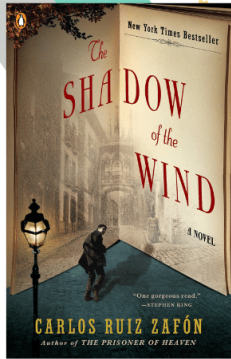


Book Club Meeting

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.

+++

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.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: Stay connected with the church and your friends by following us on our Facebook page: [StJohnSouthampton](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton). You can also worship online LIVE on Sundays.

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

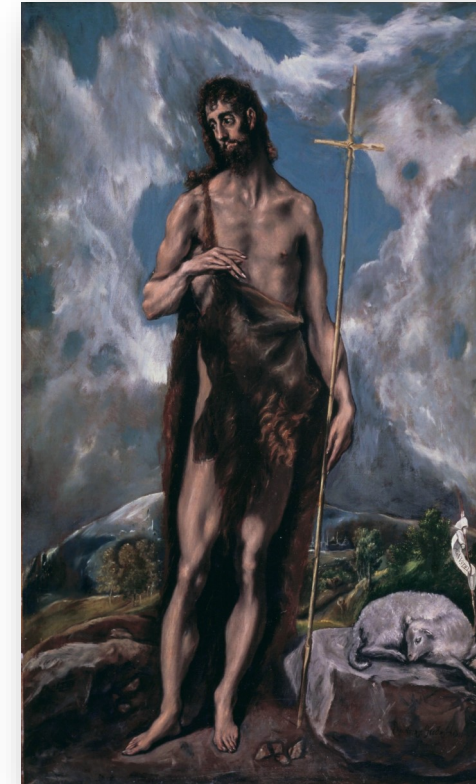
For Pastoral Emergencies, please contact Fr. Patrick at 404-660-3592.

St. John's Episcopal Church

100 South Main Street | P. O. Box 5068

Southampton, New York 11969-5068

(631) 283-0549



John the Baptist in the wilderness by El Greco

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

<u>Sunday Services</u>	<u>Weekday Services</u>
8:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite I	Monday – Friday
9:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II	7:30 A.M. – Morning Prayer, Rite I
11:00 A.M. - Morning Prayer	6:00 P.M. – Evening Prayer, Rite I
Holy Eucharist, Rite I first Sundays of the month	Wednesday
	10:00 A.M. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023 • 9:00 AM

Processional Hymn 65

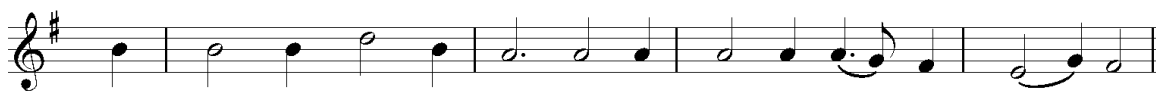
Prepare the way, O Zion



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Refrain
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Opening Acclamation

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect of Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **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!

Announcements



The graphic features a dark blue background with a yellow starburst icon on the left. The text is in yellow and white. At the bottom, there is a colorful illustration of the Nativity scene with the text "For unto us a child is born!" above it.

Christmas Pageant
December 24, 2023 · 3 PM
St. Andrew's Dune Church

For unto us
a child is born!

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 or 516-375-2290

Kyrie



The musical score is for a Kyrie, marked "In unison". It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us."

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”



Dedications

**The flowers at the Altar this week were given by
Ben and Pat Griffith in the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving
for their Children and Grandchildren.**



Verse of the Week

**“Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

**Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.”**

Psalm 85:9-10

“Quote of the Week”



**“Humility is not thinking less of
ourselves, but thinking of ourselves less.”**

William Laud

Archbishop of Canterbury and theologian

He was martyred by the puritan Parliamentarians for his
support of God’s anointed king, Charles I, and for his loyal
defense of the historic episcopacy

M. 10 January 1645

Closing Hymn 76

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

The Dismissal

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

See, the Lord God comes with might,
 and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
 and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
 he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,
 and gently lead the mother sheep.

The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Benedixisti, Domine

1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
 you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
 and blotted out all their sins.

8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
 for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
 and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
 that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
 righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
 and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
 and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
 and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Hymn 67

Comfort, comfort ye my people



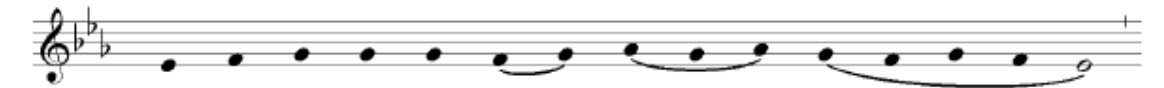
1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

Postcommunion Hymn 330

Therefore we, before him bending



5 There - fore we, be - fore him bend - ing,
6 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing



this great Sac - ra - ment re - vere;
to the Fa - ther and the Son,



types and sha - dows have their end - ing,
hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,



for the new - er rite is here;
while e - ter - nal a - ges run;



faith, our out - ward sense be - friend - ing,
ev - er too his love con - fess - ing



makes our in - ward vi - sion clear.
who from both with both is One.

Postcommunion Prayer

Officiant and People

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.

on us. O Lamb of God, that
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
 mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
 world, grant us thy peace.

The Invitation to Communion (BCP 364)

The Priest invites the people to Communion

Priest

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.

mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry
 ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;
 tell her that her sins I cov - er, er,
 let the val - leys rise to meet - him
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken
 and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 and the hills bow down to greet him.
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

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

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

The Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
 who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev’d W. Patrick Edwards

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,
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;

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.

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

People and Celebrant

**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.

Agnus Dei S158

O Lamb of God

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the high-est.

Then the Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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.

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.

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury;
 Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Lawrence our diocesan bishop;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, especially
 Joseph, our President; Kathy, our Governor; and Bill, our Mayor;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**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.**

The 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

Officiant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory

**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

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

Because you sent your 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 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:

Celebrant and People



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



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