



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF  
**St. John in the  
Wilderness**  
— Est. 1836 —

## **A Christmas Memory** **Returns for its Fifth Season in Flat Rock**

For the fifth straight season at St. John in the Wilderness, actor and theologian E.R. Haire, Jr. will perform Truman Capote's beloved short story, *A Christmas Memory*, as a one-man show. Four performances are set beginning on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. The rest of the schedule includes Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm and Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm and 7:30pm. The shows will be held in the Wilderness Room of the Parish House at 1905 Greenway Highway in Flat Rock, across Rutledge Drive from the Episcopal Church.

Dr. Haire has performed the story from Los Angeles to Edinburgh, Scotland with many stops in between during the last 20 years, this season being his 21st.

"I am delighted and humbled to once again perform this wonderful beloved story. I thank the people of St. John in the Wilderness and the greater Flat Rock community and people from other areas who have supported my effort. I hope everyone will enjoy the performances which have become something of a tradition for the community." said Dr. Haire.

The show is free to the public but seating is limited to 55 people per performance and RSVP is required. The direct link is [bit.ly/christmasmem23](https://bit.ly/christmasmem23) or visit [www.stjohnflatrock.org](http://www.stjohnflatrock.org). Face masks are optional.

*A Christmas Memory* takes place during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Until he was ten years old, Truman Capote lived with elderly relatives in a small town in rural Alabama. The story is an autobiographical account of those years, especially of his relationship with one of the elderly cousins, Miss Sook Faulk.

The greatest examples of Capote's skillfulness as a writer are found among the stories inspired by his early childhood and the relationships he forged growing up in the rural South.

*A Christmas Memory* first appeared in *Mademoiselle* Magazine in the late 1950s, when Capote was 27 years old, and has since become one of his most beloved and bestselling works.

Mr. Capote was a flamboyant figure in both literary and cultural circles. Controversial, colorful and complex, he was a writer of uncommon grace. His best-known works include *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *In Cold Blood*, *Other Voices Other Rooms*, and *The Grass Harp*. Mr. Capote died in 1984 at the age of 59.

Earle Ross (E.R.) Haire, Jr. PhD is a native of North Carolina. His professional achievements combine acting and theology. In Los Angeles, he worked as an actor and at Paramount Studios. Theater credits in Los Angeles include *The Foreigner*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Hamlet*, *Henry V*, *Richard III*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and the comedy spoof *Riffs of Shakespeare*. Dr. Haire is also a member of the Screen Actors Guild.

Dr. Haire earned a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Yale University Divinity School, focusing on drama and worship. In 2017 he earned a PhD. In Theology and Ethics from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

St. John in the Wilderness is located in Flat Rock, NC at 1895 Greenville Highway. Queries may be directed to the church office, (828) 693-9783 or visit [www.stjohnflatrock.org](http://www.stjohnflatrock.org).