

St. John's Episcopal Church

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

www.sjparish.net



The Great Vigil of Easter

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II & THE BAPTISM OF

Etieno-Abasi Emmanuel Akpan

April 19, 2025

8:00 p.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!

Cover image: He is Risen by He Qi



ORDER OF SERVICE

The service begins outside where the new fire is kindled.

THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray. O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Paschal candle will be lit from the new fire. As the clergy lead the procession into the church, they will say "The light of Christ" three times, and the people respond each time with the words in bold. The people's candles will be lit from the Paschal candle, and remain lit until the Liturgy of the Word. The people go into the pews as the altar party processes to the chancel.

Celebrant The light of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE EXSULTET

The people remain standing with their candles lit and say the words in bold.

Minister Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Minister

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our ancestors, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and we are reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

The people are seated and extinguish their candles.

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1–2:4a

Reader: Susan Fay

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God

separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested

from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 36:5–10

The people are invited to chant the verses in bold.



Jerome Webster Meachen (1930–2015)

- 5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, *
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; *
you save both man and beast, O Lord.
- 7 **How priceless is your love, O God!** *
your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
- 8 **They feast upon the abundance of your house;** *
you give them drink from the river of your delights.
- 9 **For with you is the well of life,** *
and in your light we see light.
- 10 **Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you,** *
and your favor to those who are true of heart.

Celebrant O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SECOND READING

Exodus 14:10–31, 15:20–21

Reader: Bill Lockery

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Reader The Word of the Lord.


People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 8

The Song of Moses

Chanted by the choir. The choir introduces the antiphon, after which the people sing the antiphon with the choir before and after the canticle.

Antiphon in Lent and at the Easter Vigil (b)



I will sing to the Lord for he has risen up in might.

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?

You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.

With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,

The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.

The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever. **Antiphon sung by all**

Celebrant O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE THIRD READING

Isaiah 55:1–11

Reader: Dave Derby

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher

than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 9

The First Song of Isaiah

Chanted by the choir. The choir introduces the antiphon, after which the people sing the antiphon with the choir before and after the canticle.

Antiphon



Sing the prais - es of the Lord, for he has done great things.

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. **Antiphon sung by all**

Celebrant God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit: Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE FOURTH READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Reader: Virginia Eikel

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I

prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 143

*The people are invited to chant the verses in **bold**.*



Jerome Webster Meachen (1930–2015)

- 1 Lord, hear my prayer,
and in your faithfulness heed my supplications; *
answer me in your righteousness.
- 2 Enter not into judgment with your servant; *
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.
- 3 **For my enemy has sought my life; he has crushed me to the ground; ***
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.
- 4 **My spirit faints within me; ***
my heart within me is desolate.
- 5 I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds; *
I consider the works of your hands.
- 6 I spread out my hands to you; *
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.
- 7 **O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; ***
do not hide your face from me or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.
- 8 Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning, for I put my trust in you; *
show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my soul to you.

- 9 Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, *
for I flee to you for refuge.
- 10 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; *
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
- 11 **Revive me, O Lord, for your Name's sake; ***
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.
- 12 **Of your goodness, destroy my enemies and bring all my foes to naught, ***
for truly I am your servant.

Celebrant Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

The Priest says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsor I present Etieno-Abasi Emmanuel to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Priest Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

Then the Priest asks the following questions of the candidate.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Priest addresses the Congregation saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Priest Let us join with this person who is committing herself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

All stand.

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Priest Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Priest Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Priest Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you persevere in resisting evil, and whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People **I will, with God's help.**

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE

Leader Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth. Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The Priest says to the candidate

Etieno-Abasi Emmanuel, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the candidate's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying
You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.

All **Amen.**

Priest Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

All **Amen.**

Priest Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

As all remain standing and sing the baptismal hymn, the clergy will asperge the congregation with holy water.

Celebrant May this water remind us of our baptism. Let us share the joy of all who have been baptized at Easter, and be grateful.

THE BAPTISMAL HYMN 187 Through the Red Sea brought at last

STRAF MICH NICHT

All sing.

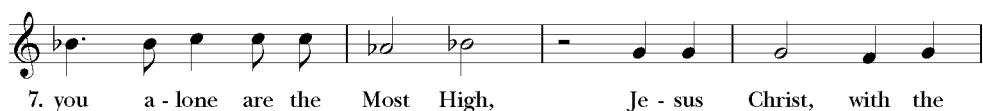
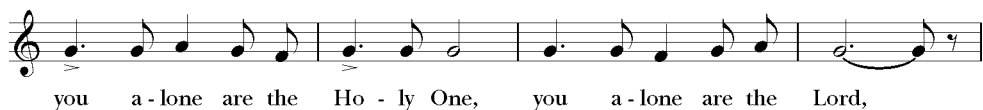
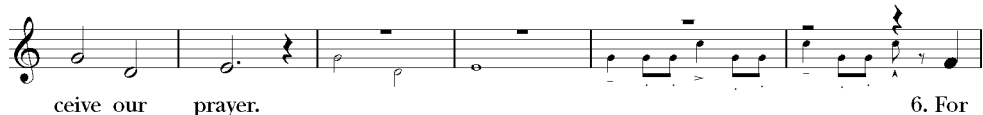
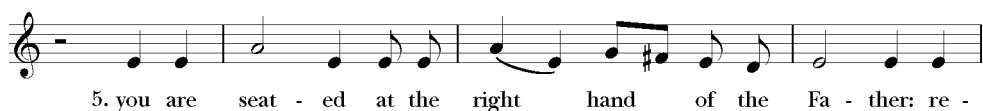
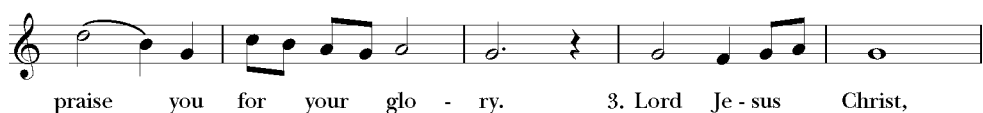
THE HOLY COMMUNION

All remain standing and repeat the Easter acclamation three times.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting: William Mathias (1934–1992)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE EPISTLE

All sit.

Romans 6:3–11

Reader: Robert Eikel

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SUNG ALLELUIA

All stand and sing the refrain before and after the verse.

○ FILII ET FILIAE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Choir We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1–10

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Minister The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Margie Baker

All sit.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All stand. The people say the words in bold.

Let us pray to God, who raised Jesus to new life, for the needs of the church and the world. The Lord is risen; **he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We pray for the Church, that we may radiate the light of Christ each day and live as children of God. The Lord is risen; **he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We pray for all elected officials, that God will give them wisdom and insight as they struggle with priorities and problems. The Lord is risen; **he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We pray for peace throughout the world, especially in Ukraine, the Holy Land, and Sudan, that the Risen Lord will inspire all leaders to try new ways to work for peace and justice. The Lord is risen; **he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We pray for all the human family, that Christ's victory over death may bring hope and healing to all who are burdened by poverty, disease, prejudice, and fear. The Lord is risen; **he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We pray for all who are ill, that the wounds of the Risen Lord may radiate healing and health; for those struggling with addictions, that the power of resurrection will free them; and for all on our parish prayer list, that they will be renewed by the hope of Easter. The Lord is risen; **he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We pray for all who have died, that they may live forever with the Risen Christ in that new creation where there is no more weeping and no more death. The Lord is risen; **he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Celebrant Creator of the universe, you made the world in beauty and restore all things in glory through the victory of Jesus Christ. We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured by poverty, sickness, violence, and greed, the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace, to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

THE WELCOME

All sit.

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM Christ our Passover

William MacFarlane (1870–1945)

Text: Pascha nostrum, Book of Common Prayer

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: therefore let us keep the feast.
 Not with old leav'n, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness,
 but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
 Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more:
 death hath no more dominion over Him.
 For in that He died, He died unto sin once:
 but in that He liveth, He liveth unto God.
 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin:
 but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Christ is risen, is risen from the dead:
 and become the first fruits of them that slept.
 For since by man, for since by man came death:
 by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
 For as in Adam, for as in Adam all die:
 even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
 World without end. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All stand.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves are for the Celebrant and the People, respectively, and the last two are for the Celebrant and the People, respectively.

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so 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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us

everlasting life. 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:

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven 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: William Mathias

All remain standing 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,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await his coming in glory.

The Celebrant continues.

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 children; 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.



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

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. The people sing the refrain with the choir before and after the verse.



Choir Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. **Refrain sung by all**

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 Holy Communion at St. John's. To receive, please kneel or stand at the altar 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 Holy Communion brought to you, please alert an usher.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM A repeating Alleluia

Calvin Hampton (1938–1984)

THE COMMUNION HYMN 190 Lift your voice rejoicing, Mary
All remain seated and sing.

FIK OF GLOUCESTER

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 180 He is risen, he is risen!

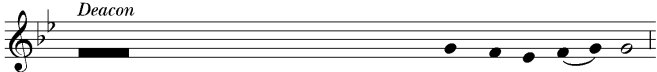
UNSER HERRSCHER

All sing.


THE DISMISSAL

The Minister dismisses the people, and the people respond as indicated.

Deacon




Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia.

People



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE VOLUNTARY Carillon

Herbert Murrill (1909–1952)

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Celebrant: The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

Preacher: The Reverend Margie Baker

Assisting Clergy: The Reverend Rebecca Bourret

Seminarian: Robin Brown

Readers: David Derby, Robert Eikel, Virginia Eikel, Susan Fay, Bill Lockery

Chalice Bearer: Robert Eikel

The St. John's Adult Choir

Organist & Choirmaster: Nick Capozzoli

Ushers: Dan Minster, Enid Oberholtzer

The St. John's Altar Guild

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EASTER FLOWER HONORARIA & MEMORIALS

Thank you to all who donated to the flower fund in honor and memory of the following people.

In honor of:

Judith Wawro

The clergy and staff of St. John's Church

In memory of:

Thomas Abraham, M.D.	Elsa M. Lattey
Emmy Aziz	Erik F. Lattey
Mr. & Mrs. Harry O. Bartlett	Kent Beckwith Lawrence
Mr. & Mrs. Harry R. Bartlett	Hyon Choo Lee
Robin Wawro Bataillon	Members of the Lockery, Masse, &
Grace & James F. Best	Marchion families
Gerry Elwyn Brooks	Walter & Cora Lotz
Mildred Buttery	Members of the Mani family
Carol Byrd	Ida A. McKenney
Elaine Byrd	Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Miller
Mary Byrd	Edney Minor
Anne Pease Carpenter	Bill Moore
Dr. Charles H. Chambers	Frank & Susan Murray
Patricia A. Chambers	Sarah, Gretchen, & Paul Oberholtzer
Teressa Chung	Norn Oberholtzer
Mr. & Mrs. Seymour G. Clark, Jr.	Charles A. Pease, 2 nd
Wendy Wright Collins	Charles D. and Janet M. Peterson
Cyril and Mildred Connolly	Robert F. and Abbie V.S. Peterson
Daisy	George & Edith Phillips
David & Phyllis Derby	John & Grace Potter
Margaret E. & Robert K. Dimmitt	Andrya Ramer
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John Paul Faude, Jr.	Frank & Mary Reilly
Wilson Hinsdale Faude	Francis P. Reilly
Donald Gavin	Joan Renz
Steven Goldstein	Margaret Rehm Rothschild
Mike Greenia	Noel Sears
Ginny & Dick Gregory	Doris & Oscar F. Sodergren
Charles R. Harris	Hazel & Oscar Sodergren
Donald J. Hayes	Charles Sonne
Elizabeth Hetherington	David St. George
Noble & Sara Hetherington	Thomas R. Tight
Suzanne, Renée, & Andrew Jacques	George E. & Abbie B. Van Siclen
Beverly & Jack P. Kinney	Guy & Julie Verney
Chung Tai Kim	Bill Wawro
Ann Koucky	David Wawro
William E. Knorr	George Weinstock
Robert W. Knorr	M. Searle Wright

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

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



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