

## The Blessing

## The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

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## 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



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

## St. John's Episcopal Church

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Southampton, New York 11969-5068

(631) 283-0549



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, Rite I

### 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

**Christmas Day**  
**December 25, 2023 • 10:00 A.M.**

**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**

*The Celebrant says*  
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.**

***Gloria in Excelsis***

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**

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

*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 and People*

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

**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.

**The Post Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

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 your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

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

*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. 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,

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **First Reading**

*Isaiah 52:7-10*

A Reading from the book by the prophet Isaiah

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,

who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;

for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;

for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;

and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

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

## Psalm 98

## Cantate Domino

**1 Sing to the Lord a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.**

**2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.**

**3 The Lord has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.**

**4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

**5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

**6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.**

**7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.**

**8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

**9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.**

**10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.**

## Second Reading

*Hebrews 1:1-12*

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Hebrews

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

## 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, Prayer A

*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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:

*The Celebrant and People say:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Leader* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*People* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Leader* For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael the Presiding Bishop,  
and Lawrence our Bishop and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*People* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Leader* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.  
*Silence*  
*The People may add their own petitions*

*Leader* Hear us, Lord;  
*People* **For your mercy is great.**

*Leader* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.  
*Silence*  
*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

*Leader* We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*People* **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Leader* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal  
kingdom.

*Silence*  
*The People may add their own petitions*

*Leader* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*People* **Who put their trust in you.**

*Leader* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins, devoutly kneeling.  
*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*  
**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be his Father,  
and he will be my Son”?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,  
and his servants flames of fire.”

But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

And,

“In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

they will perish, but you remain;  
they will all wear out like clothing;

like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same,  
and your years will never end.”

The Word of the Lord

*People* **Thanks be to God**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Gospel

*John 1:1-14*

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.

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

## Christmas Message

**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;  
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.**

### Prayers of the People. (Form VI)

*Leader* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.  
*Silence*

*Leader* For all people in their daily life and work;  
*People* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*Leader* For this community, the nation, and the world; we pray for those who govern and hold authority in this and every land, especially Joseph, our President, Kathy, our Governor, and Bill, our Mayor;  
*People* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Leader* For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*People* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Leader* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*People* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**