



~ **St. John's Church** ~
Weekly News
November 22, 2023

Readings for Sunday, Nov. 26, 2023
Christ the King Feast

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 95: 1-7a

Ephesians: 1:15-23

Matthew 25: 31-36

Loose Plate Offering
Rector's Discretionary Fund

Letter from Diane
Thanksgiving 2023

My Dear Friends,

In the midst of all the heartbreak that is happening around us it seems to me that its vital for us to PAUSE during this Thanksgiving week and deeply take in the many miracles of life around us and the great good fortune that most of us enjoy.

It's easy to list our blessings but I'm thinking that it's important for us to go deeper than that. I'm thinking that we are called to relax after the gatherings with all their chaotic energy and joy, food and lively conversations, connecting with grandchildren and watching them unfold and getting to know who they are becoming. I'm thinking that this an important opportunity for us to sit back and relax, to reflect on the ways God enriches our lives and calls us to respond to those many blessings. I'm thinking that it's a good time to recognize how we are constantly fed by our good fortune and blessings and how we are made wiser and more compassionate by our challenges. I'm thinking that this is a golden opportunity to take a look at the arc of our lives; the things that grew us and the things that stopped us in our tracks until we could figure out how to get through and beyond the hurdles.

It's way too easy to clean up the dishes, put them away and say "Next!" But I'm suggesting that we don't move quite so quickly into the next endeavor but rather give ourselves a couple of days of quiet reflection. Let's also invite God into our reflections, see what God wants to point out, discover what we can learn from our own lives deeply considered.

May this week be a deeply lived blessing and a glorious Thanksgiving.

With much gratitude and love,

Diane

Holy Eucharist on Sunday

Rev. Lyn Burns will be the Officiant. Please welcome her to our St. John's community. She will also be with us on Christmas Eve. Lyn, thank you for coming to be with us!

The Feast of Christ the King

The solemnity of Christ the King reminds us that Christ has power over all human beings and creatures and governments may come go but Christ reigns forever. During this difficult time, with the conflict over the Gaza Strip between Israel and Palestine raging, this feast reminds us that Christ does indeed reign over all. The Earth and all its inhabitants cry out for its Savior.

On this occasion the white altar hangings and vestments will take the place of Pentecostal green.

Mark Your Calendars

St. John's Church and the Essex Community Church will have Lessons and Carols at 4 PM on Dec. 16th at St. John's

Christmas Eve Service will be at 4 PM on Sunday, Dec. 24th. Christmas Eve is also the 4th Sunday in Advent. The officiant will be Rev. Lynne Burnes

Sunday, Dec. 31st St. John's will have its own Lessons and Carols in Anglican tradition along with the 10 AM Holy Eucharist.

Prayers

For Those in Need or Any Kind of Distress

Nancy, Abra, Mike, Beverly, Noa, Lillian, Chris, Rae, Olivia, Cheryl, Larry, Steven, Tom, Karen, Sally, Chris, Lynne, Eve.

Stanley Jankowski, much beloved by his son Bruce Stephan, died on Nov. 14th after a long illness. Bruce and Joan will be staying on Long Island for the foreseeable future in order to care for his mother. Please keep Bruce and his family in your prayers.

Search Prayer

Dear Lord, grant us your wisdom and guidance as we embark upon our search process. Help us to humbly discern and accomplish your will for St. John's. We know this will be a challenging journey for all of us, but we pray that it will strengthen our faith and our respect and love for each other. Help us to share more deeply our faith in you as we learn to listen to each other with open hearts and minds and to hear your voice in all that we say and do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Meditation

There will be no Meditation this week due to Thanksgiving. Recently the meditation group decided to have their gathering start at 4 PM rather than 5 PM. As always, they begin with words from the founder of the World

Community of Christian Meditation, John Main, via his book *Silence and Stillness in Every Season*, and then they meditate for 20 minutes. This is followed by a reading from Psalms and a reflection on either Scripture or writings of Richard Rohr. We end with Compline, the last prayer of the night in the monastic tradition. Please consider joining the group in Persell Hall or via zoom. For further information call Bobbi Perez (518-837-1015).

History Tidbit Part 3

Aug. 28, 1854

The Wardens and Vestry Men met at the Chapel in Essex and HH Ross was chosen Moderator of the meeting. A formal lease for the Chapel was drawn up and accepted by HH Ross. A subscription to pay for the services of Rev. F.C. Putnam and Rev. E. Cooper was approved. Henry A. Gould was appointed Clerk and Treasurer and D.E. Rogers was engaged as sexton. Rev. Cooper and HH Ross were authorized to raise monies to furnish the Chapel at Boquet.

Oct. 30, 1854

It was resolved that it is the desire of the of this church (Chapel) that a missionary station shall be established in Essex and that the Rev. Edmund Cooper be appointed to that station. [The designation church and chapel seemed to have been used interchangeably.]

April 9, 1855

It was unanimously resolved that the Rev. Edmund Cooper be selected Rector of the Church and thereafter he signified his acceptance and command discharging the duties of presiding office. [This implies that the rector presided over vestry meetings as is the usual case today.]

Sept. 10, 1855

C.A. Martin, W.H. Low and H.N. Gould were appointed delegates to the Diocesan convention during which they would inform that bishop that Rev. Cooper had been elected as rector.

March 24, 1856

Rev. Cooper tendered his resignation as Rector at St. John's. The vestry accepted his resignation and stated that the vestry of St Johns Church expresses the unanimous feeling of the Parish in saying that your resignation of the office of Rector is accepted with great reluctance & regret, Regret arising not only from the severance of the very pleasant personal relations which have always existed between yourself and the members of this Church & Community but most of all because we see our church prospering & gaining strength under your charge. We consent but feel deeply saddened by an event which deprives us of the benefit of the unsurpassed industry & zeal with which you have labored among us in the cause of our Church & our

Redeemer. We are confident that nothing but a sense of duty on your part could have caused our separation and we trust that our Heavenly Father will bless you with health strength and enable you to engage in that wider missionary field to which you have devoted yourself. [This is a perfect example of the florid manner in which they wrote at this time.]

Dec. 2, 1856

A resolution was passed requesting HH Ross to invite the Rev. Edmund Cooper of California to return on the same conditions as previously and that he take pastoral charge of this Church. [Rev. Cooper had gone to California at the very end of the Gold Rush and had probably been drawn to make the arduous journey overland or by crossing Panama in order to reach his destination as so many others were doing. Many missionaries were imbued with a sense that they should take part in the opening of the new territories during the westward movement and they were "called" to be there to bring the Holy Spirit to these adventurers who might well be potential "heathens".

Vestry Highlights

At the October 19, 2023 Vestry meeting the following took place:

- Treasurer, Antonia Bullard, and Finance Committee Chair, Louise Baietto presented for review a new and more streamlined format for reporting church operating finances which was unanimously accepted. They announced that they will continue to make changes that will streamline financial reporting and make it clearer, and these will be presented for vestry review.**
- The Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair also presented Resolutions for an update of signers on the DFMS and Morgan Stanley accounts which were approved. Signer changes for the accounts at Champlain National Bank had been taken care of previously.**
- Antonia, Louise and Nancy Sherman will be working with Michael Bouldice, CPA, from Boulrice & Wood in order to streamline various aspects of our recording and reporting operations.**
- Diane Nancekivell announced that she will continue to be our officiant on the first 2 Sundays of the month, a supply priest will be with us on the 3rd Sunday and Morning Prayer will be held on the 4th Sunday.**
- Diane will be attending a listening session with Bishop-Elect Jeremiah and invited vestry members to submit questions to her prior to the meeting on Nov. 2nd.**
- Vestry members and parishioners were invited to submit names of loved ones who are deceased prior by Nov. 1st. The names will be read out at the All Soul's Service on Nov. 5.**
- Funeral and Columbarium policies were approved by the vestry. Copies of these are available upon request.**

St. John's Zoom Passcodes

St. John's Sunday Service

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/worshipmeet>

Morning Prayer

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/morning-prayer>

Vestry Meetings

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/vestrymeet>

Finance Committee

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/financemeet>

Contemporary Bible Study

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/biblestudy>

Meditation

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/meditationmeet>

Sunday Service Zoom Recording

stjohnsessexnyzoom@gmail.com

Passcode: +W2t+Fwu

AA 12-Step Meeting

Zoom Meeting ID: 817 7797 4233

Passcode: 123456

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday Contemporary Bible Study (Zoom) 9:30 - 10:30 AM

Tuesday Community Potluck Supper 6 PM

Wednesday Meditation (Zoom/In Person) 5 PM

Thursday Morning Prayer (Zoom) 10 AM

Sunday Holy Eucharist 10 AM (Zoom/in person)

Sunday AA Meeting (Zoom/In Person) 7 PM

Your Vestry

Scottie Emery-Ginn and Bill Tribou (Wardens)

Louise Baietto, Bruce Hale, Diana Lawrence, Jon McBride

Bruce Stephan, and Julie Wever (Members)

Darcey Hale (Clerk)

Antonia Bullard (Treasurer)