

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ

www.sjparish.net



The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

April 13, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Welcome!

It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you need to participate in the service is found in this bulletin and in the blue hymnals in each pew.

If you are new to St. John's, or have been attending a while but the parish office doesn't yet have your information, please fill out our online newcomer form by scanning the QR code or going to sjparish.net/newcomer



Scan to fill out online newcomer form.

Our ushers are here to create a welcoming and safe space for worship; please let them know if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. They have hearing assist devices available for those who need them. We're glad you're here!

Children are always welcome to be in church with their families. We encourage you to sit up front, as children will be more engaged if they can see and hear what's going on. Children are welcome here just as they are; please don't feel you must leave every time your little one makes a sound! We have children's bulletins, books, and other quiet activities available in the narthex (the entrance with the red doors) for children's use during the service. Our professionally staffed nursery located in the Education Wing is open on Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Parents/caregivers are welcome to drop off children in the nursery for part or all of the service. The Education Wing and nursery also have changing tables and seating that parents/caregivers may use as needed.

Cover art: Triumphant Journey into Jerusalem by He Qi



ORDER OF SERVICE

Our service begins outside. You may pick up a palm cross when you arrive; however, please wait to pick up a palm frond until we are processing around the church, after the Blessing of the Palms.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Celebrant Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

People **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PALM GOSPEL

Luke 19:28-40

Reader A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 154 All glory, laud, and honor

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

As the congregation enters the church, all sing.

Refrain

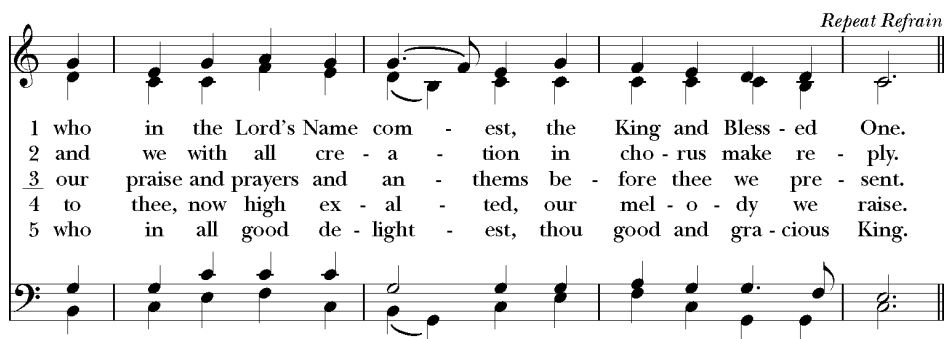


All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;
3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
4 To thee be - fore thy pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;
5 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Repeat Refrain



1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
4 to thee, now high ex - al - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.
5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

*Words: Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821); tr. John Mason Neale (1818–1866), alt.**Music: Valet will ich dir geben, melody Melchior Teschner (1584–1635), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889)*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.*People* **And also with you.***Celebrant* Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

*Isaiah 50:4–9a**All sit.*

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from

insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 31:9–16

Chanted by the choir. The choir introduces the refrain, after which the people sing the refrain as indicated.



Music: Nick Capozzoli

- 9 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; *
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.
- 10 For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.
- 11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; *
when they see me in the street they avoid me.
- 12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot. **Refrain sung by all**
- 13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around; *
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.
- 14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. *
I have said, "You are my God.
- 15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me." **Refrain sung by all**

THE EPISTLE

Philippians 2:5–11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly

exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 170 To mock your reign

THE THIRD TUNE

All stand and sing.

THE PASSION GOSPEL

Luke 23:1–56

*All sit. The people speak aloud the lines marked **Congregation** and stand where indicated, at mention of the place called The Skull.*

Narrator The assembly of the elders of the people rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him.

Crowd “We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.”

Pilate “Are you the king of the Jews?”

Jesus “You say so.”

Narrator Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

Pilate “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.”

Crowd “He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”

Narrator When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies. Then Pilate called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people.

Pilate “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.”

Congregation **“Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!”**

Narrator This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder. Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting.

Congregation **“Crucify, crucify him!”**

- Pilate* "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him."
- Narrator* But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,
- Jesus* "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"
- Narrator* Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. **[Congregation stands.]** When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,
- Jesus* "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."
- Narrator* They cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,
- Crowd* "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"
- Narrator* The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,
- Crowd* "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"
- Narrator* There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,
- Criminal 1* "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"
- Narrator* But the other rebuked him, saying,
- Criminal 2* "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."
- Criminal 2* "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
- Jesus* "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
- Narrator* It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,
- Jesus* "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."
- Narrator* Having said this, he breathed his last.

- Narrator* When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,
- Centurion* “Certainly this man was innocent.”
- Narrator* And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things. Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

THE SERMON

Margie Baker

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

**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 people say the words in bold.

With confidence and trust, let us pray to God.

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, especially for Sean, our presiding bishop; Jeff and Laura, our bishops; our parish clergy; and the people of St. John's. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness we may share the good news of God's love in our words and our actions. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For peace in the world, especially in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan, and all places consumed by violence and chaos, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, especially those on our parish prayer list, and for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger, that they may be relieved and protected. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For those whom we have injured or offended, and those who have injured or offended us. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For grace to amend our lives and practice the loving, humble, and merciful way of Jesus. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

In communion with all who have walked in the way of holiness, let us pray to God. Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

Celebrant God of love, you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting, and generosity; accept our Lenten discipline, and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

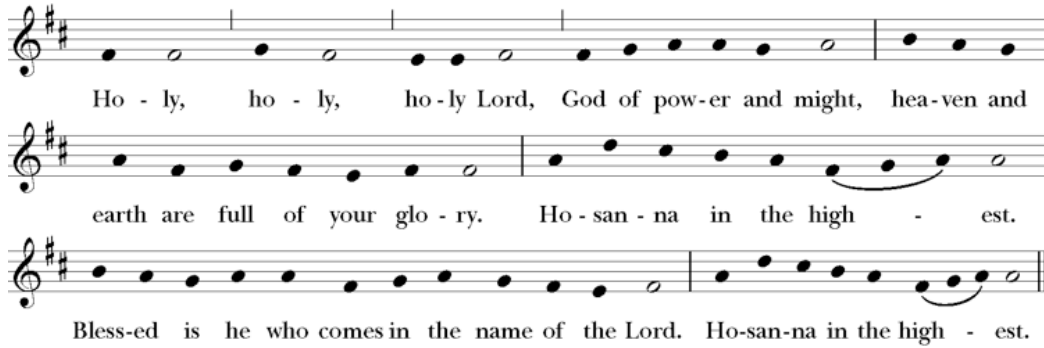
Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950)

All remain standing or kneel.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

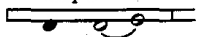
Christ will come again.

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.

People



A - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **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.**

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
 have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950)

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant 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.

Everyone is invited to receive Communion at St. John's. Please follow the ushers' directions to approach the altar rail, and kneel or stand at the rail. You may choose to receive bread only, intinct (dip) your wafer in the wine, or drink from the cup. If you would like a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

If you have mobility limitations and would like a priest to bring Communion to you in your seat, please let an usher know. If you would like to pray with our healing prayer volunteer, go to the baptismal font at the back of the church after receiving Communion.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM Ex ore innocentium

John Ireland (1879–1962)

Text: William Walshalm How (1823–1897)

It is a thing most wonderful,
 Almost too wonderful to be,
 That God's own Son should come from heaven,
 And die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true:
 He chose a poor and humble lot,
 And wept, and toiled and mourned and died,
 For love of those who love him not.

I sometimes think about the Cross,
 And shut my eyes, and try to see
 The cruel nails and crown of thorns,
 And Jesus crucified for me.

But even could I see him die,
 I should but see a little part
 Of that great love, which, like a fire,
 Is always burning in his heart.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
 O light the flame within my heart,
 And I will love thee more and more,
 Until I see thee as thou art.

THE COMMUNION HYMN 313 Let thy blood in mercy poured

JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT

All remain seated and sing.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*All stand or kneel.**Celebrant* Let us pray.

People **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.**

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives the blessing and the people respond, Amen.

THE HYMN IN PROCESSION 158 Ah, holy Jesus

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

All sing.

THE DISMISSAL

The Minister dismisses the people, and the people respond. Thanks be to God.

There is no closing voluntary today. Please remain seated after the dismissal for a brief update from our capital campaign consultant, Leslie Pendleton. She will report on the findings from the parish survey we conducted last month. Coffee hour in Hubbard Hall will follow her remarks.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**Celebrant:** The Reverend Todd FitzGerald**Preacher:** The Reverend Margie Baker**Seminarian:** Robin Brown**Layreader:** Robert Eikel**The Passion Readers:** Eden Baker, Jamie Baker, Danielle Branco, Bobby Eikel,
Jx Eikel, Virginia Eikel, Livvy Lorenzo, Alvin Mani, Sam Stater, Freya Watt**The St. John's Adult Choir & Choir School****Organist & Choirmaster:** Nick Capozzoli**Acolytes:** Jamie Baker, Atticus Finkell, Luke Yelland**Thurifer:** Danielle Branco**Ushers:** Matt Ciscel, Geoff Emerick, Ellen Flynn, Erica Weinstock, Wes Winterbottom**Livestream Operator:** Elijah Clapp**Altar Guild:** Ruth Crespi, Buffy Ineson, Brenda Zanta**Healing Prayer Minister:** Wes Winterbottom**Nursery Staff:** Nichole Segar, Lilah Lorenzo, Olivia Thaxton**Sunday School Teachers:** Jenn Baker, Enid Oberholtzer, Akilah Williams, Jeff Verney,
Leah Lorenzo, Matt Ciscel, Angela Allen-Peck, Buffy Ineson

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Join us in Hubbard Hall after the service for coffee hour.

This Sunday, food is provided by those with last names starting G through L.

For next Sunday (Easter), anyone who is able to provide food is invited to!

In your prayers this week, please pray for:

Peace in our world, those serving our country in the armed services, and all victims of war and violence.

Residents of the Caleb Hitchcock Center at Duncaster, and the George Beach Apartments, Allen Place, Hartford.

All those whose hurts, burdens, and fears are unspoken or unknown.

Those in need of healing, help, and comfort:

Kim Green	Susan	Ellie Brown	Wendy
Brad Babbitt	Sue	Joyce Flynn	Bob Norton
Virginia Skeele	Tessa Trussell Wolf	Rachel Boccio	Joseph
Grant Loevenbruck	The Yelland family	Joan Ackley	Sarah Carroll
John & Barbara Spannaus	Harry Barber	Guy Russo	Greg Highland
Jennifer Blean	Doug Larson	Jon Nelson	Rachel
Hale Walkoff	Jeff Lewis	Ned	Lucas
Rod Farrell	Miranda	Roger	Amy Bittinger
Hillary Lord	Allison and Family	Daniel Zoltan	William Bittinger
Helen Rosen	Linda	Jim & Kathlyn Schofield	Mike
Nick Willke	Jacob Latranica	John Scott	Rick
Wayne Gollenburg	Tom Tata	Eric Zoltan	Richard Myers
Uncle Rich Alpin	Timothy Foga	Elizabeth Myers	Carol
Tracie O'Brien	Shoemaker Family	Carole Buttner	Paul Thaxton
Naya	Elsa	Rob Roy	Frank Higginbotham
Amy	Heidi	Meghan	Peter Stanton & family
Cora	Charles & Susan Oakley	Gaylord	Stephanie
Todd FitzGerald	Katie Reardon	Bonnie Evans	Ann
Benjamin Mabrey	Matteo Donnelly	Barbara	Chris
Teni Awudu	Alondra	Dennis	

Those serving in the military:

Alex Thaxton

Those celebrating birthdays this week:

Jeff Curran	Sam Kinney
Richard Lammlin	Ann Hanlon
Francisco Cortavarria	Kevin Graver
Dana Crocker	Morgan Hilliard
Janet Ward	

Those celebrating anniversaries this week:

Virginia Van Dyk & John Wilcox

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for St. Peter's, Milford; Trinity, Milton; St. Peter's Grace, Monroe; and for hospital chaplains, Stephen Ministers, pastoral care groups, ministries of healing, wellness programs, recovery ministries.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Pray for the Church of England.

Midweek contemplative Eucharist, every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the chancel. We will also continue to hold a centering prayer session after the Eucharist, led by the Reverend Nancy Wright, at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Library. The prayer sessions will continue through June 4.

Names for Easter flower memorials are due TOMORROW, April 14. There are Easter flower envelopes available in the narthex and in the pews; please fill out an envelope with the names of those whom you would like to honor or remember this Easter, place your donation inside (any amount is welcome), and put the envelope in the offering plate. You may also email Ellen at ellen@sjparish.net with names, and send the donation in separately. Please put "Easter flowers" in your check memo. Reminder: The annual flower memorial letter that went out in the summer of 2024 included an option to pre-pay and request Easter flower memorials at that time. If you're not sure whether or not you've already requested and paid for Easter flowers, contact Ellen and she can look it up.

New World Trio concert, TODAY at 2 p.m. The New World Trio, which presents wide-ranging concerts of both classical and contemporary chamber music works, is the ensemble-in-residence for Music at the Red Door. Violinist Anhared Stowe, cellist Peter Zay, and pianist David Bellena will present a concert at St. John's this afternoon at 2 p.m. Admission is free, with a suggested donation of \$20 *payable to the New World Trio*.

Help us fill Easter eggs! We need many filled Easter eggs for the egg hunt following the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday (April 20). If you can help, please pick up some plastic eggs in the narthex, fill them, and return them to church no later than 10 a.m. on Easter Sunday. You may fill them with candy, other small snacks, or non-edible treats such as stickers or temporary tattoos. No nuts please!

Holy Week and Easter services and events. We have a full schedule of services and events in the coming week, to which all are welcome. New this year is the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday evening, April 19, at 8 p.m., featuring scripture readings, prayers, and Holy Eucharist along with a bonfire (outdoors), candles, music, and the renewal of our Baptismal vows. The Vigil, held after sunset on Holy Saturday, is considered the "first service of Easter day." Also new this year is a silent prayer watch in the church from 8 p.m. to midnight on Maundy Thursday. We will also continue our tradition of hosting a "walk through Holy Week" for children at 10 a.m. on Good Friday. One change this year for Easter morning is that our 8 a.m. service will be spoken, with the choirs, hymns, and instrumental music at the 10:30 service only. See the graphics on the next few pages for more information about our Holy Week and Easter offerings.

Spring intergenerational book club postponed to May 1 at 7 p.m. in Zoom. The original April date for our intergenerational book club discussion of Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* snuck up on us, so we've moved the book discussion to Thursday, May 1 at 7 p.m. online. We welcome both youth and adults to read the book and come ready to talk about it that evening. The Zoom link will be included in our regular e-newsletter that day and also sent out in a dedicated book club email. We have several copies of the book available in the parish office on a first-come, first-served basis.

Nighttime Prayer Watch

Overnight prayer from Maundy Thursday into Good Friday is a traditional Christian practice that echoes Jesus' request for his disciples to stay awake and pray with him in the Garden of Gethsemane before his crucifixion. Participants will pray silently in the nave in one-hour increments.

Maundy Thursday

April 17

8 p.m. to midnight in the St. John's nave

Sign-up required

To participate, please sign up for a one-hour time slot using the link/QR code below. Additional details are included with the sign-up and will also be emailed to participants, including security measures and logistics.

Sign up at sjparish.net/prayerwatch
or with the QR code.

Contact Rachel Boccio (rboccio16@gmail.com)
or Robert Eikel (reikel@reikel.org) with questions.



St. John's Church Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 20 after the 10:30 service

**Want to
help?**

- Bring eggs filled with candy (no nuts), stickers, or trinkets by 10am on Easter. We'll have bags of empty eggs available by the Red Doors on 4/6 and 4/13, or provide your own.
- Help hide eggs Easter morning beginning at 10am



Holy Week & Easter Services



Palm Sunday

8 a.m. (spoken) & 10:30 a.m. (choral)

Maundy Thursday

7 p.m.

Good Friday

Children's walk through Holy Week at 10 a.m.
Service at 12 noon

The Great Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday

8 p.m.

Easter Sunday

New this year

8 a.m. (spoken) & 10:30 a.m. (choral)



St. John's Episcopal Church
679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford
860.523.5201

sjparish.net

Spring Fling & Auction

Annual gathering and fundraiser for the St. John's community.

All adults (parish members and friends) are welcome!

Ticket sales will begin in mid-May at church and online.

Friday, May 30
6:30 p.m.

Sign up to volunteer!

From dropping off a sweet treat for the tasty treat bake sale to helping set up or clean up (bonus points if you dance while doing it), there's a way for everyone to pitch in. Sign up at sjparish.net/springflingvolunteers or use the QR code. We can't wait to fling into spring with you!



Donate an item to the fundraising auction!

We welcome auction items of all types and value, such as time in a vacation home, professional services, gift cards, event tickets and more. Contact Virginia Van Dyk by April 30 at virginiavandyk@yahoo.com.

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119

860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8 a.m.: Spoken Holy Eucharist

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.: Choral Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.: Spoken Holy Eucharist

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net).....	Rector
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net).....	Associate Rector
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	Director of Operations & Communications
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)	Sexton
Nick Capozzoli (nick@sjparish.net).....	Director of Music
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net).....	Financial Administrator
Robin Brown	Seminarian Intern*
Christa Rakich	Organ Artist-in-Residence*
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus*
The Rev. Rebecca Bourret	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Mary Lynn Dell.....	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Joe Pace	Priest Associate*
The Rev. Nancy Wright.....	Priest Associate*

**These positions are non-stipendiary.*

VESTRY

Eleanor Barnes	Warden
Stewart Murchie	Warden
David McCary and John Wilcox	Co-Treasurers

2023–25: Angela Allen-Peck, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer

2024–26: Lauren Mascola, Stacey Samuel Bannon, Brenda Zanta

2025–27: Kim Byrd, Matteo Donnelly, Susan Fay, Jeff Verney