

**St. John's Episcopal Church  
December 11, 2011**



*Welcome  
Home*

**No matter where you are** on your journey of faith,  
***you are always welcome*** at St. John's Church  
**and most importantly** *at God's table.*

## Welcome to St. John's

Whether you just walked in the door for the first time or have called St. John's home for years, "Welcome!" In this community of St. John's we strive to welcome ALL people. This is no small thing. It takes time and effort and we do not always do it as well as we might like, but we are intentionally striving to be a more welcoming community each and every day. Let us know how we are doing and what we can do better.

Each Sunday we do the one thing that sets us apart from most other organizations...we Worship. Our worship at its heart is an opportunity to gather together as a community around God's table and say "Thank you" to God for all we have been given. St. John's is a community that is on a journey. We ask questions, we wonder and we do not always have "The Answer" but together we practice gratitude, we learn to love, and we seek to serve the needs of the world.

We live in a world filled with activity where we are bombarded with information without pause. My prayer for us is that we more fully become a community where we can find a home, a spiritual home, where we can discover and tend the deep meaning of our lives. Thank you for helping to make this vision a reality!

Peace to you,



The Rev. Robert E. Stevens, Jr.

"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." *John 10:10*

### ***St. John's Stewardship Update for November***

As of today we have a total of **223 pledges** on our way to our **goal of 300**. Thank you very much for your pledge. If you have yet to submit your pledge, there is still time! Below is a link to the website where you can submit your pledge online or download the pledge card and send it in by mail. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for all you do to support the Building of our Spiritual Home at St. John's. Faithfully, The Vestry

Online pledge form/email submission:

<http://stjohnsnh.squarespace.com/2012-pledge-form/>

Downloadable/printable form:

<http://stjohnsnh.squarespace.com/storage/2012-Pledge-Form.pdf>

**8 AM THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE  
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Opening Acclamation	Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 323
Kyrie	BCP p. 324
The Collect	<i>see insert</i>
The First Reading	<i>see insert</i>
Psalm	<i>see insert</i>
The Gospel	<i>see insert</i>
The Sermon	The Rev. Jeffrey D. S. Thornberg
The Creed	BCP p. 326
The Prayers of the People	BCP p. 328
The Confession and Absolution	BCP p. 331
The Peace	BCP p. 332
Announcements	

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

Offertory	
Celebrant:	All things come of thee, O Lord.
<b>People:</b>	<b>And of thine own have we given thee.</b>
Eucharistic Prayer II	BCP p. 340
The Lord's Prayer	BCP p. 336
Angus Dei	BCP p. 337
Prayer of Humble Access	BCP p. 337
	<i>All are invited to come forward for communion.</i>
Post Communion Prayer	BCP p. 339
The Blessing	
Dismissal	



# 10:00 AM THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

Prelude: "Savior of the nations come"

J.S. Bach

## THE WORD OF GOD

Entrance Hymn: #65 "Prepare the way, O Zion"

BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

*The people standing, the Celebrant says:*

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

*People*

***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

*The Celebrant may say:*

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.***

Kyrie

*The Hymnal 1982*

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, Christ, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord,

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

### The Collect of the Day

*see insert*

*The Celebrant says to the people:*

The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect.*

*People* **Amen.**

### The Lessons

**The First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24** *see insert*

## Canticle 15: The Song of Mary (Magnificat)

*Congregation sings bold-faced verses*



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 pro|mise of mercy,

**The promise he made | to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his chil|dren 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 e|ver.  
Amen.

Sequence Hymn: #597 “O day of peace that dimly shines”  
(Verse 1) JERUSALEM

**Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28** *see insert*

Sequence Hymn: #597 “O day of peace that dimly shines”  
(Verse 2) JERUSALEM

**The Sermon** The Rev. Jeffrey D. S. Thornberg

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**

Rejoicing in the promise of Christ's arrival as a light in the darkness, let us join our voices together in celebration, thanksgiving, and intercession, saying: Lord of light, ***hear our prayer.***

We pray for all who lead, both in this nation, and the world. We pray especially for Barack, our president, for John, the governor of New Hampshire, for Paul, the governor of Maine, and for all elected officials. That the spirit of love, hope, and charity might touch all people, including those in positions of authority, let us pray: Lord of light, ***hear our prayer.***

We pray for the church, for Katherine, our presiding bishop, for Gene, our bishop, for this diocese as it searches for a new bishop, for our staff and clergy, for the vestry and wardens of this parish, and for all of its members. That we might celebrate the Spirit, raise up prophets in our midst, test everything, and hold fast to that which is good, let us pray: Lord of light, ***hear our prayer.***

This month, we pray for our efforts to reach out to those in need through our involvement in Loves Harvest Garden in Malawi. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Diocese of Western North Carolina. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Trinity Church, Hampton. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and the oppressed, and for all who are in need, both in this community, and in the world. We pray especially for Irene, Tracey, Catherine, Helma, Joan, Martha, Rosemarie, Don, Mallory, Charlotte, Mollie, Rick, Rita, Tom, Roger, Gloria, Ben and Family, Jim, Carolyn, Marilyn, Keith, Martha, Bernice, Kate, Michael, Anneliese, Amy, Mitch & Family, Eric, Yannah, Aviana, Sally, Jim, Gabriel, Amy and Family, Tenley, Susie, Phyllis, Marian, Pete, Jane, Myra, Babs, Anne, Maryann, Trip and Family, Christopher and Paul, Jon, Kris, Tali, Ben and Chips.

*People may add their own petitions.  
Silence may be kept.*

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

*Here any other intercessions may be added.  
Silence may be kept*

*Celebrant*

Pour your Spirit upon us, Oh Lord of light. May we be your beacons of peace and joy in the darkness of this world. Guide, console, and lead us to the one who is our peace and joy, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

BCP. 360

*The 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 Priest, stands and says*

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. The Celebrant says to the people

**People**            The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Our children join us during the Peace..

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem: "Jesu that dost in Mary dwell"    D. Pinkham

## The Great Thanksgiving    Eucharistic Prayer B    BCP. 367

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

Sursum corda

*The Hymnal 1982*

The image shows four lines of musical notation for the Sursum Corda prayer. Each line begins with a treble clef and a flat sign (B-flat major). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first line is for the Celebrant, the second for the People, the third for the Celebrant, and the fourth for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. 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 everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

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:

Sanctus

*The Hymnal 1982*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The musical score is written in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords that support the vocal melody. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -".

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed 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 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."

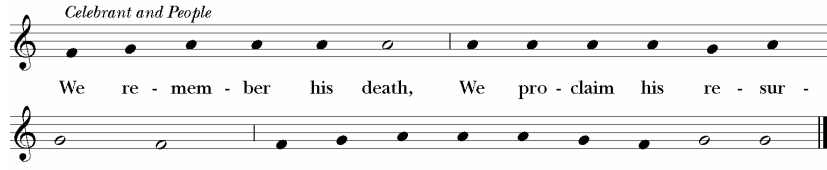
*The Hymnal 1982*

*Celebrant*



There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

*Celebrant and People*



We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -  
rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

*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 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,

*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**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

### **Fraction Anthem**

*The Hymnal 1982*

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.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:*

*and may add* 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.

Communion Anthem: "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree" M. Archer

Communion Hymn: #444 "Blessed be the God of Israel"  
THORNBURY

*After Communion, the Celebrant says:*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant 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.**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: #72 "Hark! the glad sound! the Savior  
comes" RICHMOND

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**People Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: "In Dulci Jubilo" J.S. Bach

***The Worship is over. The Service begins.***

## Participants

### At 8:00 Service:

Lector: *Charlie Nichols* Eucharistic Ministers: *Charlie Nichols, Jane Holway*

### At 10:30 Service:

Lector: *Sharon Jenkins* Intercessor: *Pat Baker*  
Eucharistic Ministers: *Sharon Jenkins, Pat Baker, Ken Moore*  
Ushers: *Jack Meffen Head Usher, Bob Mennel, Randy Carey, Wendy Cote, Judy Perley*  
Altar Guild: *Helen Gettleman, Myrt Moore, Bertha Rocray, Mary Walker, Jim Zuckerman*  
Music: *Parish Choir*

## Announcements – December 11, 2011

### COMMON TABLE OFFERS FREE CHRISTMAS MEAL DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> at 3PM

All are welcome on December 25<sup>th</sup> at 3pm for a holiday meal with all the trimmings prepared by chef Scott Massidda, his family and volunteers. If you would like to dine, please reserve space(s) with Joanne in the office at 436-8283 or at [administrator@stjohnsnh.org](mailto:administrator@stjohnsnh.org).

If you would like to help, we need:

- ◆ 16 Homemade pie bakers
- ◆ Volunteers to help set up at 1pm, serve the meal and help clean up too!

Contact Judy or Lew Roberts at 603-778-2357 or email [lj7222@comcast.net](mailto:lj7222@comcast.net)

### **The Sharing Foundation Craft Sale**

Cambodian crafts will be on sale at Coffee Hour, this Sunday after services, to benefit children and families in Cambodia supported by The Sharing Foundation. The handmade items are wonderful gifts and funds raised will help support the children at Roteang Orphanage, the farming cooperative, sewing school and numerous other projects. Please consider purchasing a gift that will help care for Cambodia's children in need.

**Christmas Memorial Altar Flowers Chart:** will be posted on the notice board in the narthex starting Thanksgiving week. Place the people's name "In Memory Of" on the chart and person placing the name in "Donated By" column, so if I have any question I know who to contact. If you want to enter "In Honor Of" on the Chart please write "In Honor Of" along with the name in the "In Memory Of" column. There is also the form below you can fill out and mail to Ginny Edwards. Or you can call or email the form or information to Ginny Edwards, I will see to it the names are put on the list. Please make donation check out to St. John's Altar Guild and mail it to Ginny Edwards, 173 Farmer Road, Eliot, ME. 03903. Thank You. Ginny Edwards 207-439-2119 or [edwardsga@msn.com](mailto:edwardsga@msn.com). The Chart will be taken down on Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> and also need e-mails by Sunday, if you mail the names I need to have it by Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup> so I have time to compile the list for the Christmas Service Programs. Thank you Ginny

**Christmas Memorial Altar Flower**



In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Donated Of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please made donation checks out to **St. John's Altar Guild** and mail to Ginny Edwards 173 Farmer Road, Eliot, ME 03903

## SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

**DEC. 18th:** ADVENT 3. CHRISTMAS PAGEANT (PREP.) & "Peace". Here's what happens, at 9:00AM the children will gather in Thaxter Hall to dress for the Christmas Pageant. ALL children are invited to participate! The children's choir will have speaking and singing parts but all the children can dress as animals and angels to participate. The pageant will be during the sermon portion of the service on Dec. 18th.  
***NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO FORMAL SUNDAY SCHOOL.***

### **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR WEDNESDAY PROGRAM ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

Dec. 25, Dec. 28, Jan. 1, Jan. 4

\*\*\* **DEC. 21st:** THERE WILL BE A BRIEF CHOIR REHEARSAL AND ART PROJECT

**DEC. 21st:** St. John's Kids (SJK!) an INTRO to Youth Group for 4th & 5th graders.

From 5:30 - 7pm we will do a "funny" Yankee Swap. Bring a wrapped gift worth \$5.- or less for an exchange and a gift \$5.- or less for us to donate to Families First. Meet in Thaxter Hall on 12/21/11!

### **Help be a part of this Outreach Ministry!**

Looking for a few parishioners to help keep St. John's Thrift Shop open on Wednesdays from 1:00 to 3:30 pm. This will allow the shop to be open all day (from 9-5pm).

Contact Annie Rainboth 430-8066 or Judy Roberts 778-2357.

## The Giving Tree



See the Christmas tree in Thaxter Hall for opportunities to share the spirit of Christmas with a family in need.

## **Adult Forum Topics**

**December 11:** Do you often find yourself saying, "I'm so busy" or "I just have so much to do"? It's easy to get overwhelmed with appointments, gatherings, to-do lists. But what are we really doing with our time? We're doing so many things, a little bit of everything, and yet it doesn't feel like much of a life. But most of us find it hard to say no. We feel obligated. There are so many good things to do. So many good causes to join. But while we're busy doing all these good things, are we missing out on something great? Maybe saying no would be easier if we knew what it meant to say yes.

**December 18:** God loves everyone, so a Christian should, too. In fact, Jesus said that the most important thing in life is to love God with everything we've got and love other the same way. But it's not always easy to love everyone around us, is it? Sometimes we strongly disagree with other people's political views, religious beliefs, behaviors, or something else, and it makes it hard to love them when we feel like we're right and they're very wrong. But Jesus doesn't separate loving God and loving others. So maybe the best way for us to show our love for God is actually by loving other people no matter how hard it sometimes is. Maybe it's the only way.

### ***The Outreach Committee needs to hear from you ...***

Each December, the Outreach Committee decides how to disburse our remaining funds and we're asking for input from the St. John's community. Last year's recipients were Seacoast Family Promise, Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, and the NH Food Bank. Additionally, we supported our Millennium Development Goal of reducing extreme global poverty and hunger by funding an agricultural and animal husbandry project in a village in Malawi, and through The Sharing Foundation and their development of a farming cooperative at a Cambodian orphanage. If there is an agency whose ministry you believe could be bolstered by our support, please speak with Susan Lassen, Lew or Judy Roberts, or Ann Tarlton.

### **Sunday, December 18 Christmas Pageant**

10am Rite II - Christmas Pageant

## **Clergy, Staff & Wardens**

The Rev. Robert E. Stevens, Jr., *Rector*  
The Rev. Jeffrey D.S. Thornberg, *Associate Rector*  
The Rev. G. Richard Siener, DD, *Assisting Priest*  
Dr. Abbey Hallberg Siegfried, *Music Director*  
Amy Dutton, *Christian Education Director*  
Joanne Ferguson, *Office Administrator*  
Lory Pratt, *Bookkeeper*  
Chris Sieve, *Senior Warden*  
Scott Osgood, *Junior Warden*  
Peter Tarlton, *Treasurer*  
Dani Megliola, *Clerk*  
*Vestry: Jim Breen, Bruce Dicker, Kathy Flygare,*  
*Susan Fockler, Chris Kozak, Robert Mood,*  
*Margaret Sofio, John Tabor, Anna Kay Vorsteg*

## **Office Information**

*The Parish Office is open Mon-Thurs, from 9 AM to 3 PM*  
Telephone (603) 436.8283  
Fax (603) 433.2714  
Website [www.stjohnsnh.org](http://www.stjohnsnh.org)  
Email [administrator@stjohnsnh.org](mailto:administrator@stjohnsnh.org)

## **Worship Schedule**

### **Thursdays**

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist & Healing Service

### **Sundays**

8 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:00 AM Adult Christian Education  
9:30 AM Children and Adult Christian Education  
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II w/ Parish Choirs  
11:00 AM Coffee Hour

