sing

MENDELSSOHN

All sing.

arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Allegro assai vivace from Sonata 1

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

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.

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.

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

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**Celebrant:** The Reverend Todd FitzGerald**Preacher:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney**Seminarian:** Robin Brown**Layreader:** Jo Anne Burgh**Psalterer:** John Nowacki**The St. John's Adult Choir****Organist and Choirmaster:** Walden Moore**Assisting Organist:** Ted Babbitt**String Quartet:** Lu Sun Friedman, *1st violin*; Sarah Washburn, *2nd violin*;Michael Wheeler, *viola*; Kathy Schiano, *cello***Acolyte:** Dorian Ciscel**Ushers:** Matt Ciscel, Don Polk**Healing Prayers:** Wes Winterbottom**Altar Guild:** Buffy Ineson, Jo-Ann Sadosky**Weekly Offering Envelopes**

If you requested weekly offering envelopes when you submitted your 2025 pledge, you may pick up your envelopes in Hubbard Hall. Please look for the envelopes with your name. If you did not request envelopes but would like them, please contact Ellen in the parish office. Envelopes that are not picked up by January 5 will be mailed (and picking them up in person saves us more than \$2 in postage!).

The luminaries in the Cloister Garden this evening are in memory of the loved ones of this parish who have died, including those whose ashes are interred in the garden.

Midweek contemplative Eucharist, every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the chancel. There will be no midweek Eucharist on Christmas Day, but there will be a service on New Year's Day (January 1).

Limited office hours from December 24 through January 1. The parish office will be CLOSED from Tuesday, December 24 through Friday, December 27; open for limited hours only on December 23, 30, and 31; and closed on January 1. Please call before stopping by the office on days with limited hours, and wait to send non-urgent emails to the staff until after the new year. Thank you!

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.

Pipes Alive! on Sunday, January 5 at 12:30 p.m. The first Pipes Alive! of 2025 will feature Kari Miller, who is currently organist at Simsbury United Methodist Church. Free admission with donations accepted.

Twelfth Night tree burning and EYC fundraiser, Sunday, January 5, 5:30 p.m. Join us for this uniquely festive tradition, when we bid farewell to the Christmas season by burning Christmas trees and wreaths (safely!) outdoors. The EYC (youth group) will be selling hot cocoa and snacks as a fundraiser for their annual project to support Dignity Grows, a local nonprofit that provides hygiene supplies to people in need in the Greater Hartford area. Come on out for this fun event!

Christmas Flower Offerings

The poinsettias and altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of

Dr. Thomas Abraham	Andrew Jacques
Emhart Aziz	Stanley, Betty & Sally Karwowski
Evelyn Aziz	Robert W. Knorr
George Aziz	William E. Knorr
Dave & Betty Aziz	Ann Koucky
Madeline & Albert Aziz	Elsa M. Lattey
Mr. & Mrs. Harry O. Bartlett	Erik F. Lattey
Mr. & Mrs. Harry R. Bartlett	Susan Lockery
Grace Best	Helen Lockery
Mildred Buttery	Robert Lockery
Carole Buttner	Dick Mahoney
Joan Carlisle	Terry & Fred Marchion
Dr. Charles H. Chambers	Diane de Harne Melvin
Patricia A. Chambers	Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Seymour G. Clark, Jr.	Bill Moore
Wendy Wright Collins	Frank & Susan Murray
Cyril & Mildred Connolly	Janet Myers
Deane Connolly	John Myers
Robert Connolly	Elinor Oberholtzer
Michael Connolly	Paul, Sarah, & Gretchen Oberholtzer
Mr. & Mrs. Robert K. Dimmitt	Mary Jane O'Rourke
Edward & Eleanor d'Este Mosehauer	Charles D. & Janet M. Peterson
John Paul & Helen H. Faude	Robert F. & Abbie V.S. Peterson
John Paul Faude, Jr.	George & Edith Phillips
Wilson H. Faude	John & Grace Potter
Daniel George	Andrya Ramer
Thomas George	Members of the Reardon & Woolley Family
James George	Tom Reichenbach
Hannah George	Robert & Sara Reiersen
Lazar George	Mary & Frank Reilly
Steven Goldstein	Francis P. Reilly
Ginny & Dick Gregory	David St. George
Charles R. Harris	Noel Sears
Donald J. Hayes	Major Leslie C. Smith, III
Robert Hemstreet	Hazel Sodergren
Elizabeth Hetherington	Oscar & Doris Sodergren
Noble & Sara Hetherington	Thomas R. Tight
Toni Hutchinson	George E. & Abbie B. Van Sicen
Bob & Marsha Jacobson	Guy Verney
Suzanne Jacques	Julie Verney
Renee Jacques	Jean Walters
Paul Jacques	George Weinstock
	M. Searle Wright

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