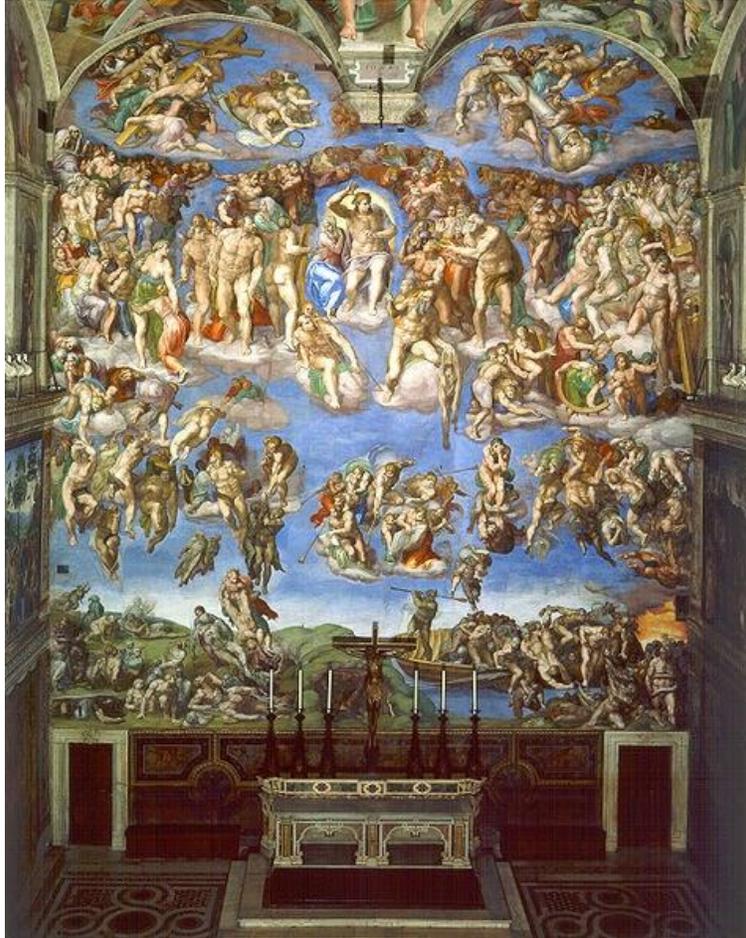


# Welcome to St. John's Church



*"The Last Judgment," 1534-41, Michelangelo*

## The First Sunday of Advent

*December 1, 2024*

*8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.*

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**Parish Office Telephone:** (860) 868-2527

**Parish Office Hours:** *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

**St. John's Email:** [stjohnschurch@snet.net](mailto:stjohnschurch@snet.net)

**St. John's Website:** <http://stjohnswashington.com/>

**St. John's YouTube Page:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## *The Liturgy of the Word of God and Celebration of the Holy Communion*

**Choral Prelude**                      *Dominus dabit*                      Johann Joseph Fux (1660-1741)

*Translation: The Lord shall shew loving-kindness: and our land shall give her increase.*

### The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

**Opening Hymn # 64**      *O Heavenly Word, Eternal Light*



1 O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light, be - got - ten  
2 pour light up - on us from a - bove, and fire our  
3 and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh the se - crets  
4 O let us not, for e - vil past, be driv - en  
\* 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the



1 of the Fa - ther's might, who in these lat - ter days wast  
2 hearts with ar - dent love, that, as we hear thy truth to -  
3 of our hearts to try, to rec - om - pense each hid - den  
4 from thy face at last, but with thy saints for ev - er -  
5 Spi - rit, ev - er One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry



1 born for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;  
2 day, all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;  
3 sin and bid the saints their reign be - gin;  
4 more be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.  
5 be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

*Celebrant*      Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People*              ***You come to your people and set them free.***

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.**

## The Trisagion S # 102

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has two staves: a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The vocal line contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,'. The piano accompaniment features a series of chords in the left hand and a melodic line in the right hand. The second system also has two staves. The vocal line contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.' The piano accompaniment continues with similar chordal and melodic patterns. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

God be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## The Readings

*INTRODUCTION: In this reading from the Hebrew Scriptures, the Lord's promise to the House of Israel and Judah is reaffirmed, foreseeing the arrival of a messianic figure, a righteous branch who will execute justice and serve the people.*

### **A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (33:14-16)**

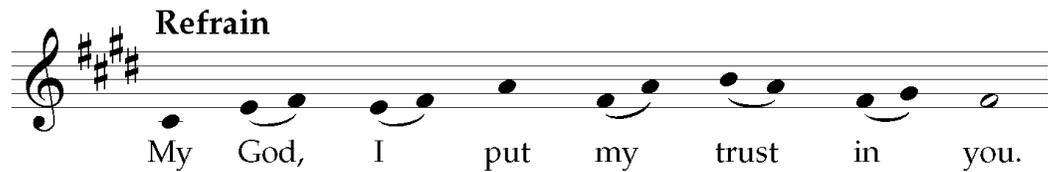
The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord.

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

## Psalm 127

*the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain.*



1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness,  
O Lord.

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

*INTRODUCTION: In this New Testament reading, the Apostle Paul expresses his gratitude to God for his disciples in Thessalonica and tells these followers of his prayers for them.*

### **A Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Thessalonians (3:9-13)**

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

People

*Thanks be to God.*

**Gradual 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.

*INTRODUCTION: In our Gospel reading, Jesus tells his disciples of the awe-inspiring crisis to come, which they may recognize as the beginning of the time of their redemption.*

**The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ  
according to St. Luke (21:25-36)**

People

*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and

drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*People Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **The Sermon**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, priest-in-charge

## **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,*

*was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary*

*and became truly human.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;*

*he suffered death and was buried.*

*the third day he rose again*

*in accordance with the Scriptures;*

*he ascended into heaven*

*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,*

*who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,*

*who 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 Lord will come and will not keep silent, gathering us as children of God into the kingdom of his love. In anticipation of the one who saves us, we offer our prayers, responding to each petition by saying, "Come, Lord Jesus."

### **The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers**

+ Architect of creation and Maker of all things, channel our vision, that the perplexities and distresses of this modern age may call forth our creative response as we await the age to come; for this we pray.

***Come, Lord Jesus.***

+ Physician of the sick, assist those who suffer from diseases that ravage body and soul, especially Kathy Coe, Joanne Beattie, Dawn Rosiello, Dan Raudenbush, and Bingo Wyler, enlighten the understandings of research scientists, and guide us into models of effective health care for all your people; for this we pray.

***Come, Lord Jesus.***

+ Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, that we may be sure signs of hope to the hungry, the homeless, and all who live with unrelenting fear and anxiety; for this we pray.

***Come, Lord Jesus.***

+ Eternal Wisdom, pour upon the leaders of Church and State the wise judgment needed in these challenging times, and awaken them to the truth and power of your word and love; for this we pray.

***Come, Lord Jesus.***

+ Holy Lord, keep us awake to the worrying signs that are placed before us, strengthen us in our life of prayer and devotion, and give us the integrity to stand firm in your presence; for this we pray.

***Come, Lord Jesus.***

+ Gracious God, be with those who have died in the faith, and welcome them into your eternal rest and peace at last; for this we pray.

***Come, Lord Jesus.***

+ God of earthly rhythms, arouse us to the movements of the natural order and to the spiritual voices of this Advent season, instilling within us a deep longing for the birth of Christ within our hearts; for this we pray.

***Come, Lord Jesus.***

In confidence that the turmoil of the present age will usher in a new order of God's reign and dominion over all, let us continue our prayers, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the ways of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

***The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the confession***

***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*

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of God be always with you.

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

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **The Holy Communion**

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,  
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2.*

**Offertory** *Drop Down, Ye Heavens* George Alexander Macfarren (1813-1887)

*Text: Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation.*

**The Great Thanksgiving**

God be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* ***We lift them to the Lord.***

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord God.

*People* ***It is right to give our 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, 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:

**Sanctus**

*Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

***The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer***

*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. 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:

*Christ has died.*

*Christ is risen.*

*Christ will come again.*

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.*

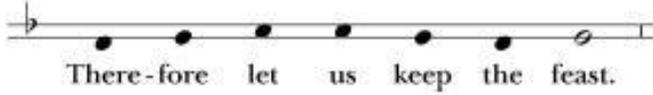
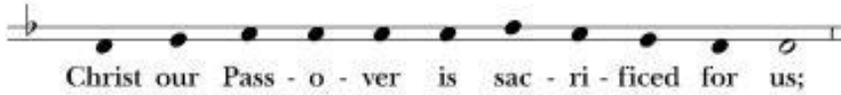
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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.*

**Fraction Anthem S # 153**

*Christ Our Passover*

Willan



**Agnus Dei**

*Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

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

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.

*All baptized Christians of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive Communion in this place. This is God's house and the Lord's table, not ours*

**INSTRUCTIONS:** *Those wishing to receive Communion should come forward to the Altar rail as directed. Please speak with an Usher if you need to receive Communion in the pew. The consecrated host will be placed in the hands or upon the tongue of the recipient, as desired. If one wishes intinction, then either the chalice bearer or the communicant may take the host and dip it in the wine. Otherwise, communicants may sip from the chalice, assisting by taking hold of its base. If the communicant does not wish to receive the wine, one can simply cross their arms across their chest after receiving the bread so to indicate.*

**Communion Hymn # 316**

*This is the Hour of Banquet and of Song*



1 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;  
 2 Too soon we rise; we go our sev - eral ways;  
 3 Feast af - ter feast thus comes and pass - es by,



this is the heaven - ly ta - ble spread for me;  
 the feast, though not the love, is past and gone,  
 yet, pass - ing, points to the glad feast a - bove,

here let me feast, and feast - ing, still pro - long the  
the Bread and Wine con - sumed: yet all our days thou  
giv - ing us fore - taste of the fes - tal joy, the

brief, bright hour of fel - low - ship with thee,  
still art here with us— our Shield and Sun.  
Lamb's great mar - riage feast of bliss and love.

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

***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.***

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing*

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn # 397     *Now Thank We All Our God*

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,  
2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us!  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,  
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
e - ter - nal, Tri - une God, whom earth and heaven adore;  
with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ev - er - more.

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People*

***Thanks be to God.***

**Postlude**

## **Worship Ministers Today:**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant & Preacher*

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

Jay Bauer: *8:00 Reader*

Sara Coles: *10:00 Reader*

MB Witt: *Chalicer*

Laura Daly: *VeeJay*

MB Witt, Susie Magee: *Altar Guild*

Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers/Greeters*

Karen Saxe: *Coffee Hour*

## **ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

### **Vestry**

Mary Davis, Worth Bracken: *Wardens*

David Gillespie: *Treasurer*

Andris Kalnins: *Assistant Treasurer*

Justin Ormand: *Clerk*

### *Class of 2024*

Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

### *Class of 2025*

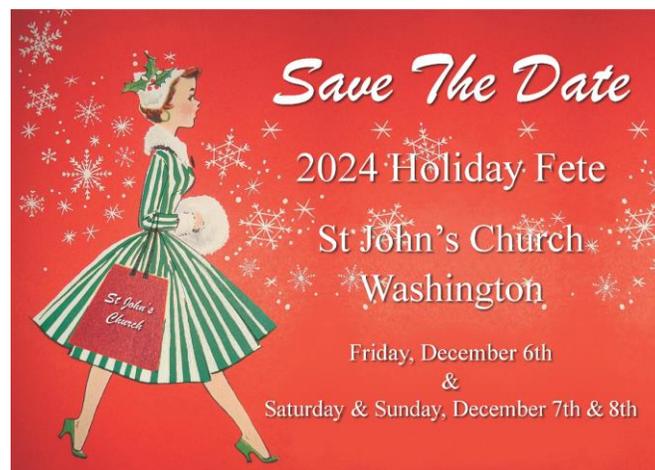
MB Witt, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins

### *Class of 2026*

Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Justin Ormand

**Diocesan Delegates:** Sara Coles, MB Witt

Laura Daly: **Alternate**





THE KENT SINGERS

*Once, as I  
Remember*

*poetry & carols for the season*

Saturday, Dec. 7, 3pm

Sunday, Dec. 8, 3pm

St. Andrew's Church | Kent CT

Tickets: \$20 @ [kentsingers.org](http://kentsingers.org)  
or at the door

with the support of the Department of Economics and Community  
Development, Office of the Arts, which also receives support from  
the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency





# **TRADITIONAL NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**

**SUNDAY  
December 15, 2024  
4:00 p.m.**

*Open to the public*

St. John's Episcopal Church  
78 Green Hill Road  
Washington, CT 06793