ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH | Walpole, NH

All are welcome – no exceptions – to worship, love, serve & grow.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, November 8, 2026 | Proper 27

PRELUDE *Etude op.2#1 by A. Scriabin* Vladimir Odinokikh

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE WORD OF GOD

ENTRANCE HYMN *Tell Out My Soul* Hymnal 437



OPENING ACCLAMATION

All stand as able.

Celebrant Blessed be God: most holy glorious and undivided Trinity.

People **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen**.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

We pray in unison:

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.***

GLORIA Hymnal S-280



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25

People may be seated while the Lector reads.

A reading from the book of Joshua:

[1]Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders,
the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves
before God. [2]And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of
Israel: 'Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—
lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. [3a]Then I took your father
Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan
and made his offspring many.'

[14]"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in
faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and
in Egypt, and serve the LORD. [15]Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD,
choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in
the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are
living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

[16]Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the
LORD to serve other gods; [17]for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our
ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did
those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went,
and among all the peoples through whom we passed; [18]and the LORD drove out
before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also
will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

19 But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy
God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins.
20 If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you
harm, and consume you, after having done you good." 21 And the people said to
Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" 22 Then Joshua said to the people, "You are
witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And
they said, "We are witnesses." 23 He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that
are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." 24 The
people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey."
25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and
ordinances for them at Shechem.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 78:1-7

Lector and people read responsively by whole verse

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2 **I will open my mouth in a parable;**
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
3 That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us,
we will not hide from their children.
4 **We will recount to generations to come**
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD,
and the wonderful works he has done.
5 He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel,
which he commanded them to teach their children;
6 **That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn;**
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
7 So that they might put their trust in God, and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who
have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For
since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will
bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of
the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will
by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of
command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will
descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are
alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet
the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore
encourage one another with these words.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN *Fairest Lord Jesus* Hymnal 383



GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

People stand to hear the gospel.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus said,] 1"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids
took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2Five of them were foolish,
and five were wise. 3When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with
them; 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5As the bridegroom was
delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6But at midnight there was a
shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7Then all those
bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise, 'Give
us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9But the wise replied, 'No!
there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and
buy some for yourselves.' 10And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom
came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and
the door was shut. 11Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord,
open to us.' 12But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13Keep awake
therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Rev. Fred Chisolm

THE CREED

After a time of reflection, all stand as you are able. We recite in unison:

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
The LEM and the People pray responsively. All remain standing as you are able.

Alleluia! Let us join the countless throngs who sing God's praises, praying, "We bless you, O Lord; *your praise is ever in our mouth.*"

God of the pilgrim Church, you love us and call us your children: give your Church a hunger and a thirst for righteousness. Continue to nurture us by the example and fellowship of those saints who have journeyed before us.
Silence
We bless you, O Lord;
Your praise is ever in our mouths.

God of all people, you love us and call us your children: In a world of violence and war, you bless the peacemakers. Make us instruments of healing and peace.
Silence
We bless you, O Lord;
Your praise is ever in our mouths.

God of creation, you love us and call us your children: you have given this earth to the meek. May our steps be gentle and leave a small footprint on our earth. As it has been handed on to us, may we carefully preserve this creation for future generations.
Silence
We bless you, O Lord;
Your praise is ever in our mouths.

God of the city, you love us and call us your children: bless the poor with good things. Visit our impoverished neighborhoods with hope, mercy, and relief. Give us hearts for the poor in our region.
Silence
We bless you, O Lord;
Your praise is ever in our mouths.

God of the mournful and suffering, you love us and call us your children: comfort and heal those in need. Hear them in their affliction and save them from their troubles, especially these members and friends of this parish: Al & Patti Sparks, Andrew Wilking, Betty Williams, Bob Lindberg, Danielle & Jake Horihan and their families, Erik Lindberg, Heydi Manchame, Janice Sykes, Jeanne Phillips, Karen (Kathie Clark's sister), Kathy DePasquale, Luke Styer, Niomi Stanley, Pam Stevens, Peggy Pschirrer, Rebecca Cooper, Rick Zurmuhlen (Kristi's and Karlie's father), and Sara Crosby.
Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence.
We bless you, O Lord;
Your praise is ever in our mouths.

God of the Church at rest, you love us and call us your children: we praise you for the faith and witness of all the saints. May their prayers and presence continue to strengthen us. It is with their triumphant voices that we join our own prayers and praises. Alleluia!
Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence.
We bless you, O Lord;
Your praise is ever in our mouths.

CONCLUDING COLLECT
Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

CONFESSION OF SIN
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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. People may greet one another from their seats.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Rite Two, Eucharistic Prayer B

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

OFFERTORY HYMN *This is My Body* LEVAS 155

This is my body given up for you. This is my blood poured out for you.
This is my body given up for you. This is my blood poured out for you.
Body of Christ, Amen. Blood of Christ, Amen.
Body of Christ, Amen. Blood of Christ, Amen.

DOXOLOGY

All stand.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord 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 our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

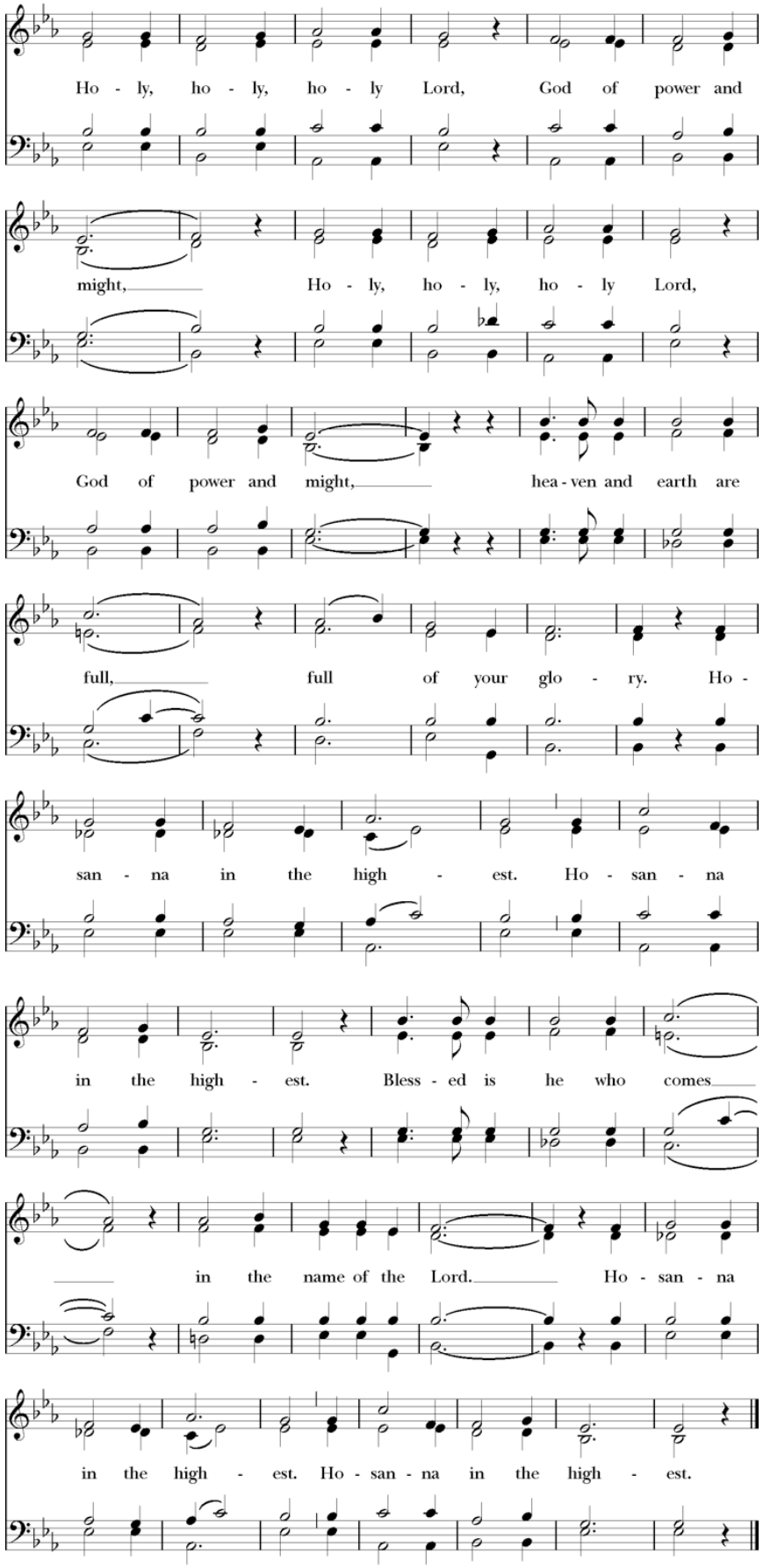
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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 *Holy, holy, holy* Hymnal S-130

The People stand or kneel.



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.

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,

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

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*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER
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.
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

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome at the Lord's table.
If you wish a blessing, instead of the bread or wine, cross your arms over your chest.
Gluten free wafers are available; let the priest know at the altar that you'd like one.

COMMUNION MUSIC Vladimir Odinokikh

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER
People stand as you are able.

Let us pray.
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.

BLESSING
The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. ***Amen.***

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Great is Thy Faithfulness* LEVAS 189



DISMISSAL
Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE *Rondo from concerto #9 by Mozart* Vladimir Odinokikh

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PARISH INFORMATION

Working Together at St. John's

	This Sunday	*Next Sunday*
Celebrant:	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm
Rector:	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm	The Rev. Frederick Chisolm
Deacon	The Rev. Deacon Bill Clark The Rev. David Gilliam	The Rev. Deacon Bill Clark The Rev. David Gilliam
Organist:	Vladimir Odinokikh	Vladimir Odinokikh
Acolyte:	Conor O'Donnell	Conor O'Donnell
Lector(s)	Richard Henderson	John Proctor
LEM	Lisa Cuoco	Joe Cuoco
Altar Guild	Karen Proctor	Mary Schoppmeyer
Flowers	Jane Loomis	Audrey Henderson
Ushers	Andrew Wilking & Bill Tyson	Drew Street & John Proctor
Hospitality	LINDBERG CELEBRATION!	Karen & John Proctor
Counters	Chas Street & Marilyn Wilking	Mary Schoppmeyer & Kathie Clark

Enjoy Magnificent Music: Ashuelot Concerts
Sunday, November 8 | 3:00pm | Bellows Falls Opera House, VT

Romantic Piano Trios by Rachmaninoff, Gade, and Ravel will be performed by Nick Burns- piano, Louisa Stonehill - violin, and one of our favorite guest cellists, Edward Arron.

Hoping to see you there! Tickets may be purchased online www.ashuelotconcerts.org or at the door. (Note: Left side building entrance at Bellows Falls Opera House provides an elevator directly to the concert level.)

A Conversation We All Need to Have
Death, Dying and Dunkin' Donuts
Saturday, November 14 | 10a | First Congregational Church
Pastor Melissa O'Brien, Interim Pastor at First Congregational Church, will lead a thoughtful and practical workshop about end-of-life concerns. Drawing on her experience as both a hospital and hospice chaplain, Melissa will help participants explore some of the questions and decisions that come with aging, serious illness, death, and dying.

Give the Gift of Life: Community Blood Drive
Saturday, December 5 | 9a-1.30p

St. John's and the First Congregational Church are joining together to host a community blood drive on **Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** If you are able to give blood, we hope you'll consider making an appointment. The need for blood never stops, and every donation is a simple but powerful way to care for our neighbors—and can help save lives.

To schedule an appointment, call **1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)** or visit **RedCross.org** to choose a time that is convenient for you. Thank you to everyone who rolls up a sleeve and gives!

With Gratitude and Good Wishes: Celebrating the Rev. David Gilliam

With hearts full of gratitude and joy for his next chapter, we prepare to bid farewell to the Rev. David Gilliam, who has been called to serve as Associate Priest for Children, Youth & Families at the Cathedral of All Souls Episcopal Church in Asheville, North Carolina.

St. John's is honored to serve as David's sponsoring parish, and we are deeply grateful for the eight months he has shared his ministry with us. We have been blessed by his presence, his gifts, and his care for our parish community. We are also grateful to his wife, Katie, whose warmth, kindness, and engaging spirit have been such a welcome addition to our parish life.

David's last Sunday with us will be November 15. Please join us for worship and a **special coffee hour in his honor** as we celebrate his ministry among us, thank David and Katie for the gifts they have shared, and send them on their way with our love, prayers, and very best wishes.

We rejoice with David and Katie as they begin this new chapter and wish them every blessing on the journey ahead.

Many Hands Make Light Work

There are lots of ways to lend a hand at St. John's and in our wider community this fall. Whether you have an hour to give, something to bake, or would like to become part of one of our parish ministries, we'd be glad to have you.

Holiday Fair Helpers Needed

Our **Holiday Fair is Saturday, November 21**, and there are several ways to be part of the fun.

- First, **we need plenty of goodies to sell**. Cookies, jams, jellies, preserves, and other homemade treats are all welcome — and we need lots of them.
- You can also join us for a **cookie-decorating** evening in the Parish Hall on **Wednesday, November 18, at 6:30 p.m.** Everyone is welcome, and no decorating experience is required.
- And on Fair Day itself, **we'll need volunteers to staff shifts throughout the event**. If you can give us a little time on Saturday, November 21, we'd be grateful for the help.

Join the Altar Guild

The Altar Guild has openings for new members. The guild prepares the altar for Sunday worship, with members serving on a rotating schedule, so you'll take a Sunday every so often rather than every week. **Mary Schoppmeyer** is now leading the Altar Guild. If you're curious about what's involved or would like to join, please let Mary know.

Friendly Meals Needs Drivers

The Friendly Meals Program of the Fall Mountain Food Shelf is looking for volunteers to deliver meals in Charlestown on **Tuesdays and/or Thursdays**.

Meals are picked up in Alstead and delivered in the late morning. A route takes approximately one hour. If you might be able to help, please see **Betsy McGuire or Marilyn Wilking**.

Sara Would Love a Visit

Sara Crosby is currently at Pine Heights, a rehabilitation center located at 187 Oak Grove Avenue in Brattleboro. She would be very glad to receive visits from members of the parish. Please call or text Sara at 802-591-0721 ahead of time to arrange a convenient time to visit. .

Grab a Red Bag and Fill It Up

Fall Mountain Food Shelf Collection

Pick up one of St. John's red shopping bags, fill it with a few pantry staples, and help stock the shelves for our neighbors in need. This month, the Food Shelf is especially looking for **baked beans, hearty soups, peanut butter, mayonnaise, mustard, ketchup, salt, pepper, and sugar**. Every bag helps. Betsy McGuire is our Fall Mountain Food Shelf Coordinator and can answer any questions.

Our Rector: The Rev. Fred Chisolm can be reached at (802) 649-6495 (cell) or via email at rector@StJohnsWalpole.org.

St. John's Vestry 2026: Marilyn Wilking (Senior Warden), Drew Street (Junior Warden), Lisa Cuoco (Treasurer), Alison Brule (Clerk), Josh Beer, Mairin Keleher, John Proctor. Both wardens may be reached at info@StJohnsWalpole.org