

## St. John's Episcopal Church Christmas Dedications

The Christmas Flowers at the Altar were given in the Glory of God  
and in Loving Memory Of

“My blessed Mother and Father, and their loving parents  
who took such wonderful care of us”  
dedicated by a loving son and grandson

Cecelie Hurley, William Greaves, and Greg Dimijian  
dedicated by Ellen Greaves & Penny Fitch

The Loved Ones of Ireton & Ficara Families  
dedicated by The Ireton & Ficara Families

Josephine & Warren Johnson and Linda Van Name dedicated by Judy Johnson

The Loved Ones of the Holme Family dedicated by The Holme Family

The Loved Ones of Rolston Family dedicated by Florence Rolston

The Departed Loved Ones dedicated by Gene & Diane Scanlon

Dorothy S. Gordon dedicated by Gloria Meyers

The Loved Ones of the Klemuk-Braun Family

Fred Kollhopp dedicated by Pat Kollhopp

Grace Lee White dedicated by Her Family



## St. John's Episcopal Church

100 South Main Street | P. O. Box 5068

Southampton, New York 11969-5068

(631) 283-0549



*Starry Night Sky* by Vincent Van Gogh

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 after Christmas December 31, 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.

## The Hymn of Praise

*The celebrant and people say together:*

**Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee,  
we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy,**

We are scheduled to provide lunch or pre-packaged snacks, drinks and desserts for our friends of Maureen's Haven on Saturday, January 13, 2024. We thank you for your generosity and willingness to spread God's love to our neighbors in need.

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**WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER:** In order to keep our church family abreast of our latest updates and church reminders, we send out a weekly e-newsletter. If you would like to be included on our email list, contact [secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org).

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:** Stay connected with the church and your friends by following us on our Facebook page: StJohnSouthampton. You can also worship online LIVE on Sundays.

**ONLINE GIVING:** Links are available on St John's Homepage at [stjohnsouthampton.org](http://stjohnsouthampton.org). You may also make an online gift by texting the keyword StJohnSouthampton to 73256 on your cell phone.

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## Help us to maintain our prayer intercession list.

The personal and collective intercessions we make asking our Lord to intercede in our lives and on behalf of others are a central aspect of our private and common worship. At St. John's we have always made an aural reading of our prayer list a part of our regular services. However, there comes with this an important responsibility to maintain it as current and accurate. To accomplish this we are asking our community to take that personal responsibility to heart in the following way:

We ask everyone to please let us know when someone should be added, removed, or otherwise amended on our prayer list. This is accomplished best by either dropping a note in the collection plate or by emailing or calling the parish secretary at (631) 283-0549 or [secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org).

To avoid a name being orphaned on the prayer list names will be removed after 60 days of being added, unless the parish secretary is contacted to extend that time for another 60 days. Of course, there is no limit to the number of persons we will faithfully include on our prayer list, nor a limit to the duration we will intercede on their behalf. This policy is to take special care in maintaining the names we bring before the Throne of Grace in prayer each time we gather together.

## Announcements



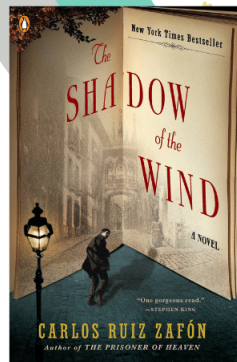
**ADULT FORMATION CLASS:** Fr. Patrick's 10 AM Sunday class will resume January 28, 2024. You can read more about "How We Should Read the Bible – The Genesis Story" on our website.

**CHRISTMAS II SCHEDULE:**

8AM Morning Prayer, Rite I  
9AM Morning Prayer, Rite II  
11 AM Morning Prayer, Rite I

### Book Club Meeting

Thursday, January 11 at 6:30 PM



St. John's Episcopal Church  
Southampton

Please message us or contact  
Deborah Edwards or Sandra J. Klemuk  
for more information.

**thou only art the Lord,  
thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

### The Collect

Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

*Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,

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

until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 147

### *Laudate Dominum*

#### 1 Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

#### 2 The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; \*

he gathers the exiles of Israel.

#### 3 He heals the brokenhearted \*

and binds up their wounds.

#### 4 He counts the number of the stars \*

and calls them all by their names.

#### 5 Great is our LORD and mighty in power; \*

there is no limit to his wisdom.

#### 6 The LORD lifts up the lowly, \*

but casts the wicked to the ground.

#### 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; \*

make music to our God upon the harp.

#### 8 He covers the heavens with clouds \*

and prepares rain for the earth;

#### 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*

and green plants to serve mankind.



## *Verse of the Week*

**“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,  
born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those  
who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as  
children”**

Galatians 4:4

## *“Quote of the Week”*

**“The earth has grown old with its burden of care, but at  
Christmas it always is young, the heart of the jewel burns lus-  
trous and fair, and its soul full of music breaks the air, when  
the song of angels is sung.”**



Phillips Brooks

American Episcopal priest and author, and long  
the Rector of Boston's Trinity Church and  
briefly Bishop of Massachusetts.

He wrote the lyrics for the Christmas hymn,  
*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

## 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 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.

10 He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
and for the young ravens when they cry.

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
in those who await his gracious favor.

13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;

14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.

15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.

17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?

19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

## Second Reading

*Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7*

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive

adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord

*People*      **Thanks be to God**

## The Gospel

*John 1:1-18*

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*Celebrant*    The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      **Praised be to Thee, O Christ.**

## The Sermon

**The Rev'd W. Patrick Edwards**

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 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 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 give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children. 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.  
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.

### 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 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.*