

**6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, PROPER 9**

**JULY 5, 2026**

**10:00 AM**

**WELCOME!**

*YOU are welcome here, regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, sex, national origin, marital status, family makeup, socioeconomic status, or political persuasion. St. John's Episcopal Church is a community of people who gather to acknowledge our need for divine and human love, and to respect our common humanity. At St. John's, ALL ARE WELCOME.*

*It is our pleasure to have you join us for worship today. If this is your first visit, or even if you've been attending for a little while, and you'd like to learn more about us, please take a 'Welcome' card from our pews, complete and place the 'Connect' side in the offering plate or hand it to one of our greeters or clergy so that we may follow up with you. Or, feel welcome to contact us using the information on the back of this bulletin.*

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***Our mission***

*LINKING LIVES IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST*



**Memorial to the Persecuted –  
Bearing a Heavy Weight Together**

Gáspár, Péter

from *Art in the Christian Tradition*

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***Our vision***

*WE JOYFULLY GATHER TO PRAY, WORSHIP, LEARN AND SERVE  
AS WE SEEK TO FOLLOW JESUS, AND INVITE ALL TO JOIN US  
ON A SACRED JOURNEY OF HOPE AND TRANSFORMATION*

Following the pattern of THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER – RITE II (EXPANSIVE LANGUAGE)

Prelude

Welcome

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

People And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.

All are invited to stand, as able

Opening Hymn - "Lord, make us servants of your peace"

#593 in The Hymnal 1982\*

1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is  
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is  
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -  
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to  
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark

1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -  
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow  
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing  
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -  
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.  
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.  
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.  
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.  
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on prayer att. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)  
 Music: Dickinson College, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979)

LM

## The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All are invited to be seated*

## The Lessons

### First Lesson - Zechariah 9:9-12

*Marnie Bash*

Reader A reading from Zechariah.

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 145:8-15 - *Exaltabo te, Deus*

*All are invited to read responsively by verse*

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.**

**Second Lesson** - Romans 7:15-25a

*Charles Bash*

Reader A reading from Romans

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People Thanks be to God.**

*All are invited to stand, as able, for the Gospel Procession*

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Cantor will invite the congregation to join in on the refrain.*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Celtic Mass; Fintan O'Carroll, d. 1977, and Christopher Walker.  
Text and music © 1985, 1996, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Verse: "Come to me," says the Lord,  
"all who are weary and burdened,  
and I will give rest to your souls. My burden is light!"

**Gospel Reading** - Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

*The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson*

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**People 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.”

Reader           The Gospel of our Savior.  
People           **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

*See previous page . . .*

*All are invited to be seated*

### **The Sermon**

*The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson*

*All are invited to stand, as able, and say together*

### **The Nicene Creed**

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.**

### **Prayers of the People**

*Charles Bash*

Leader In this green, growing season of summer, let us embrace the abundance of creation as we pray for the Church and for the world.  
Gracious God, we pray for your Church, that it may be a refuge of peace and renewal. We pray for the people and leaders of the Diocese of the Great Lakes, and we pray especially for our bishop search committee and for the one who will be called as our first bishop. May all who confess the name of Jesus be united in the truth of love and grow communities of care. God our loving Creator,  
**People You hear our prayers.**

Leader Guide the leaders of this and every land, that they may govern your creation with justice and integrity. Inspire them to decisions, statements, and actions that cultivate wellbeing; and help them to grow peace in your world. God our sovereign Creator,  
**People You hear our prayers.**

Leader We give thanks for the earth and for the abundance of summer: for the warmth of the sun, the lush beauty of plants, and the company of animals. Keep us mindful of our place in this family, and help us to cherish these gifts as we care for the earth, our home. God our wondrous Creator,  
**People You hear our prayers.**

Leader Bless all whose lives are linked with ours, and grant that we may see the face of Christ in all God's children, loving one another as we are loved. Help us form and grow places of sanctuary and revival in our hearts, our homes, our church, and our town, and show us your will in our communities. God our inspiring Creator,  
**People You hear our prayers.**

Leader Pour out your comfort and healing on all those who are sick, sad, suffering, or imprisoned. We pray for Cathy & Juan, Char, Henry, Chris, Yvonne,

Charlene, Julie, Vicki, Shelby, Eric, Dave, Bob, Guy, Tony, Tellie, EllaRose, Jayden & Elaine, Betty & Bud Schartow & family, Justin & family, and Tom; for those living and dying in the turmoil of war, violence, and hate; for those affected by environmental disasters; and for all those we name, silently or aloud. *[The people are invited to offer their own prayers.]* Sustain them with courage and hope, and bring us all into your abundant joy. God our healing Creator,

**People** **You hear our prayers.**

Leader We entrust to your loving presence all who have died and those we name, silently or aloud. *[The people are invited to offer their own prayers.]* We pray that when our work on earth is done, we too may feast in the company of all your saints and know your everlasting abundance. God our eternal Creator,

**People:** **You hear our prayers.**

Celebrant Creating and cultivating God, you have charged us to care for your whole creation; hear our prayers and help us grow as faithful stewards, that we might seeing the world through your eyes, love it with your heart, and be your hands and feet bringing blessing; through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Spirit. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

**Together** **Most merciful God,**  
**we confess that we have sinned against you**  
**in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done,**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**  
**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**  
**For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ,**  
**have mercy on us and forgive us;**  
**that we may delight in your will,**  
**and walk in your ways,**  
**to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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 Christ be always with you.

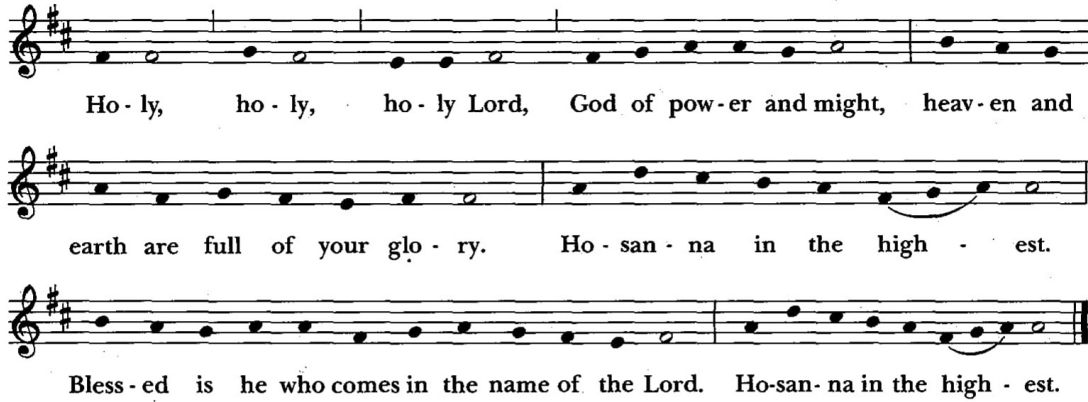
**People** **And also with you.**

*All are invited to greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.*



# Sanctus

#S 124 in The Hymnal 1982\*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

*All are invited to stand or kneel, as able*

**Celebrant** Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 Jesus 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."

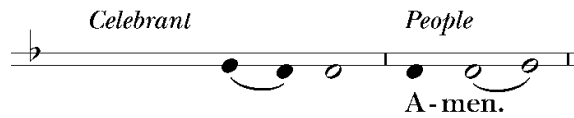
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Together** **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

**Celebrant** We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.



Copyright © 1983 James McGregor.

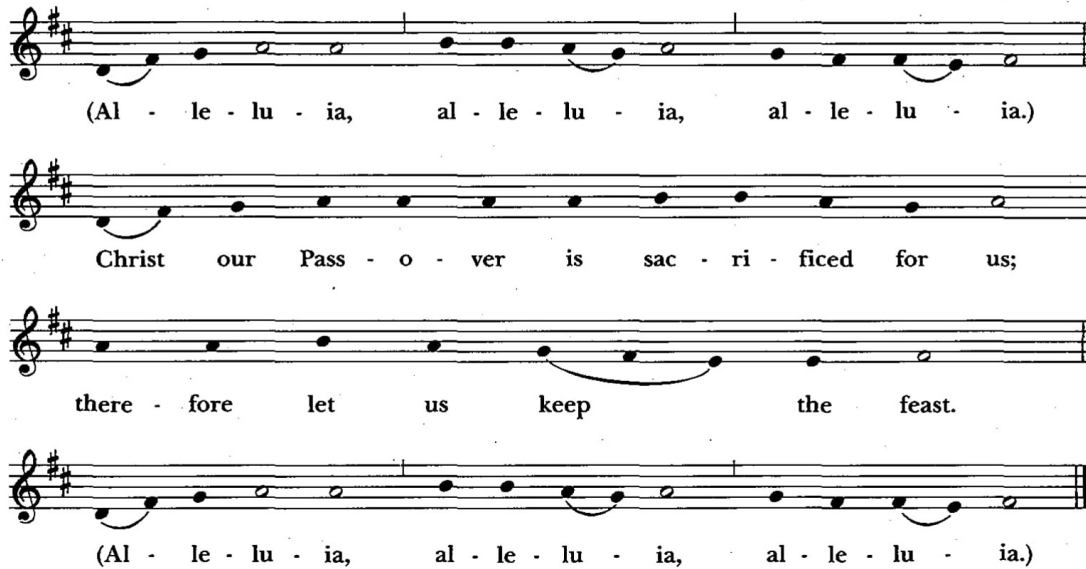
### The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant  
Together

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,  
**Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your Name,**  
**your kingdom come,**  
**your will be done,**  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial,  
 and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours,  
 now and for ever. Amen.

### Fraction Anthem

#S 154 in The Hymnal 1982\*



Setting: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

*All are invited to be seated*

## Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive communion. St. John's uses gluten-free bread, and wine. You may eat your bread/wafer and return to your seat, or hand it to a chalice-bearer who will intinct (dip) the bread and hand it back to you. Individually sealed cups with gluten-free, allergen-friendly hosts, and grape juice are available by request. Please follow the directions of our ushers.

## A Prayer in lieu of Sacramental Reception

attributed to *The Rev. Charles Curtis*

Those worshipping with us on our live stream are invited to use the following prayer as our in-person congregation receives Communion.

O blessed Jesus, our Savior and Lord, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of your body and Blood. We love you above all things, and we long for you in our souls. Since we cannot now receive you in your sacramental Presence, grant that we may still be fed by your Holy Spirit in our hearts. We welcome you and embrace you, and unite ourselves wholly to you; and grant, most gracious Lord, that we may evermore dwell in you, and you in us. Amen.

## Communion Hymn - "One Bread, One Body"

#151 in **Lift Every Voice and Sing\***

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of  
all, one cup of bless - ing which we bless.  
And we, though man-y, through-out the earth,  
we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

Verses



1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,  
wom - an or man no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

D.C.

Text: I Corinthians 10:16; 17, 12:4, Galatians 3:28; the *Dialoqe* 9; John Foley, SJ, b.1939  
Tune: John Foley, SJ, b.1939  
©1978, John B. Foley, SJ, and New Dawn Music

## Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.  
Together **Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Blessing

*The priest blesses the people*

**People Amen.**

*All are invited to stand, as able*

**Closing Hymn** - "Spread, O spread, thou mighty word"

#530 in **The Hymnal 1982\***

1 Spread, O spread, thou might - y word, spread the king - dom of the Lord,  
2 word of how the Fa - ther's will made the world, and keeps it, still;  
3 word of how the Sa - vior's love earth's sore bur - den doth re - move;  
4 word of how the Spi - rit came bring - ing peace in Je - sus' name;  
5 Word of life, most pure and strong, word for which the na - tions long,

1 that to earth's re - mot - est bound all may heed the joy - ful sound;  
2 how his on - ly Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;  
3 how for - ev - er, in its need, through his death the world is freed;  
4 how his nev - er - fail - ing love guides us on to heaven a - bove.  
5 spread a - broad, un - til from night all the world a - wakes to light.

Words: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier (1774-1841); tr. Arthur William Farlander (1898-1952) and Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt.  
St. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Gott sei Dank*,  
melody from *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)

**Dismissal**

Celebrant      Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

**Postlude**

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*The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God and  
in thanksgiving for our St. John's family.*



**HEAD OF THE CHURCH – JESUS CHRIST**  
**MINISTERS – ALL OUR MEMBERS**

**Clergy**

The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson .....*Rector*

**Staff**

Travis Fader ..... *Director of Operations & Organist/Pianist*

Linda Germain.....*Children & Youth Director*

Colleen O'Dell .....*Bookkeeper*

Ellen Woodard..... *Administrative Assistant*

Nick Lowthian.....*Sexton*

Vickie Densmore .....*Janitor*

**SERVING**

Presiding ..... The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson  
Preaching..... The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson  
Cantor..... Erin Whitfield  
Organist/Pianist ..... Travis Fader  
Greeter/Usher....Katharine Rose, Jacques Randolet  
Element Bearers.....  
Lectors.....Marnie Bash, Charles Bash  
Intercessor..... Charles Bash  
Crucifer/Eucharistic Minister..... Eric Heglin  
Eucharistic Minister ..... Marnie Bash  
Altar Guild .....Jacques Randolet, Andrea Burditt  
Broadcast Technician .....Bill Kent  
Coffee Hour Host .....  
(signup sheet posted on the bulletin board outside Williams Hall)

**OUR VESTRY – OUR ELECTED LEADERS**

**Class of 2027**

Eric Heglin, *Clerk*  
Fred Schuster, *Co-Warden*

**Class of 2029**

Nykkooa Lurie  
Mike Spencer

**Class of 2028**

John Adams  
Doug Germain  
Ann Wright, *Co-Warden*

To get in touch with any Clergy, Staff Member or Member of the Vestry, call  
or email the parish office:

(989) 631-2260

[office@sjec-midland.org](mailto:office@sjec-midland.org)

**Contact Us**

**St. John's Episcopal Church**

405 N. Saginaw Road  
Midland, MI 48640

**Office Hours**

Monday thru Thursday ... 9am-3pm  
Friday ... 9am-noon

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**Website:** [www.sjec-midland.org](http://www.sjec-midland.org)

**Facebook:** sjecmidland

**Instagram:** sjecmidlandmich

**YouTube:** @st.johnsepiscopalchurchmid894