

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

May 11, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you need to participate in the service is found in this bulletin and in the blue hymnals in each pew.

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



Scan to fill out online newcomer form.

Our ushers are here to create a welcoming and safe space for worship; please let them know if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. They have hearing assist devices available for those who need them. We're glad you're here!

Children are always welcome to be in church with their families. We encourage you to sit up front, as children will be more engaged if they can see and hear what's going on. Children are welcome here just as they are; please don't feel you must leave every time your little one makes a sound! We have children's bulletins, books, and other quiet activities available in the narthex (the entrance with the red doors) for children's use during the service. Our professionally staffed nursery located in the Education Wing is open on Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon; parents/caregivers are welcome to drop off children in the nursery for part or all of the service. The Education Wing and nursery also have changing tables and seating that parents/caregivers may use as needed.

Cover image: He is Risen by He Qi



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Psalm Prelude set 1, no. 3 Herbert Howells (1892–1983)
This prelude is inspired by a verse from today's psalm: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death."

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 174 At the Lamb's high feast we sing SALZBURG
All stand and sing.

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 9:36–43

All sit.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 23

The people are invited to chant the verses in bold.



George Emblom © 2002. Used by permission.

- 1 The Lord / is my shepherd; *
I shall not / be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down / in green pastures *
and leads me be-/side still waters.
- 3 **He re-/vives my soul ***
and guides me along right pathways / for his Name's sake.
- 4 **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall / fear no evil; ***
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they / comfort me.
- 5 **You spread a table before me in the presence of / those who trouble me; ***
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is / running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the / days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the / Lord for ever.

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 7:9–17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 478 Jesus, our mighty Lord

MONK'S GATE

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

John 10:22–30

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

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

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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.

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way. Deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to all nations and peoples, especially in Ukraine, the Holy Land, Sudan, and all places scarred by violence and deprivation. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry and nourish us all with your word. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, who yearns to gather us as a mother hen gathers her chicks, help us to honor and care for all mothers and those who have shown us a mother's love. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick, and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures. We remember especially those on our parish prayer list. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you, especially Barbara Hoffman. Raise us with them to eternal life. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Celebrant Risen Lord, open our hearts to your power moving around us and between us and within us, until your glory is revealed in our love of both friend and enemy, in communities transformed by justice and compassion, and in the healing of all that is broken. **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 Jubilate

Herbert Howells

Text: Psalm 100

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
 serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.
 Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
 we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
 O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise;
 be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
 For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting;
 and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
 and to the Holy Ghost;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
 world without end. Amen.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

All stand and sing.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The Celebrant continues.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven 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: William Mathias

All remain standing or kneel.

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

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues.

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

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

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power,

and the glory

for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. The people sing the refrain with the choir before and after the verse.



Choir Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. **Refrain sung by all**

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 The Lord is my shepherd

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Text: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.
 He shall feed me in green pasture, and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
 He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake.
 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
 For thou art with me: Thy rod and staff comfort me.
 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me.
 Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
 But thy lovingkindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

THE COMMUNION HYMN 645 The King of love my shepherd is

ST. COLUMBA

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 492 Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness

FINNIAN

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY Ye boundless realms of joy

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848–1918)

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

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

This week, coffee hour food is provided by those with last names starting G through L.

Next week, food will be provided by those with last names M through R.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant and Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Layreader: Dave Derby

The St. John's Adult Choir

Organist and Choirmaster: Nick Capozzoli

Acolytes: Caleb Worrell, Brielle Worrell, Danielle Branco

Ushers: Robert Eikel, Dan Minster, Enid Oberholtzer, Don Polk

Livestream Operator: Margaret Blume

Altar Guild: Eti Akpan, Brenda Zanta

Healing Prayer Minister: Dave Grimaldi

Nursery Staff: Sheryl Simoni, Olivia Thaxton, Caroline Thaxton

Sunday School Teachers: Robert Eikel, Enid Oberholtzer, Donielle Joslyn, Jeff Verney

In your prayers this week, please pray for:

Peace in our world, those serving our country in the armed services, and 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	Joyce Flynn	Bob Norton
Virginia Skeele	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Rachel Boccio	Joseph
Grant Loevenbruck	The Yelland family	Joan Ackley	Sarah Carroll
John & Barbara Spannaus	Harry Barber	Guy Russo	Greg Highland
Jennifer Blean	Doug Larson	Jon Nelson	Rachel
Hale Walkoff	Jeff Lewis	Ned	Lucas
Rod Farrell	Miranda	Roger	Amy Bittinger
Hillary Lord	Allison and Family	Daniel Zoltan	William Bittinger
Helen Rosen	Linda	Jim & Kathlyn Schofield	Mike
Nick Willke	Jacob Latranica	John Scott	Rick
Wayne Gollenburg	Tom Tata	Eric Zoltan	Richard Myers
Uncle Rich Alpin	Timothy Foga	Elizabeth Myers	Carol
Tracie O'Brien	Shoemaker Family	Carole Buttner	Paul Thaxton
Naya	Elsa	Rob Roy	Frank Higginbotham
Amy	Heidi	Meghan	Peter Stanton & family
Cora	Charles & Susan Oakley	Gaylord	Stephanie
Todd FitzGerald	Katie Reardon	Bonnie Evans	Ann
Benjamin Mabrey	Matteo Donnelly	Barbara	Chris
Teni Awudu	Alondra	Dennis	Rui
Beth	Andrew Worrell	Jennifer	

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Emma Pinney	Allison Mani
Jan Hickcox	Hank Curran
Anthony Nelson	Ellen Flynn
Jack Barnes	Nancy Roberts

Those who have died:

Barbara Hoffman, *member of St. John's and mother of Heidi Gostyla*

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for intentional Episcopal communities in Connecticut, including the Episcopal Church at Yale, Seabury retirement community, the Haven community & All Saints; and for parish prayer groups, intercessory prayer chains, healing prayer groups, parish and community bible studies.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai.

Midweek contemplative Eucharist, every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the chancel. We will also continue to hold a centering prayer session after the Eucharist, led by the Reverend Nancy Wright, at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Library. The prayer sessions will continue through June 4.

Spring Fling tickets on sale! The annual Spring Fling fundraiser is coming up on Friday, May 30, and tickets are for sale online at sjparish.net/springfling. Tickets cost \$15 per person if purchased ahead of time, and \$20 at the door. Online ticket orders must be paid for via card or bank withdrawal; you may also purchase tickets with cash or check from event volunteers on the three Sundays leading up to the event (May 11, 18, and 25). Please see the graphic on page 15 for more information about tickets as well as volunteer roles that still need to be filled. This is an adult-only event, and guests who are not St. John's members are welcome — bring friends!

All-ages Vacation Bible School, June 16 to 19 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. This popular event returns in June, and EVERYONE is welcome to attend! Register at sjparish.net/vbs. Dinner is included; please let us know when you register if you're willing to help provide it one night (we can match you with other volunteers to work on a meal together).

Spring Fling & Auction

Annual gathering and fundraiser for the St. John's community.
All adults (parish members and friends) are welcome!

Friday, May 30
6:30 p.m.

BUY TICKETS!

\$15 per person if purchased ahead
\$20 per person at the door

HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

Buy with cash or check at church on 5/11, 5/18, or 5/25
Buy online at sjparish.net/springfling or use this QR code.



VOLUNTEER TO HELP!

We need all kinds of help before and at the event. Bring an appetizer to share, help with check-in or check-out, set up or clean up, make a party playlist, inspire spirited bidding as an auctioneer.... there is something for everyone! Please take a look at our sign-up at sjparish.net/springflingvolunteers, scan the QR code below, or contact Liana Douillet Guzman (liana.douillet@gmail.com) or Lauren Mascola (laurenmascola@gmail.com) to talk about how you'd like to help.



Help, Thanks, Wow

All Ages Vacation Bible School

June 16-19

5:30-8:00pm

This summer, St. John's is offering an all-ages Vacation Bible School loosely based on Anne Lamott's book *Help Thanks Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*. Join us for four nights of dinner, prayer, Scripture, and activities on the theme. All ages and stages are welcome. Children age 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. \$25 per person, maximum \$75/family. Scholarships available. Open to everyone: invite your friends! Register at sjparish.net/VBS or use the QR code below.



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www.sjparish.net

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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
 Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)*Director of Operations & Communications*
 Dwight Latif (dwright@sjparish.net) Sexton
 Nick Capozzoli (nick@sjparish.net)..... *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**
 The Rev. Rebecca Bourret *Priest Associate**
 The Rev. Mary Lynn Dell *Priest Associate**
 The Rev. Joe Pace *Priest Associate**
 The Rev. Nancy Wright *Priest Associate**

**These positions are non-stipendiary.*

VESTRY

Eleanor Barnes Warden
 Stewart Murchie Warden
 David McCary and John Wilcox *Co-Treasurers*

2023–25: Angela Allen-Peck, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer

2024–26: Lauren Mascola, Stacey Samuel Bannon, Brenda Zanta

2025–27: Kim Byrd, Matteo Donnelly, Susan Fay, Jeff Verney