

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

July 5, 2026

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.

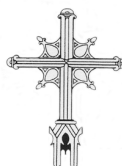
If you are new to St. John's, or have been attending a while but the parish office doesn't yet have your information, please fill out our online newcomer form by scanning the QR code or going to sjparish.net/newcomer



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. We do not provide staffed nursery care over the summer. The nursery will reopen on Sunday, September 13, when the new program year begins.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY Talk about a child that do love Jesus

Calvin Taylor (b. 1948)

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 390 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
All stand and sing.

LOBE DEN HERREN

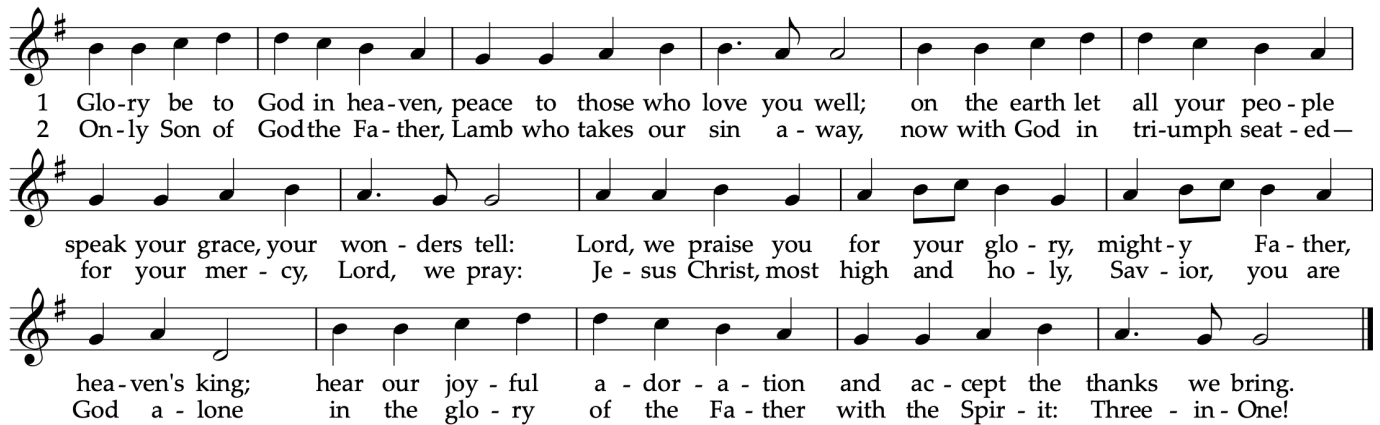
THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

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



1 Glo-ry be to God in hea-ven, peace to those who love you well; on the earth let all your peo-ple
 2 On-ly Son of God the Fa-ther, Lamb who takes our sin a-way, now with God in tri-umph seat-ed—
 speak your grace, your won-ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your glo-ry, might-y Fa-ther,
 for your mer-cy, Lord, we pray: Je-sus Christ, most high and ho-ly, Sav-ior, you are
 hea-ven's king; hear our joy-ful a-dor-a-tion and ac-cept the thanks we bring.
 God a-lone in the glo-ry of the Fa-ther with the Spir-it: Three-in-One!

Text: Gloria in excelsis, para. Michael Parry (b. 1942)

Music: ODE TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1872)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Zechariah 9:9–12

All sit.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalms 145:8–15

The people say the words in bold.

8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
 slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 **The Lord is loving to everyone ***
and his compassion is over all his works.

- 10 All your works praise you, O Lord, *
and your faithful servants bless you.
- 11 **They make known the glory of your kingdom *
and speak of your power;**
- 12 That the peoples may know of your power *
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- 13 **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; *
your dominion endures throughout all ages.**
- 14 The Lord is faithful in all his words *
and merciful in all his deeds.
- 15 **The Lord upholds all those who fall; *
he lifts up those who are bowed down.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 7:15–25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 644 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

ST. PETER

All stand and sing.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

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

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

Jesus said to the crowd, "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds." At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you,

and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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 AND THE CONFESSION

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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our presiding bishop, for Jeff and Laura our bishops, and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those on our parish prayer list.

Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

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

Silence. The people may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially David Flinchbaugh, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The people may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

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

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

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

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All **And also with you.**

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY MUSIC

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

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 our thanks and praise.**

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

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

THE SANCTUS

All sing.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na



All remain standing or kneel.

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant Take this bread, share this wine. In these Christ comes to us with love from God. The gifts of God for the people of God.

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 instead of receiving Communion, 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.

Confidential prayers are available with a trained healing prayer minister at the back of the church near the baptismal font. If you would like to pray with someone about life's challenges or joys, go to the font after receiving Communion.

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 718 God of our fathers

NATIONAL HYMN

All stand and sing.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY God be praised and blessed

Heinrich Scheidemann (1595–1663)

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THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant and Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Lector & Chalice Bearer: Jo Anne Burgh

Intercessor & Chalice Bearer: Bill Lockery

Organist: Doug Johnson

Ushers: Enid Oberholtzer, Wes Winterbottom

Healing Prayer Minister: Tim Goetz

Livestream Operator: Matteo Donnelly

Altar Guild: Bill Lockery, Brenda Zanta

St. John's Monday Night Bible Study

MICAH

July 6-August 3

Mondays at 7pm in zoom

"What does the Lord require of you but to
DO JUSTICE and to LOVE KINDNESS and to
WALK HUMBL Y with your God?"

This summer we explore the book of the
prophet Micah. What can we learn from
Micah about living a just,
compassionate, and humble life right
now?

No homework or one-size-fits-all
answers. Come wonder with us!

In your prayers this week, please pray for:**Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:**

Kim Green	Susan	Joyce Flynn	Wendy
Virginia Skeele	Sue	Joan Ackley	Joseph
Grant Loevenbruck	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Jon Nelson	Sarah Carroll
John & Barbara Spannaus	Harry Barber	Ned	Greg Highland
Jennifer Blean	Doug Larson	Roger	Rachel
Hale Walkoff	Miranda	Daniel Zoltan	Lucas
Rod Farrell	Allison and Family	Jim & Kathlyn Schofield	Amy Bittinger
Hillary Lord	Linda	John Scott	Mike
Helen Rosen	Tom Tata	Eric Zoltan	Rick
Nick Willke	Timothy Foga	Elizabeth Myers	Richard Myers
Tracie O'Brien	Shoemaker Family	Robert & Erika Roy	Carol
Naya	Elsa	Meghan	Paul Thaxton
Amy	Heidi	Bonnie Evans	Stephanie
Cora	Alondra	Dennis	Alberto Guzman
Beth	Andrew Worrell	John Murray	Kathy Beynor
Katie	Sam Wiley	Spencer Rothman	Sara Enright
Anne	Gracie	Rosow Family	April
Martha Babbitt	Jackie Harding	Meg	John Neil Bannon
Linda	Will S.	Tom Lauterbach	Cyndy Bittinger
Jamie Blean	Karen Bacon Rogers	Christina Andrews	Vera Borowik
Emily Brielle Clark	Dave Woolley	Mary Jo Keating	Amity Gage
Brendan	Drew Baker	Ruth Barr	Ann Hutchinson
Betsy Smith	Scott Wilmot	Stevens Family	Shelby & Presley
Dave	J.L.M.	Katie & Dillon	Donald Myers

Those serving in the military:

Michael Meehan; Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Nancy Wright	Will Lockery	Abigail Stretz
Don Polk	Caroline Deschamps	Barry Simson
Carlos Diaz	David Rice	Rebecca Bourret
Jeff Verney	David McCary	Wells Borghard

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Stephanie & Dwight Latif	Cindy & Jim Lawler
Sarah & Kyle Boucher	Courtney & Grant McAuslan

Those who have died:

David Flinchbaugh, *brother of Rich Flinchbaugh*

St. John's community partner organizations:

Loaves & Fishes, Journey Home, Grace Academy, Covenant Preparatory School, Trinity Academy, Habitat for Humanity, West Hartford adult ed/ESOL/citizenship program, Dignity Grows, Place of Grace Food Pantry

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Paul's, Plainfield; Christ Church, Pomfret; Trinity, Portland; and for all deacons, the Archdeacons' Council, and the Province I School for Deacons.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Anglican Church of South America.

Upcoming events

More details about these events are on the following pages and also in the weekly e-newsletter.

- **July 6, 7 p.m. in Zoom:** A new online Bible study series on the book of Micah begins
- **July 12 between the two services (around 10 a.m.):** Sandwich making for Loaves & Fishes
- **August 23 at both services:** Blessing of the Backpacks for students and educators
- **August 30, after the 10:30 service:** Acolyte lunch and training for *current and new* acolytes. We welcome any youth in 3rd grade and up to join this ministry, including those who sing with the Choir School.

Sandwich making on Sunday, July 12, between the services: Please sign up at sjparish.net/sandwiches to donate supplies or help with set-up.

Clergy summer vacation schedules: Todd FitzGerald, rector, is in Maine for the month of July, where he serves a summer chapel in Cape Neddick. He will be back in the office on July 29 and at Sunday services on August 2. Margie Baker, associate rector, will be away from August 12–25 in New Jersey, where she serves a summer chapel in Longport. Please refrain from reaching out to Todd and Margie about non-urgent matters during their time away. Throughout the summer, at least one clergy person and other staff will be available, although we will occasionally close the office on days when we are very short-staffed.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Do you enjoy spending time with children and teens? Do you seek a meaningful way to serve on Sunday mornings?

From Labor Day to early June, St. John's offers weekly Sunday School for children from three to seventeen. We need caring adults to assist in classrooms. Teachers and assistants teach every other week, and most civic holiday weekends are off.

If you feel called to this ministry, please contact Margie for more information!

St. John's Summer Sundays

9 a.m. outdoors

10:30 a.m. indoors & livestreamed

June 21 through September 6

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



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 9 a.m.: Holy Eucharist in the Cloister Garden (or Hubbard Hall)

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.: Holy Eucharist in the church (and livestreamed)

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 (dwight@sjparish.net)	Sexton
Nick Capozzoli (nick@sjparish.net).....	Director of Music
Francis Pipczynski (francis@sjparish.net).....	Financial Administrator
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. Joseph Pace	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Nancy Wright.....	Priest Associate*

**These positions are non-stipendiary.*

VESTRY

Susan Fay.....	Warden
Tom Oberholtzer	Warden
Jeff Kinney and John Wilcox	Treasurers

2024–27: Lauren Mascola, Stacey Samuel Bannon, Brenda Zanta

2025–28: Kim Byrd, Matteo Donnelly, Jeff Verney

2026–29: Betsy Chicares, Matt Ciscel, Young Hee Derby, Don Polk