

# St. John's Episcopal Church

100 South Main Street | P. O. Box 5068  
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(631) 283-0549



*The Brazen Serpent* by Anthony van Dyck

**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	<b>Monday – Friday</b>
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	<b>Wednesday</b>
	10:00 A.M. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 10, 2024 • 9:00 AM

Processional Hymn 691

*My faith looks up to thee*

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

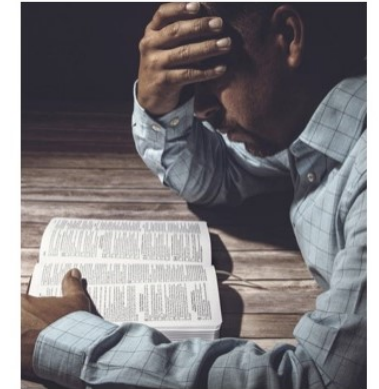
Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;  
*People* His mercy endures for ever.

# 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. Arn, 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!**



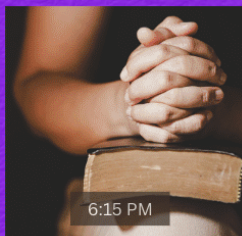
# St. John's Episcopal Church Lenten Suppers Series



Tuesdays • February 20, 27 • March 5, 12, 19

Join us for a series of potluck suppers followed by a video series on the history of sacred music. Ellen Grieves and Jean Mackenzie of Clamman have graciously offered to provide delicious soup, chowders, and bisques each week. For those who are able, please bring a side, salad, or bread to share.

This year's program will be a return of the series interrupted by Covid in 2020, a BBC production of the key evolution of church and sacred music featuring the world-famous classical vocal ensemble, The Sixteen. This BBC groundbreaking classical music programme follows renowned actor and former chorister Simon Russell Beale as he explores the flowering of Western sacred music. This four-part documentary series contains a rich mix of personal, political and musical stories and features some of the greatest music ever written, all performed by Harry Christophers and his award-winning choir, The Sixteen. A feast for the eyes as well as the ears including some of the world's most beautiful and notable places of worship in Christian history.



## Confession

*Celebrant* Let us humbly confess our sins unto God,  
*Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant 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.**

*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.**

## Trisagion

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

## The Collect

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

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

*Numbers 21:4-9*

A Reading from the Book of Numbers.

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord.

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

### Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

*Confitemini Domino*

**1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, \*  
and his mercy endures for ever.**

**2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim \***

## Announcements

**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](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](http://stjohnsouthampton.org). You may also make an online gift by texting the keyword [StJohnSouthampton](https://www.stjohnsouthampton.org) 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.

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

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

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## Verse of the Week

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

John 3:17-18

## Quote of the Week



“The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist.”

Saint Gregory the Great

The 64th Pope, he is known for instituting the first recorded large-scale mission from Rome, the Gregorian mission, to convert the then largely pagan Anglo-Saxons to Christianity.  
d. 12 March 604

that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

3 He gathered them out of the lands; \*  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.

17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; \*  
they were afflicted because of their sins.

18 They abhorred all manner of food \*  
and drew near to death's door.

19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, \*  
and he delivered them from their distress.

20 He sent forth his word and healed them \*  
and saved them from the grave.

21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy \*  
and the wonders he does for his children.

22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

## Second Reading

*Ephesians 2:1-10*

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

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the



immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Gospel Hymn 339

*Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness*

1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the  
 2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who  
 3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me

gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's  
 dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y  
 glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -

splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der  
 know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth;  
 vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;  
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
 fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,  
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,  
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -  
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, shield, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 thee, be thou still my strength and shield.  
 I will ev - er give to thee.

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,  
 he will give to all the faith - ful  
 that the powers of hell may va - nish  
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

our full hom - age to de - mand.  
 his own self for heaven - ly food.  
 as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

**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.

**Closing Hymn 690**

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this  
 at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me  
 from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how

won-drous ban - quet found - ed - high o'er all the heavens he  
 be a fit par - ta - ker of this bless - ed food from  
 vast and deep its trea - sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.  
 hea - ven, for our good, thy glo - ry, giv - en.  
 give me, as thy guest in heaven re - ceive me.

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

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

## The Gospel

*John 3:14-21*

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

*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;

**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* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

## The Invitation to Communion (BCP 364)

*The Priest invites the people to Communion*

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.

## Postcommunion Hymn 324

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence*



1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and  
2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on  
3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard  
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -  
earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man  
on the way, as the Light of Light de -  
sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the



mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood  
scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,  
Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,



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,

*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.**

**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.**

## **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.*

### The Peace

*Celebrant* 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.*

### Announcements

## 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.**

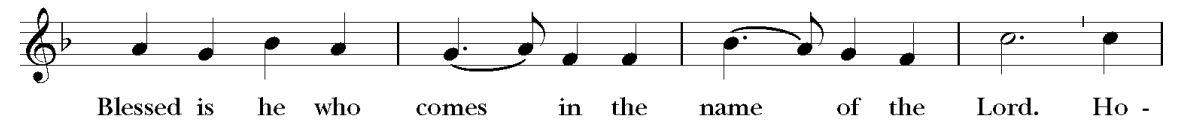
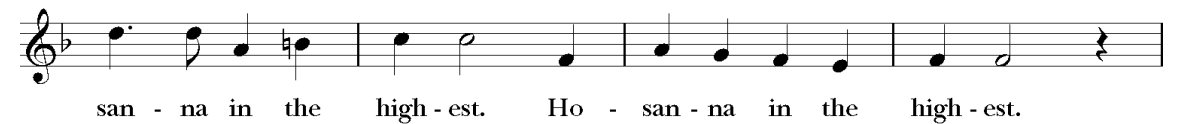
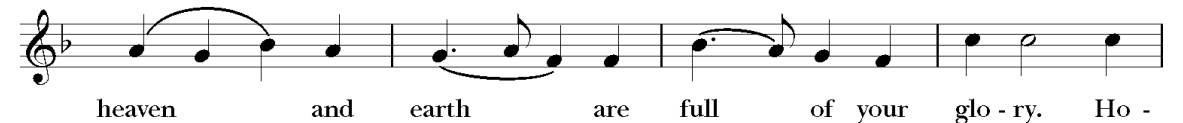
*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*  
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin.  
By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves  
alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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*



*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.