

# St. John's Episcopal Church

*A place to discover connections with God and one another*

[www.sjparish.net](http://www.sjparish.net)



## *Feast of the Epiphany*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

WITH THE BAPTISM OF  
HEIDI WASHBURN

*January 8, 2017*

*10:30 a.m.*

## *An Epiphany Message from the Rector*

On the twelfth night of Christmastide we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. This marks the time when the three magi, the wise men, visited the newly born baby Jesus. For the eight Sundays of the Epiphany season, we focus on how Christ was made known to the world. The word “Epiphany” is Greek for “manifestation,” the revelation of God made incarnate to the entire world in the most unlikely of ways—with the humble birth of his Son, Jesus the Christ.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of how the three Kings—Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar—followed the star of Bethlehem across the desert to find this newborn with his mother Mary. To honor the Christ child, the magi offer their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The gold is symbolic of Jesus’s royal position, frankincense symbolizes his divine birth, and myrrh depicts his mortality.

The season of Epiphany is a perfect time to be aware of how the light of Christ is present in our lives and in the world. How can we, like the magi of so long ago, honor the presence of God in the world? What gifts, given to us by God, can we share to honor the Messiah, the Savior of the world, Emmanuel, God with us? How can we reflect the love of God coming into the world to give us the most precious gift of all, the gift of eternal life?

If you are with us for the first time, please make yourself comfortable. We look forward to meeting you. If you would like to learn more about the church, please fill out a card (hanging in each pew), put it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or member of the clergy, and we will be in touch. 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 should need to participate in the service is found here, in this bulletin and in the blue hymnal in the pew rack. Hearing assist devices are available as is nursery care for young children. Please ask the ushers for assistance with these or with any other request. Again, welcome. *(Photo Credit: “Baptism of Christ”, © 2010 Ted, Flickr | CC-BY-SA | via Wylio)*



## ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY Prelude in E-flat, BWV 552  
Chorale: Schmucke dich

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE OPENING HYMN 76 On Jordan’s bank, the Baptist’s cry

WINCHESTER NEW

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

*People* **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* There is one Body and one Spirit;

*People* **There is one hope in God’s call to us;**

*Celebrant* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

*People* **One God and Father of all.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

## THE FIRST LESSON

*Isaiah 42:1-9*

*All sit.*

**H**ere is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALTER

Psalm 29

The people say the text in **bold print**, and sing the antiphon as indicated.



- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
**ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
**worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
**the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
**the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.** *Antiphon*
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
**the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; \*  
**the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.** *Antiphon*
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \*  
**and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD \*  
**all are crying, "Glory!"**
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
**the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.**
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
**the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.** *Antiphon*

## THE NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 10:34-43

**P**eter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and

allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 339 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

SCHMUCKE DICH

THE GOSPEL

*Matthew 3:13-17*

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

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

**J**esus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

*Minister* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Susan Pinkerton

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

*The Celebrant says*

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Sponsor* I present Heidi Washburn to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*The Celebrant asks the candidate when presented*

Do you desire to be baptized?

*Candidate* I do.

*Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidate.*

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*The Celebrant addresses the Congregation saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Heidi in her life in Christ?

*People* **We will.**

*Celebrant* Let us join with Heidi who is committing herself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

*Please stand*

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People* **I believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

## THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

*Celebrant* Let us now pray for Heidi who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*Leader* Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open her heart to your grace and truth.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Send her into the world in witness to your love.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The Celebrant continues*

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## THE BAPTISM

*The Celebrant says to the candidate*

I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

*All* **Amen.**

*Then the Celebrant places a hand on Heidi's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying*  
You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*All* **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

## THE PEACE

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

*All* **And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of Christ.*

## THE WELCOME

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY What cheer? Good cheer!

Peter Warlock (1894-1930)

Lift up your hearts and be ye glad, in Christ His birth the angels bade.

Say each to other if any be sad:

What cheer? Good cheer! Be merry and glad this good new year!

The King of Heaven His birth hath take: now joy and mirth we ought to make.

Say each to other for His dear sake:

What cheer? Good cheer! Be merry and glad this good new year!

I tell you all with heart so free, right welcome ye be all to me;

Be glad and merry for charity.

What cheer? Good cheer! Be merry and glad this good new year!

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**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.**

*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. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. 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

The first system of musical notation for 'The Sanctus'. It consists of a treble and a bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and' are written below the treble staff. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with a long note for 'might,' followed by 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,'. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

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

The third system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with 'God of power and might,' followed by a long note, then 'hea - ven and earth are'. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

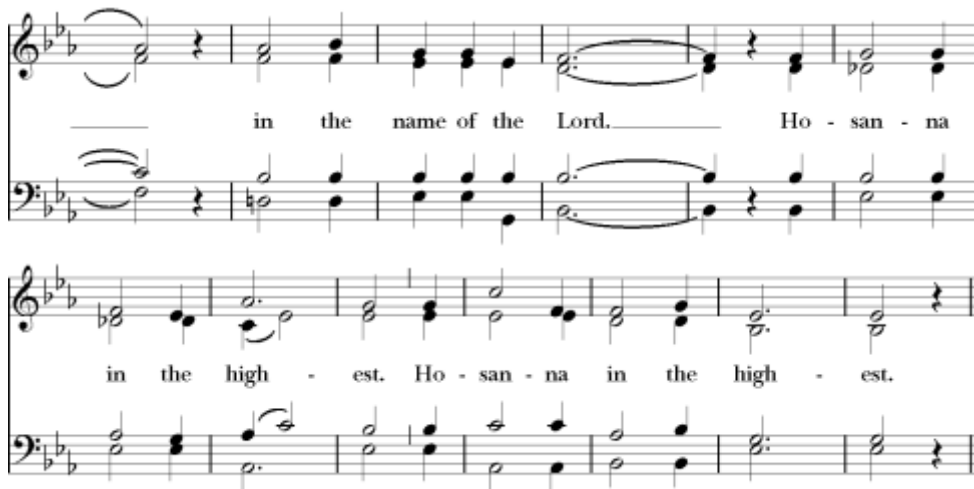
The fourth system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with 'full,' followed by a long note, then 'full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

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

The fifth system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with 'san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na'. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

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

The sixth system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with 'in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes'. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.



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

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

Music: from *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).  
Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc

*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 sons and daughters; 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.

All 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.*

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

*Music: from Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).  
Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc*

## 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 communion at St. John's.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask the clergy at the communion rail.*

*If you would like a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.*

*To request healing prayers, proceed to the baptismal font in the back of the nave immediately after receiving communion.*

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM Away in a manger Normandy tune, arr. Reginald Jacques (1894-1969)

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*All stand or kneel.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* **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 CLOSING HYMN 435 At the Name of Jesus, v. 1-4

KING'S WESTON

*All stand and sing.*

## THE DISMISSAL

*The minister dismisses the people and they respond, Thanks be to God.*

THE VOLUNTARY Carillon

Herbert Murrill (1909-1952)

*The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God's Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say Amen at the end of the Voluntary as a conclusion to our worship.*

**St. John's Vestry members are on hand to welcome you to worship today.**

**Today's greeter is David Beers.**

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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**THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY****Celebrant:** The Reverend Helen M. Moore**Preacher:** The Reverend Susan Pinkerton**Deacon:** The Reverend Walter McKenney**Layreader:** Cindy Lawler**Acolytes:** Gus Murchie, Margaret Babbitt, Ethen Worrell, Caleb Worrell**Ushers:** Jeffrey Gostyla, Troy Gostyla, Julia O'Brien, Will Smith, Courtney Bass**Healing Prayers:** Wes Winterbottom**Altar Guild:** Conny Deluca and Ginny Kemp**At Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center:****Layreader:** Christoph Stretz**Musician:** Steve Metcalf

The altar flowers this week are given to the Glory of God and in memory of J. Laurie Kerby.

**In your prayers this week, please pray for:**

Peace in our world, for those serving our country in armed services, and for all victims of war and violence.

The parish of Santa Cruz del Norte, our companion parish in Cuba, and Saint Sauveur School, Les Cayes, Haiti.

Séinaire de Théologie d'Église Épiscopale d'Haïti (STEEH), the Episcopal Seminary in Haiti.

Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster; the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford; and the Hughes Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Our postulants, Stacey Kohl and Michael Corey, and our missionary in Haiti, Dr. Lucinda Mosher.

All those whose hurts, burdens and fears are unspoken or unknown.

**Those in need of healing:**

Jim Evans	Jim Tracy	Kathy	Chas
Kim Green	Andrew Lee	Jay	Nancy
Carol Grieco	Paul Dewey	Charlie	Susan
Janet Ray	Marie Aguiar		

**Those who are celebrating birthdays this week:**

Buffy Cech	John Church	Spencer Sloan, Jr.
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**Those who are celebrating anniversaries this week:**

Julian and Jenifer Hartt

**The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the Diocese of Kuching (South East Asia), the Right Reverend Bolly Lapok, and the Right Reverend Solomon Cheong Sung Voon.

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for St. Peter's, Cheshire; Holy Advent, Clinton; Trinity Church, Collinsville; St. James', Danbury; and for wardens, treasurers, clerks, and all vestry members, elected delegates, and annual parish meetings.

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**FOR YOUR CALENDAR.**


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**The St. John's Annual Meeting, including Vestry elections, presentation of the 2017 budget, and reports on various ministries, will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2017. There will be NO 8:00 a.m. service that day.** The Annual Meeting will convene at 9:30 a.m. and reconvene after the 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with a potluck brunch. **Please bring a brunch item as follows:** Last name A to G - Bring fruit or salad; Last name H to S - Bring a main dish such as small sandwiches, quiche, or breakfast casserole; Last name T to Z - Bring baked goods. The nominees for new three-year Vestry terms are **Geoff Emerick, Doug Hyland, Virginia Van Dyk and Andrew Worrell.** The nominee to complete two years of Mike Corey's three-year term is **Bess Amamoo;** Diocesan guidelines stipulate that because Mike is now a postulant in the ordination process, he can no longer serve on a parish Vestry. The nominee for Warden is **Wes Winterbottom,** nominated to replace Jeff Verney, whose work and family responsibilities mean he cannot continue to serve as Warden. If you would like to nominate someone else or express your own interest in being on the ballot for any of these positions, please contact the rector, Susan Pinkerton, as soon as possible.

**The Women's Fellowship Group** will hold a discussion on "Having Faith in the Midst of Adversity: Lessons from Corrie Ten Boom," on **Monday, January 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** The Rev. Hope Eakins will facilitate the discussion. All women are welcome to join us.

**Women Together!** Women from St. John's, St. James's, and Trinity Episcopal Churches are invited to gather for an Epiphany-themed Bible study led by the Rev. Helen M. Moore. Over the course of four meetings, we will explore Scripture, cultivate friendships and reflect on our spiritual journeys. **The group will meet every other Tuesday in Epiphany (January 10, January 24, February 7, and February 21) from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at St. John's.** If you plan to attend or have questions, contact the Rev. Helen M. Moore at 860-331-1127 or helen@sjparish.net, Linda MacGougan at 860-561-1588, or Emily Estes at 860-966-5466.

**Join us for Jazz Eucharist!** On **Sunday, January 15,** our 10:30 service will feature music of the Hot Cat Jazz Band, along with the St. John's Youth and Adult Choirs. Together, they'll present a Gospel arrangement of "Amazing Grace" and a portion of "A Little Jazz Mass" by Bob Chilcott. The hymns will be sung in Dixieland jazz style. Just one of the many ways we worship God together, Jazz Eucharist is a powerful and unusual connection to the sacred.

**St. John's Midwinter Food Blitz & Auction will be held on February 3 at 6:30 p.m.** Join us for an evening of delicious food, drinks and live music. This annual adult social event will take place in Hubbard Hall and include a silent and live food auction to raise funds to support St. John's many ministries. No pressure to bid — just come and have fun with fellow St. John's parishioners!!

**The ECCT Men's Ministry Network, in association with the Brotherhood of St Andrew, is sponsoring a day of reflection in honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King on Saturday, January 14.** The program will discuss the role of Christian men in furthering Dr. King's dream of social justice and racial equality in 21<sup>st</sup> century America. The program will conclude with lunch and a table Eucharist. Please join us from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 120 Sigourney Street, Hartford. There is no cost for the event, and a free-will offering will offset the cost of lunch. Please let us know you will be joining us by emailing Tom Cottrell at tcottr9698@cox.net.

**Sacred Circle** is a small group of women who meet once a month to explore our relationship to the sacred and to honor the divine in everyday life. Our meeting this month will be on **Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m.** in the St. John's Room. Please come. All women are welcome!

Rector Susan Pinkerton and Director of Religious Education Janet Babbitt will lead a **communion class for kids in preschool and elementary school (ages 3 to 11) on three Wednesdays — January 25, February 1, and February 8 from 5 to 5:45 p.m.** While the Episcopal Church doesn't hold formal "first communion" classes and children may receive communion at any age that parents deem appropriate, an introduction to the "what, why, and how" of communion can be helpful for both kids and parents. **Children who attend the three classes will be invited to receive communion at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, February 12.** Please contact Janet Babbitt at janet@sjparish.net or Susan Pinkerton at susan@sjparish.net, or through the parish office, if you have questions or want to sign your child(ren) up for these classes.

At the adult **Faith Forum on January 22 at 9:30 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Borden Painter will present an “Anglican Update.”** We will take a look at the history of the Anglican Communion over the past 500 years, and discuss the current situation and, in particular, the role of the Episcopal Church. Note: There will be **no Faith Forum next Sunday, January 15**, although you are always welcome to stick around after the 8:00 service or come early for the 10:30 service for coffee and informal conversation.

**Men's Bible Study is held every Thursday at 6:30 a.m. in the Reception Room.** Join us!

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY, GIVING AND CONNECTION

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We are in great need of **coffee hour hosts!** Please sign up for your preferred date on the sign-up sheet posted in Hubbard Hall. Thanks!

We have **Christmas poinsettias** that are still in nice shape and could use a home! If you're able to deliver a poinsettia to a parishioner who cannot make it to church, please stop by the hallway outside the parish office after the service today, where you will find poinsettias and notecards with names and addresses for deliveries. You may also take a poinsettia for yourself or for someone else who might enjoy it, as long as supplies last. Thank you!

As you're taking down your Christmas decorations, **please save fabric bows, faux greenery or fruit, small ornaments, etc.** from your wreaths or other décor, and return them to St. John's for reuse next year. You can drop your decorations off in the parish office anytime in the next two weeks, no later than Monday, January 23.

We still have frozen quarts of delicious **tomato soup, clam chowder, and turkey chili** leftover from the Christmas Festival available for purchase. See Brooke Whittemore after the 10:30 service today, or stop by the parish office during the week to purchase some soup (\$5/quart) for the cold evenings to come. If you're here for an event when the office is closed, or can't track down Brooke on Sunday morning, feel free to take soup from the freezer and then send or drop off payment to the parish office as soon as possible.

The **St. John's Center for Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Direction**, directed by the Rev. Helen M. Moore and funded by a grant from the Long Foundation, is still open to new clients. Are you tackling those New Year's resolutions or establishing healthier approaches to your work or family life? Perhaps pastoral counseling will provide the support you need. Are you looking for divine direction for 2017 or wondering where God is at work in your daily life? Try spiritual direction. All services are provided free of charge; open to individuals, couples or families; and available to anyone whether or not they attend St. John's. Contact Helen at [helen@sjparish.net](mailto:helen@sjparish.net) or 860-331-1127 to discuss whether either of these disciplines are right for you.

**Donate items for Blessing Bags!** St. John's puts together “blessing bags” for people staying in shelters or otherwise in need during cold weather. We need warm socks, gloves, and hats for both men and women; multi-packs of disposable hand warmers; non-perishable snacks (such as granola bars or cracker packs); and gift cards to Subway, Dunkin Donuts or McDonald's in small denominations only (\$5 to \$10). Please put your items in the large gray bin in Hubbard Hall, or give gift cards to any St. John's staff member.

**If you donated stock to St. John's in December 2016, please contact Financial Administrator Mirella Russo as soon as possible.** This will ensure that your stock donation is properly credited to your contribution statement.

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

- ❖ Women's Fellowship Group — January 9 at 7 p.m.
- ❖ Women Together Epiphany Spirituality Group — January 10 and 24, February 7 and 21, 3 to 4 p.m.
- ❖ Jazz Eucharist — January 15 at 10:30 a.m.
- ❖ Communion classes for kids — January 25, February 1 and 8 at 5 p.m.
- ❖ St. John's Annual Meeting — January 29
- ❖ Choral Evensong featuring the Choir of Center Church — January 29 at 5 p.m.
- ❖ Annual Food Auction Fundraiser — February 3
- ❖ Pipes Alive! Organ Concert featuring Scott Lamlein — February 5 at 12:30 p.m.

# St. John's Episcopal Church

*A place to discover connections with God and one another*

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119

860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning

5:00 p.m. Evensong on selected last Sundays of the month

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer each Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Christian Education at 9:30 a.m. September – May

## STAFF

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@sjparish.net).....	Rector
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net) .....	Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney* (walter@sjparish.net) .....	Deacon
The Rev. Hope Eakins* (hope@sjparish.net) .....	Priest Associate
The Rev. William Eakins* (bill@sjparish.net).....	Priest Associate
The Rev. Helen M. Moore* (helen@sjparish.net).....	Director of Pastoral and Spiritual Ministries
Janet Babbitt (janet@sjparish.net).....	Director of Religious Education
Mirella Russo (mirella@sjparish.net).....	Financial Administrator
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net) .....	Parish Manager and Assistant to the Rector
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net) .....	Sexton
Mary Scripko (mary@sjparish.net) .....	Religious Education Assistant
Ralph Valentine .....	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

*\*These positions are non-stipendiary. These clergy give generously of their time and expertise to support St. John's mission and ministries.*

## VESTRY

Jeff Verney.....	Warden
Buffy Ineson.....	Warden
Beth Grieco and Chris Byrd.....	Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar .....	Clerk

2014-16: Eleanor Barnes, Lynn Brooks, David Beers, Marki Ware

2015-17: Courtney Bass, Jan Hickcox, Heather Simson, Wes Winterbottom

2016-18: Mike Corey, Tim Goetz, Ginny Kemp, Will Smith

## ST. PAUL'S DEAF CONGREGATION

Sundays, 10:30 a.m., in the church

Lay leaders: Victoria Crosta – text: 860-478-6524; Melissa Render – text: 860-983-4606