St. John's Episcopal Church 100 South Main Street | P. O. Box 5068 Southampton, New York 11969-5068 (631) 283-0549



The Meeting of Abraham and Melchizedek by Sir Peter Paul Rubens

Services are available online through Facebook Live: Facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton

Sunday Services	Weekday Services
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	Wednesday
of the month	10:00 A.M. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Fifth Sunday in Lent March 17, 2024 • 9:00 AM





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 "aught" 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!

Opening Acclamation

CelebrantBless the Lord who forgives all our sins;PeopleHis mercy endures for ever.

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.

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

Celebrant



The Collect

OfficiantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.OfficiantLet us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord. *People* Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:9-16

In quo corrigit?

9 How shall a young man cleanse his way? * By keeping to your words.

10 With my whole heart I seek you; * let me not stray from your commandments.

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.



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.

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. 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.

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.

11 I treasure your promise in my heart, * that I may not sin against you.

12 Blessed are you, O Lord; * instruct me in your statutes.

13 With my lips will I recite * all the judgments of your mouth.

14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees * than in all manner of riches.

15 I will meditate on your commandments * and give attention to your ways.

16 My delight is in your statutes; * I will not forget your word.

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

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

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you";

as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord *People* Thanks be to God

Gospel Hymn 529



The Dismissal

CelebrantLet us bless the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

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"No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more."

Jeremiah 31:34

e Quote of the Week ??



"We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest."

Archbishop Oscar Romero Prelate of the Roman Catholic Church and social justice advocate in El Salvador, martyred by an assassin while celebrating the Mass on 24 March 1980.



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

The Gospel

John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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;

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.**



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. 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	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



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

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd 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.

Oh Danny Boy

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.

OfficiantLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.PeopleIt 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:





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,

Then the Celebrant continues