

Holy Week *at* St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Great Vigil of Easter

April 4, 2026 at 8 p.m.



St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



PEACE
LUTHERAN

WORSHIP MINISTERS

The Rev. Ripp Hardaway, Rector, St. John's
The Rev. Matthew Bloss, Associate Priest, St. John's
Pastor Jake Fain, Peace Lutheran
Valerie Thompson, Director of Music & Organist
Ben Sykora, AV Tech Lead

Acolytes
Altar Guild
Greeter
Eucharistic Ministers
Ushers

Collin and Ashley Rodriguez
Janie Stewart, Karen Shumway
Marianne Harkrider, Torrey Hunter
Adrian Quintanilla, Eduardo Sanchez-Quintanilla
Sarah Reeves, Will Brown

THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant addresses the people in these words

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 is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Celebrant, bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing:

Celebrant **The Light of Christ.**
People **Thanks be to God.**

The candles that were distributed to members of the congregation are lighted from the Paschal Candle at this time. Other candles and lamps in the church, except for those at the Altar, are also lighted.

The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand and the Celebrant censes the Candle. Then, the Celebrant sings the Exsultet, as follows:

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.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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 fathers, 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 man is 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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Celebrant introduces the Scripture readings in these words

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 STORY OF CREATION | Genesis 1:1-2:2

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people stand as silence is kept.

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.

HYMN | Most Holy God, the Lord of Heaven (v. 1-3)

Hymn 31

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA | Exodus 14:10 - 15:1

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 Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: 'I will 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.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people stand as silence is kept.

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.**

HYMN | Sing Now with Joy unto the Lord

Hymn 425

THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES | Ezekiel 37:1-14

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, "Prophecy 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.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people stand as silence is kept.

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.**

HYMN | As Longs the Deer for Cooling Springs (v 1-3)

Hymn 658

A GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE | Zephaniah 3:12-20

For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord—the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid. Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN | We the Lord's People (v 1-3)

Hymn 51

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people remain standing.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



CELEBRATING THE RESURRECTION

The People remain standing as the organ music clues us to the Dawning of Paschal Light. The candles at the Altar are now lighted from the Paschal Candle. Hand candles may be extinguished as the light in the church gradually increases.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

TRISAGION | Holy God – Alexander Archangelsky

Hymn S 102

Hymn numbers beginning with an S indicate Service Music, found at the front of The Hymnal 1982

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us. (sung 3x)

COLLECT

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.**

LESSON | Romans 6:3-11

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.**

PSALM 114 | *responsively by whole verse*

BCP p. 756

1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

2 **Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.**

6 **You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?**

3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

4 **The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.**

8 **Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

GOSPEL HYMN | Love's Redeeming Work Is Done (v. 1, 2)

Hymn 188

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

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

People **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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN | Love's Redeeming Work Is Done (v. 3)

Hymn 188

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Matthew Bloss

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

BCP p. 292

Through the Pascal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Celebrant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
People **I do.**

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.**

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant 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.**

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows:

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant 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.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

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 Celebrant sprinkles the congregation with water from the font, saying

Remember you are baptized, and marked as Christ's own, forever.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM | Sing, Ye Faithful – arr. Robert Lau

St. John's Worship Choir

*Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness, wake your noblest, sweetest strain,
with the praises of your Savior let his house resound again;
him let all your music honor, and your songs exalt his reign.*

*Alleluia to the Father, alleluia to the Son,
alleluia to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One,
one in love and one in glory, while unending ages run.*

*Sing how he came forth from heaven, bowed himself to Bethlehem's cave,
stooped to wear the servant's vesture, bore the pain, the cross, the grave,
passed within, within the gates of darkness, thence his banished ones to save.*

*Now on high, yet ever with us, from his Father's throne the Son
rules and guides the world he ransomed, till the appointed work be done,
till he see, renewed and perfect, all things gathered into one.*

EASTER DOXOLOGY | Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (tune: *Lasst uns Erfreuen*)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING | Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p. 361

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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:

SANCTUS | Holy, Holy, Holy Lord - William Matthias

Hymn S 128

**Hymn numbers beginning with an S indicate Service Music, found at the front of The Hymnal 1982*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (continued)

(The people stand 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:

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. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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 forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM | Christ Our Passover - Gerald R. Near

Hymn S 155

Hymn numbers beginning with an S indicate Service Music, found at the front of The Hymnal 1982

All Sing Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

BCP p. 365

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. To receive the bread, place one hand over the other with palms facing upward. To indicate that you would like to receive a blessing instead, cross arms over chest. Gluten free wafer available.

COMMUNION MUSIC | Easter Sequence: *Victimae Paschali Laudes* - Wilbur Held

The Royal Banners Forward Go – Ludwig Lenel

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BCP p. 365

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

Let us all take heart! The battle is over. The victory is won. And though the victory was won by God alone, it is not for God alone. It is for each and every one of us. So let God's victory, be our victory. Let God's peace, be our peace. And may the blessing of God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you, and inspire you all the days of your life. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN | Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

Hymn 199

THE DISMISSAL


BCP p. 366

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

POSTLUDE | Christ Hath Triumphed, Alleluia! - Edward Broughton

Valerie Thompson, Organist

Denise Marshall	Given to the Glory of God and Thanksgiving for the music programs at St. John's.	
Sarah Hawkins	In memory of Ted Hawkins and Alicia Farber.	
Marjaana & Dave Cich	In memory of our parents, Marjaana's sister, nephew, niece, and Dave's brother.	
Bonnie McKay	In memory of Bob McKay.	
Laura Shaver	In thanksgiving for all my boys.	
Leslie & Jeff Bloss	In memory of David, Deb & Bob Pannabecker, Lois & Dan Bloss.	
Bruce & Shelley Howard	In thanksgiving for our families and grandchildren, and for our church family and our Savior, Jesus Christ.	
Stacey Garza-Vale	In memory of Louis Garza-Vale, in thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren.	
Dan & Vicky Geisler	In thanksgiving for our St. John's family.	
Margaret Mitchell	Given to the Glory of God to give God praise. In memory of The Rev Jim Mitchell. In thanksgiving for St. John's Church Family.	
Donna & Brian Woolverton	In memory of Lois Woolverton, Glenn Woolverton, Shirley Albertson, Les Albertson.	
Judith Knight	In memory of my parents, Charles & Genevieve Knight.	
Hal & Cheryl Kloss	In memory of Frank and Charlene Adams.	
Jaime Pruna	Given to the Glory of God for our family and friends. In memory of Russell Walker (grandfather). In thanksgiving for God's many blessings.	
Lyn Enright	Given to the Glory of God in memory of Jim Enright.	
Chris & Katie Grayson	In memory of Trooper, Apate, Taj, and Tuli. In thanksgiving for all the years of love and fun. Given to the Glory of God for God's dogs.	
Matthew Eckmann	In memory of all those we hold in our hearts.	
Marci Chapman	In thanksgiving for Marli, Jack, and Grant Yates, and Michael Pappas.	
Veronica Crolley	In thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren.	
Libby & Frank Pender	In memory of John Salem, son and brother.	
Libby Pender	In memory of my mom and dad, Sally and Bill Edwards.	
Renea Tutt	In Thanksgiving for the Baimbridge and Ritchie families.	
Kat DeGrasse	In memory of those that have gone before us.	
John & Linda Frith	Given to the Glory of God for our Children and Grandchildren.	
Zachary Ienatsch	Given to the Glory of God for Maisie Faye Ienatsch and Otto Isaac Ienatsch.	
Melinda Abell	Given to the Glory of God in thanksgiving for St. John's Church this Easter Sunday.	
Brooke Perry	In Thanksgiving for our family.	
Ann Amoroso	In Thanksgiving for Frank, Ceira and Ben.	
Ginga Golson	In Thanksgiving for our family. In memory of Bill and Shirley Graves and Fred and Agnes Golson and Emery Moore. To the glory of God for all of our grandchildren.	
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bowlby	In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Bowlby.	
Lynn Norvell	In thanksgiving for our family and friends.	
Deborah & Walter Bevers	In memory of Peggy Bevers, Evelyn Peacock Jones, and Sadie & Jacques Bevers. In thanksgiving for Joanne January.	
Julianne Agar	In memory of Timothy & Robert Agar.	
Kathy & David Simmons	In memory of our parents. In thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren.	
Rick & Hallie Schneider	In memory of our parents, C.L. & Maxine Schneider and Doug & Gail Hughes.	
Linda & Roy Lund	Given to the Glory of God and in memory of Ruth & Bob Lund and Alma & Jim Anderson.	
Rick & Sherri Lowe	Given to the Glory of God for our St. John's church family. In memory of our parents - Engles & Lowes, grandparents, and son Sean. In thanksgiving for our newborn grandson, Levi, our children, and all grandchildren, family and friends.	
Ripp & Sue Hardaway	In thanksgiving for Mekenzie and Hayden and our St. John's family.	
Claire & Logan Simpson	Given to the Glory of God.	
Betty Morris	In thanksgiving for my family.	
Gretchen Weaver	In memory of my parents, Eleanor & Ernst Erdmann.	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Change for Change” Children’s Ministry Coin Drive

Bring your spare change each Sunday through April. Every coin helps support the Capital Campaign as we work to make more room at the table.

Meal Train Opportunities for our Growing St. John’s Family

Consider providing a meal or gift card for St. John’s families who have recently welcomed new babies. Contact Alyssa Davidson at lyssadavidson16@gmail.com to help.

Easter Sunday - THREE services this year! | April 5

To make more room for everyone this Easter, we will be offering *three* services on Easter Sunday. Join us at 8:45 or 11 a.m. for a traditional service with brass, organ, and choir in the Sanctuary. At 11:15 a.m., our “All Things New” service will be held in the Parish Hall, featuring guitar, percussion, and a blend of traditional hymns and modern music.

St. John’s Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, April 8 at 11 a.m.

Buttermilk Cafe (1324 E. Common St.)

Come enjoy good food and fellowship with friends old and new. All are welcome. Please RSVP to Pete Meaden at 832-689-8957 or pete.meaden@outlook.com.

The Church Office is closed Monday, April 6.

Nails & Prayers Service Retreat | April 10 - 12 at Camp Capers

Learn more and register at dwtx.org/events.

A service-based weekend for high school juniors and seniors, college students, individuals, and couples of all ages. Projects may include trail work, painting, landscaping, and other hands-on improvements.

Worship in the Park: Heritage Village | April 12 at 10:30 a.m. | 1370 Church Hill Drive

Join us for a morning of outdoor worship at Heritage Village! This year, we’ll be led in lively song by The Oompahs, bringing festive polka music to our worship. After the service, stay for a picnic lunch, games, and fellowship for all ages. Some benches are available but please BYOChair if you prefer! An abbreviated 8:45 a.m. service will be held at St. John’s for those unable to attend Worship in the Park.

Fellowship Groups for Youth Boys (5:15 p.m.) & Girls (5 p.m.) | Sunday, April 12 | Locations listed in Church Center

Gather for dinner, fellowship, and discussion. Learn more and RSVP in Church Center.

The Good, The True, & The Beautiful Retreat | April 17–19, 2026 at Camp Capers

Join Bishop David Read at Camp Capers for a creativity and spiritual retreat exploring storytelling, songwriting, and the arts through the lens of faith. Enjoy meaningful worship, fellowship, delicious meals, and time in the beauty of nature as you deepen your faith and creative gifts. *Learn more and register at dwtx.org/events.*

Rector’s Sabbatical | April 20 - August 1

Fr. Ripp will be on sabbatical and unavailable during this time. For all inquiries, please contact Jenny Montgomery, Executive Assistant to the Rector, at jenny@stjohnsnb.com.

Cursillo #300 (Men Only) | April 30 - May 3 at Mustang Island Conference Center *registration coming soon!*

Upcoming Baptism Date: Pentecost Sunday (May 24) *Contact Jenny (jenny@stjohnsnb.com) if you are interested.*



- visitor connection card
- event info and sign ups
- latest eNews
- worship bulletin PDF
- ...and more!

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

March 29 at 8:45 & 11 a.m.

Requiem

March 29 at 3 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

April 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday

April 3 at 12 & 6:30 p.m.

Egg Hunt at Heritage Village

April 4 at 10:30 a.m.

Easter Vigil

April 4 at 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday

April 5 at 8:45, 11, & 11:15 a.m.

visit stjohnsnb.com/holyweek
to read about these offerings