

This year's Heart of the Hamptons Polar Bear Plunge will be held on Saturday, December 9th. Come out and cheer on Fr. Patrick.

If you'd like to support Fr. Patrick and Heart of the Hamptons with a donation, you can find the link to the donation page on our email newsletter and website.

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HOMELESS OUTREACH

**MAUREEN'S HAVEN**

Below is our schedule to provide lunch or pre-packaged snacks, drinks and desserts for our friends of Maureen's Haven:

- Saturday 12/9/23: lunches- a meat sandwich, a bottle of water or juice, fruit and snack.
- Saturday 1/13/23: pre-packaged snacks and dessert
- Saturday 3/9/23: pre-packaged beverages, pre-packaged dessert and lunches

We can meet at St. John's to pack everything up and then drop off at Presbyterian Church.

*For Pastoral Emergencies, please contact Fr. Patrick at 404-660-3592.*

## St. John's Episcopal Church

100 South Main Street | P. O. Box 5068

Southampton, New York 11969-5068

(631) 283-0549



*The Accursed Fig Tree* by James Tissot

**Services are available online through  
Facebook Live: [Facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton)**

### Sunday Services

8:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
9:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
11:00 A.M. - Morning Prayer  
Holy Eucharist, Rite I first Sundays  
of the month

### Weekday Services

**Monday – Friday**  
7:30 A.M. – Morning Prayer, Rite I  
6:00 P.M. – Evening Prayer, Rite I  
**Wednesday**  
10:00 A.M. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

**First Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2023 • 8:00 AM**

**Opening Acclamation**

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

**The Collect of Purity**

*The Celebrant says*  
Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

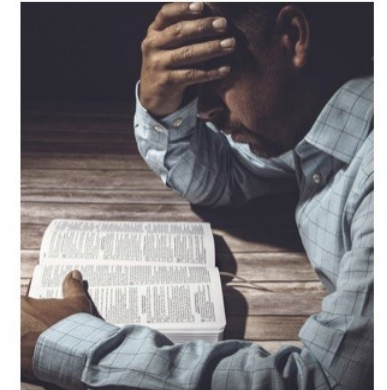
*Celebrant* Kyrie eleison.  
*People* **Christe eleison.**  
*Celebrant* Kyrie eleison.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And with thy spirit.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**The Collect**

*The Celebrant says to the people*  
Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**How should we read the Bible -  
The Genesis Story:  
Reading Old Testament Narratives**



**Join us at the 10:00 "Adult Formation Hour" on Sundays beginning 3 December 2023.**

**Reading the Bible is not merely something we "ought" to do, but is required of us as able and faithful Christians.** St Paul himself called the Bible "the Sword of the Spirit" in his letter to the Ephesians, and the catechism of the Episcopal Church states, "We call the Bible the Word of God because God inspired its human authors and because God still speaks to us through the Bible."

**But HOW should we read the Bible?**

In an ongoing series in this academic year, Fr Patrick will be addressing this very question, beginning with the first book of the Bible, Genesis, and by extension the important genre of Old Testament Narratives.

As a vehicle for this first topic we will use a teaching video series conducted by Professor of English Justin A. Jackson and Professor of Politics and History Larry P. Arnn, both of Hillsdale College in Michigan.

**Genesis is a book of fundamental importance for the Jewish and Christian faiths and has exerted a profound influence on Western Civilization.** In addition to being a great religious text, it is also a literary masterpiece.

These lectures explore some of the work's major narrative themes, including the complex relationship between God and man, the consequences of a rupture in that relationship, and the path towards reconciliation.

**We hope to see you there!**





# Dedications

## Christmas Pageant

December 24, 2023 · 3 PM

St. Andrew's Dune Church



### Calling All Children: Join Our Christmas Pageant!

Children of all ages are invited to participate.

Parents: For more information, please contact Lisa Gillespie.

[Lisag0057@aol.com](mailto:Lisag0057@aol.com) or 516-375-2290

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

*Isaiah 64:1-9*

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--

as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil--

to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

The word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18**

*Qui regis Israel*

**1** Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**2** In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.

**3** Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**4** O Lord God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?

**5** You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**6** You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

**7** Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**16** Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

**17** And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

## Verse of the Week

**“O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--**

**as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil--**

**to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!”**

Isaiah 64: 1-3

## “Quote of the Week”



**“The Father brought all things out of nothing into being and created them, both what is invisible and what is visible. Yea, even man, who is a compound of the visible and the invisible. And it is by thought that He creates, and thought is the basis of the work, the Word filling it and the Spirit perfecting it.”**

Saint John of Damascus

Arab Christian monk, priest, hymnographer, and apologist  
d. 4 December 749

everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### The Blessing

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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## Dedications

**The candles at the Altar this month were given in the  
Glory of God and in loving memory of John L. Griffin  
by Carol L. Griffin.**

**The flowers at the Altar this week were given in the  
Glory of God and in loving memory of The Grimm and  
Rogers Families by Ann Grimm.**

**18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

### Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you -- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

*People* **Thanks be to God**

### The Gospel

*Mark 13:24-37*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

*People:* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,

and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*Celebrant*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*          **Praised be to Thee, O Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Rev'd W. Patrick Edwards

## Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
    the Father Almighty,  
    maker of heaven and earth,  
    and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
    the only-begotten Son of God,  
    begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
    God of God, Light of Light,  
    very God of very God,  
    begotten, not made,  
    being of one substance with the Father;  
    by whom all things were made;  
    who for us men and for our salvation  
    came down from heaven,  
    and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
    and was made man;  
    and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
    he suffered and was buried;  
    and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
    and ascended into heaven,  
    and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
    and he shall come again, with glory,  
    to judge both the quick and the dead;  
    whose kingdom shall have no end.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

## The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant and people pray 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

*Celebrant*      Alleluia, Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.  
*People*          **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

## The Invitation to Communion

*Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation*

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.

## The Postcommunion Prayer

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel or stand.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified;  
who spake by the Prophets.  
And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael; our Presiding Bishop, and Lawrence; Bishop of Long Island, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph, our President; Kathy, Our Governor, and Bill our Mayor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

### **The Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant*

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins  
and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon

you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Comforting Sentences**

#### **The Peace**

*Officiant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **The Liturgy of the Table**

### **The Offertory**

**All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

### **Sanctus and Benedictus qui venit**

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**