



Fifth Sunday of Easter
Youth Sunday
May 3, 2026



*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Paula & Rick Warren
in loving memory of their daughter, Natalie, and in thanksgiving for mothers everywhere.*

ST. JOHN'S CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Ripp Hardaway, Rector <i>on sabbatical</i>	Kelly Jackson, Family Ministry & Parish Life
The Rev. Matthew Bloss, Associate Priest	Emily Lehmuth, Children's & Nursery Ministries
Riva Heron, Seminarian	Lauren Koops, Assistant Youth Minister
Jenny Montgomery, Executive Assistant to the Rector	Cade Norman, Youth Intern
Desiree Moultrie, Director of Finance & Operations	Mishi Turlapati, Youth Intern
Grace Symmons, Director of Communications	Art Gonzales, Sexton
Valerie Thompson, Director of Music & Organist	James Bangert, Assistant Sexton
Ben Sykora, AV Tech Lead	

WORSHIP MINISTERS

	8:45 a.m. Service	11 a.m. Service
Acolytes	John Michael & Mary Elizabeth Douglas, Elijah Jackson	Ainsley Englefield, Curtis Parchman, Colton Shaver
Altar Guild	Carol Lenker, Sarah Spradling	Ann Y. Holder, Monya Keenen, Kathy Simmons
Youth Greeters	Peter Jewell, Ashley Rodriguez	Ryleigh Cabe, Casey & Caleb Shaver
Greeters	Joanne Whitcomb, Kaye Haynes	Theresa Pentecost
Youth Psalmist	Jane Jewell	Ainsley Englefield
Youth Reader	John Michael & Mary Elizabeth Douglas	Leonard Oliver
Eucharistic Ministers	Clark Hendley, Lynn Campaigne	Katherine DeGrasse, Matthew Eckmann
Ushers	Will Brown, Ann Amoroso	John & Linda Howe
Children's Chapel		Emily Lehmuth, Volunteer Crucifer
Flower Guild	Paula Warren	Paula Warren

PRELUDE | The Gift to Be Simple (*Simple Gifts*) – Douglas E. Wagner
I Come with Joy (*Dove of Peace*) – Gilbert M. Martin
In Thee Is Gladness (*In dir ist Freude*) – Paul Manz, Douglas E. Wagner

OPENING HYMN | On This Day, the First of Days

Hymn 47

EASTER ACCLAMATION

BCP p. 355

Celebrant ALLELUIA! Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. ALLELUIA!**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP p. 355

Together Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL (*11 a.m. service*)

Preschool - 3rd graders are invited to follow the Child Crucifer to Children's Chapel during the Song of Praise.

SONG OF PRAISE | Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing (v 1 & 2)

Hymn 205

COLLECT

BCP p. 225

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

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON | Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16 | *responsively by whole verse*

BCP p. 622

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O Lord, O God of truth.

2 **Incline your ear to me; ***
make haste to deliver me.

15 **My times are in your hand; ***
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.

4 **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, ***
for you are my tower of strength.

SECOND LESSON | 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner”, and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN | I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord (v 1-3)

Hymn 304

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

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

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

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN | I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord (v 4-5)

Hymn 304

THE HOMILY

Collin Rodriguez, Natalie Drichta

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

written by The Rev. Matthew Bloss

Good people of God, let this day be a reminder to us all that sin, death, and evil have been overthrown and put to flight. Our ancient enemy holds no authority here any longer, for God has won the battle, and offered his victory, freely, to us all. Let us pray then, in celebration, for the ongoing triumph of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Almighty God, we pray for your church, for all the communities of Christians spread across the earth. Inspire us all by your glorious resurrection, give your church the courage and conviction to overthrow the remaining vestiges of sin and evil and invite all of humanity to rest in the joy of your kingdom.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray also for the United States of America, and for all her people. Let us all marvel together at the triumph of Jesus. Let his victory over sin and death be the catalyst for us to put away the enmity and bitterness that divide us from each other. Let the love that inspired your son's saving acts inspire us to act with charity and grace toward all the people of this land.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And we pray not only for our nation, but for the whole world. That your hard-won peace over the greatest of evils would take root in this and every land. Help us to no longer look towards human strength or violence to keep peace between your children. Show us instead, your cross and resurrection. Let your peace, become our peace.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray especially for this community of New Braunfels, and all the communities that the people of St. John's call home. Though your victory was won on behalf of the whole world, help us never forget to share that victory first and foremost with those closest to us.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Keep us mindful, dear Lord, that evil was not willingly overthrown by your Son, and that elements of pain, fear, and deceit still linger upon the earth. Give us the will and the determination to bring health, peace, and truth to all who are in any need or trouble. Let your resurrection victory be the light O Lord, even in the darkest of nights.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And lastly Lord, we pray for those whose mortal strife is over, and who rest in peace with your Son. Help us remember and give thanks, that the sting of death is no more, that even though the body may die, the soul is preserved until that blessed day when the last traces of evil are overcome, and death itself will be no more.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Celebrant Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP p. 376

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

OFFERTORY TRIO | The Gift of Love – arr. Hal H. Hopson Ainsley Englefield, Ashley Rodriguez, Atlas Thompson

*Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love; my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Come, spirit come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed.
By this we worship and are freed. Amen.*

*Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.*

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:

**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 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.

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*

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

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

BCP p. 365

*All baptized Christian persons are welcome to receive communion at this the Lord's Table. To receive Communion, place one hand over with palms facing upward. To receive the wine, hold the chalice on the bottom and sip, or intinct - dip the bread into the wine. *Parents of small children, please help them when they intinct; try to ensure that only the bread is dipped and not tiny fingers. To receive communion from your seat please notify an usher, if you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the priest know during communion.*

COMMUNION MUSIC | The Summons / We Are Called – arr. Mark Hayes

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.

SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITOR(S)

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that [N. and] all those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

All We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

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.

CLOSING HYMN | O Praise Ye the Lord! Praise Him in the Height

Hymn 432

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 | A Thousand Tongues – William A. McNair

Valerie Thompson, Organist

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

Office Angel Ministry at St. John's

St. John's is launching a new Office Angel Ministry to support the growing needs of our church office. Volunteers are needed to serve a couple of hours each week answering phones, greeting visitors, and assisting with light office tasks. Training is provided, and no experience is required. If you're interested in serving, please contact Rachel Brown at rachelbbrown63@gmail.com or 678-549-1975.

McLane Community Arts Program Children's Recital | Tuesday, May 5 at 5:30 p.m. | Parish Hall

Join us as we celebrate the conclusion of our 11th year with our annual recital, where elementary students will share their musical talents and art. Refreshments will be served following the performance.

SOS Food Bank Workday | Wednesday, May 6, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. | 256 W. Merriweather

Join us for a volunteer workday at SOS Food Bank. Serving side by side is one of the most meaningful ways we can make a difference, and many hands truly do lighten the load. All are welcome to come lend a hand and support this vital ministry in our community. Contact Bob Wells at 713-822-6151 or blabwells@gmail.com with any questions.

Mother's Day at St. John's | Sunday, May 10

Join us for a special morning honoring every woman who nurtures, supports, and pours into the lives of others. We will have a special photo op, a gift for all women, and the Betty Lou coffee cart will be on campus from 9:30-11:30 a.m. serving lattes, matcha, and chai as we celebrate the women who help shape our lives and our community.

Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, May 13 at 11 a.m. | Gristmill Restaurant

Join us for the final Lunch Bunch gathering of the Spring! Come enjoy good food and great company as we wrap up the season together. For more information, contact Sarah Hawkins at (541) 999-9257 or sdf4angels@gmail.com.

Men of St. John's at Sip-N-Putt | Thursday, May 14 at 8 p.m. | 7420 I-35 N Frontage Rd, New Braunfels

Join the Men of St. John's for a round of mini golf and fellowship at Sip-N-Putt. Cost is \$15 per person. RSVP in Church Center if you plan to attend. While this is a Men of St. John's gathering, women & families are welcome to join.

Bingo and Recipe Swap | May 17 at 12:15 PM | Parish Hall *More details and RSVP in the Church Center app.*

Women of St. John's are invited for an afternoon of Bingo and a recipe swap. Bring a favorite dish and copies of the recipe to share as we taste, connect, and play together. Not a cook? A favorite grocery store find works too.

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

All Things New: Summer Worship Series | Saturdays at 4 p.m. beginning May 30 | Sanctuary

This summer, St. John's is offering a new opportunity for worship with a Saturday evening Eucharist with music led by our new Worship Team. The service will be equivalent to Sunday worship, with a formation hour beforehand in the Parish Hall. Come check it out as we continue exploring new ways to make more room at the table!

Camp Outreach for Rising Pre-K through Rising 5th Graders | June 1 - 4 *Registration is open in Church Center!*

Camp Outreach is St. John's annual summer program that combines hands-on service with meaningful fellowship. Children take part in creating projects that bless our local community, while youth serve in leadership roles and help guide the week. It's a fun, purposeful way for kids and students to grow in faith while making a real impact.

Beauty from Ashes 5K Run & Walk | Saturday, June 6 at 7:30 a.m. | Landa Park Founders' Oak

Support local widows through Beauty from Ashes, a nonprofit helping women navigate grief and life after loss. Join us for the third annual 5K Run & Walk and register on St. John's team to save \$5. Register at beautyfromashesministry.com.

Save the Date: St. John's Parish Retreat at Camp Capers | November 20-22

All are invited! Details and cost are still being finalized, and scholarships will be available so cost is not a barrier. If you'd like to help plan the retreat, please contact Kelly at kelly@stjohnsnb.com