



~ **St. John's Church** ~  
**Weekly News**  
**December 20, 2023**

**Readings for Sunday, Dec. 24, 2023**  
**The Third Sunday in Advent**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**Holy Eucharist**

**Rev. Lyn Burns, Officiant**

**Isaiah 62: 6-12**

**Psalm 97: 1-12**

**Titus 3: 4-7**

**Luke 2: 8-20**

**Loose Plate Offering**

## Rector's Discretionary Fund

### Mark Your Calendars

The Christmas Eve Service will be at 4 PM on Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>. Christmas Eve is also the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent. The officiant will be Rev. Lyn Burns. A supper will follow the service. You may indicate a contribution to the meal on the sign up sheet in Persell Hall or by emailing Carole Harsh at bobcaroleharsh@gmail.com.

Sunday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> St. John's will have a service of Lessons and Carols in the Anglican tradition along with the 10 AM Holy Eucharist. The officiant will be The Very Reverend Diane Nancekivell.

Sunday, Jan. 28 Bishop-Elect Jeremiah Williamson will be the officiant at Holy Eucharist. This is a huge honor for St. John's!

### Christmas Eve Service

We look forward to welcoming the Rev. Lyn Burns to St. John's once again. Thank you so much Lyn for giving up time on this very special evening to be with us. Because of her tight timetable she must take the 5:30 ferry to be with her family in Vermont so she will not be able to linger to greet us after the service

We also want to extend a special thank you to the musicians who are sharing their talents with us to make this service so very special. Our appreciation goes to Michael Bergman, cantor; Robin Cameron-Philips, flute; Janice Kyle, Oboe; Janine Scherline, clarinet; and of course our own Jennifer Moore, organist and music director.

### Christmas Eve Supper

Immediately following the service there will be an opportunity for parishioners to gather in Persell for libations, a tasty repast and conversation as we gather together to mingle and wish each other a very Merry Christmas. There are still opportunities to bring a dish or a beverage. If you would like to do this please call Carole Harsh at 518-637-2622.

### Ecumenical Lessons and Carols

St. John's and the Essex Community Church presented a lovely ceremony of Lessons and Carols last Saturday afternoon. The readers of the lessons were excellent and the music was beautifully enhanced by soprano Amy

Nelson who was accompanied by Jennifer Moore at the organ. Special thanks go to Bobbi Perez and Jane TerLouw and others who spent many hours planning this event.

## **Prayers For Those in Need or Any Kind of Distress**

Geoffrey, Lois, Art, Joyce, Abra, Mike, Beverly, Noa, Lillian, Chris, Rae, Olivia, Cheryl, Larry, Steven, Tom, Karen, Sally, Chris, Lynne, Eve, Anne and Ella.

## **The Elves Have Been At Work**

Many thanks to those who helped to decorate the church following last Sunday's service. It looks festive and beautiful! The garlands are strung across the rood screen, the sconces are adorned with greens and ribbons, candle lights are in the windows and red ribbons adorn the wreaths on the doors. Outside there is the prettiest, well lit Christmas tree we have ever had.

## **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

## **History Tidbit Part 7**

Alas, time has run out for your historian who has to travel for the next 3 days so no History Tidbit this time.

## **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](mailto: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)**

St. John's Episcopal Church | 4 Church Street, Essex, NY 12936



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