

Sunday Services

9 AM • Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11 AM • Morning Prayer, Rite I
11 AM • Holy Eucharist, Rite I
(First Sundays each month)

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

For Pastoral emergencies, please contact Cn. Richard at (631) 974-4987 or
rvisconti@stjohnsouthampton.org

Interim Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Cn. Richard Visconti

The Vestry

Lisa Gillespie – Senior Warden
Bill McCoy – Junior Warden and Treasurer
Sandra Klemuk – Secretary
Kat Doherty
Jeanne Ferrer
Pat Griffith
Florence Rolston
Lisa Vahradian
Håkan Wohlin

Senior & Junior Wardens of the Vestry

warden@stjohnsouthampton.org

Lisa Gillespie
516-375-2290

Bill McCoy
718-762-6683

St. John's Office
Ursula Anderson
secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org or (631) 283-0549



St. John's Episcopal Church

A Parish in Southampton, NY that makes a difference



Adoration of the Shepherds by Bernardo Strozzi

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024 • Holy Eucharist, Rite II • 9 AM

100 South Main Street | Southampton, New York 11968 | (631) 283-0549

Welcome! May the peace of Christ fill your heart as you join us in worship today.
We invite you to open your heart and mind to the Word of God.

Prelude

Gathering Prayer

Processional Hymn 81

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

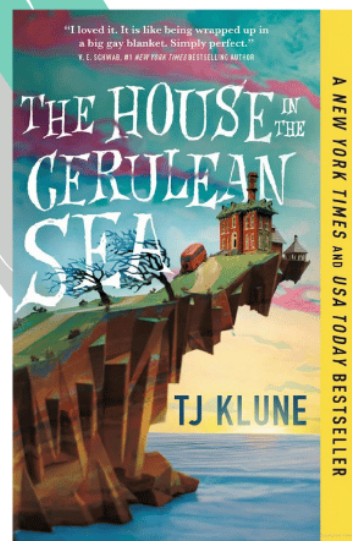
1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
To show God's love a - right, she bore to
true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

Book Club Meeting

Thursday, January 16 at 6 PM



St. John's Episcopal Church
Southampton

Please message us or contact
Sandra J. Klemuk or Ellen Greaves
for more information.

St. John's 2024 Outreach Recipients

In 2024, St. John's Outreach touched countless lives through the generosity of those who gave their time, prayers, and financial support. Your contributions made it possible to extend compassion and resources to individuals and communities in need, reflecting the true spirit of our mission. Below is a list of the recipients whose lives were impacted by your kindness and dedication.

- ARF
- SH Town Animal Rescue
- Fighting Chance
- K.I.N.D (Kids in Need of Desks)
- 3-Year school sponsorship for one child
- Open Arms Care Center
- Food Distribution Center in Riverhead
- East End Hospice Bridgehampton Childcare Center
- Heart of the Hamptons
- I TRI
- Island Gift of Life
- Julie Kremborg Scholarship Fund
- Paul Koster Memorial Fund
- Tunnel 2 Towers
- Time for Teens
- Samaritan's Purse
- World Central Kitchen
- Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry
- Heifer International

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

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.**

Hymn of Praise

Gloria in Excelsis

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**St. John's Episcopal Church
 Christmas Flowers**

Dedications will be included in the Christmas bulletins
 *Please indicate whether the offering is a memorial, thanksgiving, etc.

Dedication cards can be found at the Church.
 Please make checks payable to Saint John's Altar Guild.

**VOLUNTEERS
 NEEDED!**

READERS - GREETERS
 ALTAR GUILD - COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

St. John's is looking for dedicated parishioners to join us in our mission to to foster a welcoming and supportive community. If you have the passion to share God's love through service, connect with others, and enrich our parish life, we invite you to volunteer as a greeter, reader, altar guild member, or coffee hour host.

Questions? Ready to sign up?

- Please contact the following:**
- **Altar Guild:** Ellen Greaves at greaves631@yahoo.com
 - **Coffee Hour:** Sign up sheet in the Parish Hall or Ursula at (631) 283-0549 or secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org
 - **Reading/Greeting/Ushering:** Please contact Cn. Richard at (631) 974-4987 or rvisconti@stjohnsouthampton.org

Christmas SERVICE SCHEDULE



Children's Christmas Pageant at St. Andrew's
December 24 ▪ 3 PM

Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist, Rite II at St. John's
December 24 ▪ 7 PM

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist, Rite II at St. John's
December 25 ▪ 10 AM

St. John's Episcopal Church
100 S. Main Street, Southampton

St. Andrew's Dune Church
12 Gin Lane, Southampton

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

All are Seated

First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

A Reading from the book of Micah.

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,

from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,

whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15

Luke 1:46-55

The Song of Mary Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

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

When Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Announcements

Lessons & Carols



**Please join The Altar Guild
to decorate the church TODAY
after the 11 AM service.
Any and all are invited to join us
spread Christmas joy! ***

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

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Reflection

Keeping the Season of Advent

Advent IV

During this Season of Advent, taking our cue from our sanctuary Advent Wreath, we can reflect on four spiritual themes: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

On this Fourth Sunday in Advent, we focus on the theme of Love. There are only a few days remaining until the Messiah is with us. Let us remember that God became Man because of His love for us. We can respond to this love by preparing a hospitable, loving place for Him in our souls. What do you see as the gifts Jesus' birth brings into the world?

What can I do?

Where is God calling you to witness to salvation that was birthed into the world?
How is God calling you to hear and sing along with Mary's Song? Read Luke 1:39-55.

Pray along with the Collect for Advent 4, found on page 212 in The Book of Common Prayer. Pick three or four of your beloveds to focus your prayers on today. Make sure to leave some silent space for God to offer you some wisdom about what they may need right now.

Make sure you take some time out to rest with Baby Jesus — and marvel in the wonder of a fresh, new, clean, shiny, tiny, precious start. Thank God for the gift of Jesus and for peace at Christmas.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

All Stand

Gospel Hymn 66

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

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

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

The Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

All are seated

The Sermon

The Rev. Cn. Richard Visconti

All Stand

The 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

Closing Hymn 59

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

All Stand

Descant

2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

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.

Postcommunion Prayer

Officiant 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.

People Stand or Kneel

Advent Blessing

Priest May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People **Amen**

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 Form VI

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Lawrence, our diocesan bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

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

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

All Kneel

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;

The Invitation to Communion (BCP 364)

All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive the consecrated bread and/or wine. All are welcome to come up to receive a blessing.

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.

Postcommunion Hymn 76

On Jordan's Banks 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

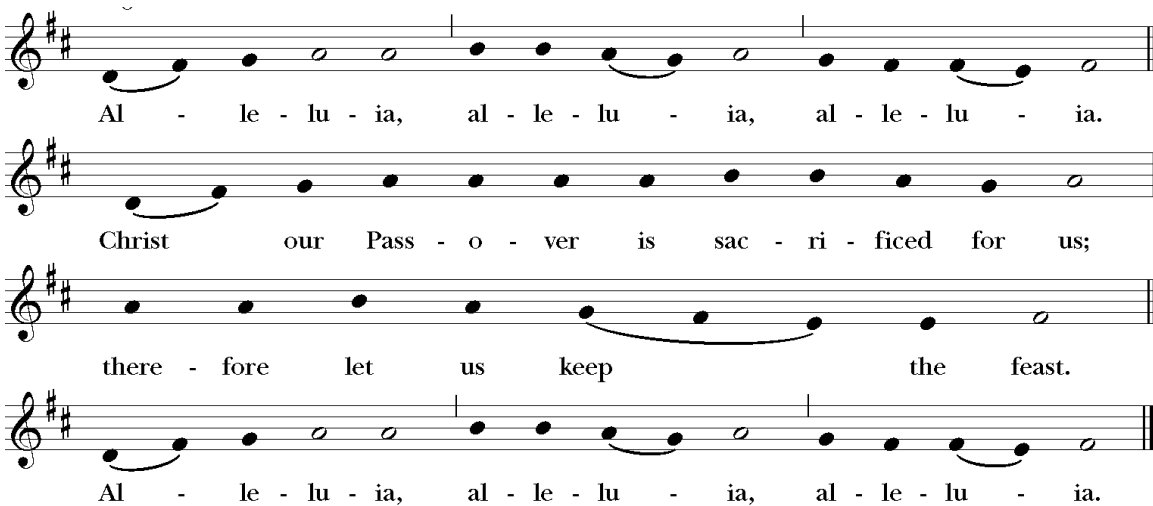
1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we

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



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**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.**

The Peace

All Stand

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.

All are seated

Announcements

Offertory

All Stand for Doxology

The Liturgy of the Table

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

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.
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.

The People Stand or Kneel

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John, Mary the Mother of Jesus and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our

Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,