ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

linking lives in the love of Christ

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, PROPER 27
NOVEMBER 8, 2026
WELCOME! 8:00 AM

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.

Our mission

LINKING LIVES IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST



The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins
Friedrich Wilhelm Schadow (1788-1862)

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

8:00 AM — HOLY EUCHARIST

Following the pattern of **THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER – RITE II**

THE WORD OF GOD

All are invited to stand, as able

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

All are invited to read in unison

Gloria p. 356 in **The BCP**

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.
O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he 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 - Wisdom 6:12-16 *Carol Sullivan*

Reader A reading from Wisdom.

Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

All are invited to read in unison

Response – Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20

The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction,
and concern for instruction is love of her,
and love of her is the keeping of her laws,
and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,
and immortality brings one near to God;
so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

Second Lesson - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *Carol Sullivan*

Reader A reading from 1 Thessalonians

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

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

Gospel Reading - Matthew 25:1-13 *Kathy Hawkins*

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

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

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

All are invited to be seated

The Sermon *The Rev. Mary Jo Hudson*

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

The Nicene Creed p. 358 in **The BCP**

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.

Prayer of the People - Form III (p. 387 in **The BCP**) *Carol Sullivan*

Leader Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
People **That we all may be one.**
Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**
Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**
Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**
Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**
Leader Remembering especially those on our parish prayer list: Cathy & Juan, Char, Henry, Julie, Vicki, Bob, Chris, Bob & Jan, Paula Mae, Arie, and Mitzi, have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**
Leader Give to the departed eternal rest.
People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**
Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**
Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
[The people are invited to offer their own prayers]

Concluding Collect

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Confession of Sin p. 359 in **The BCP**

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 your Son 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.

Absolution

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.
People **And also with you.**

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

Prayer for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Other Milestones

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory

All are invited to stand, as able

Together **All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All are invited to stand as able

Eucharistic Prayer A p. 361 in **The BCP**

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.**

Celebrant It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Together **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest .

Please stand or kneel as you are able

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father of all.

He 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 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ: 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 p. 364 in **The BCP**

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

Together
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 p. 364 in **The BCP**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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.

Post-Communion Prayer p. 365 in **The BCP**

Celebrant Let us pray.
Together
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.

Blessing

The priest blesses the people

People **Amen.**

All are invited to stand, as able

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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*
Kathy Hawkins ..... *Seminary Intern*

Staff

Travis Fader.... *Organist & Interim Director of Music*
Linda Germain..... *Children & Youth Director*
Colleen O'Dell ..... *Bookkeeper*
Ellen Woodard..... *Administrative Assistant*
Nick Lowthian..... *Sexton*
Vickie Densmore ..... *Janitor*

SERVING

Presiding ..... The Rev. Mary Jo Hudson
Preaching..... The Rev. Mary Jo Hudson
Seminary Intern..... Kathy Hawkins
Greeter/Usher..... Jim Bakeman
Lector..... Carol Sullivan
Intercessor..... Carol Sullivan
Eucharistic Minister ..... Carol Sullivan
Sunday Altar Guild ..... Margo Nielsen
Wednesday Altar Guild ..... Andrea Burditt
Coffee Hour Host ..... Aaron & Bonnie Haefele
(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
Nykkoa 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

Contact Us

St. John's Episcopal Church
405 N. Saginaw Road
Midland, MI 48640

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

Phone: 989.631.2260
Fax: 989.631.4261
Parish email: office@sjec-midland.org
Website: www.sjec-midland.org
Facebook: sjecmidland
Instagram: sjecmidlandmich
YouTube: @st.johnsepiscopalchurchmid894