

TRIDUUM: THE SACRED THREE DAYS

MAUNDY THURSDAY

THE HOLY EUCHARIST — 7 PM
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

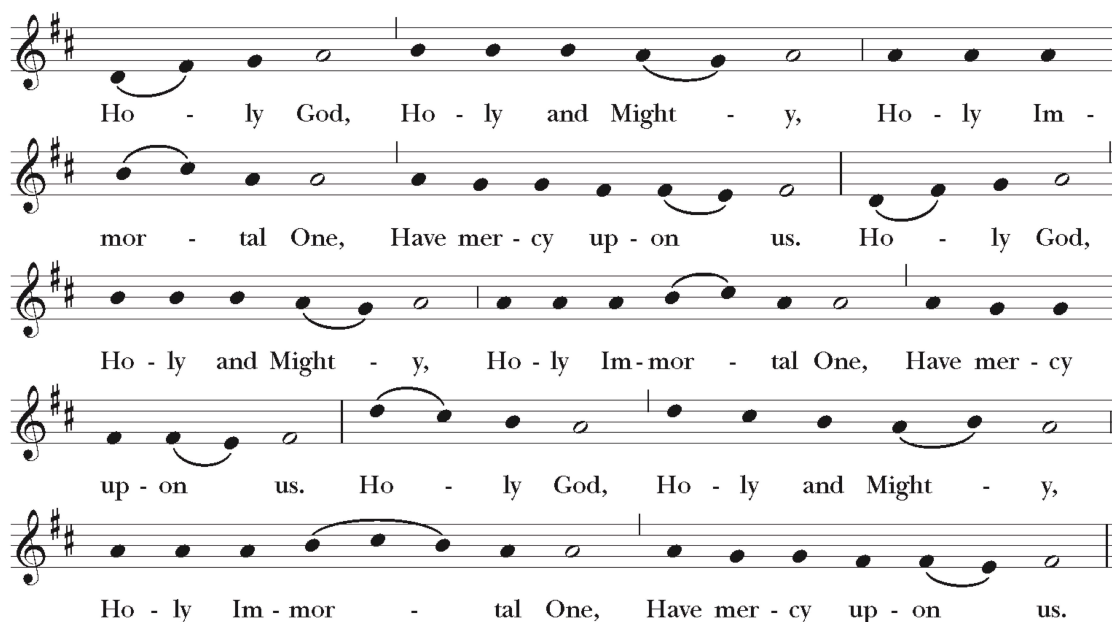
Welcome to St. John's! We invite you to help create the experience of silence before our service. Our hope is to calm our hearts as we prepare to enter into an intensity of shared presence. To ensure newcomers feel welcomed, position prompts are provided throughout our bulletins. If standing or kneeling is uncomfortable for you, please know it is fine to remain seated.

Opening Acclamation, standing

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People His mercy endures for ever.

Trisagion

From the Hymnal 1982



The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

You may be seated.

First Lesson: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

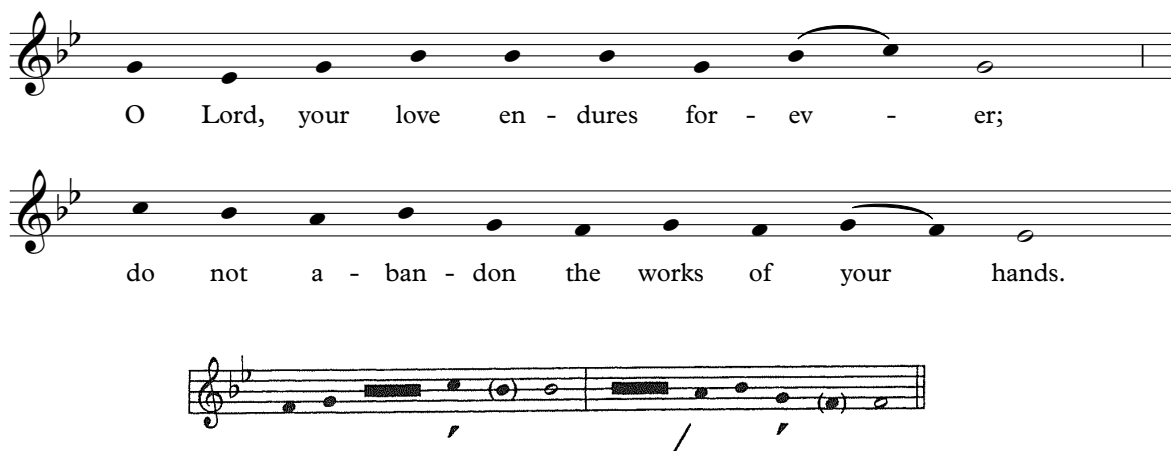
Psalm 116: 1, 10 -17

Dilexi, quondam

Plainchant Tone VIII.1

A cantor sings the antiphon at the beginning, then the congregation and choir immediately repeat it, singing it again where indicated; a cantor sings the verses to plainchant.

Antiphon



1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I / called upon him.

10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things / he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the / Name of the LORD.

Antiphon

12 I will fulfill my vows to the LÓRD *
in the presence of / all his péople.

13 Precious in the sight of the LÓRD *
is the death / of his sérvants.

14 O LORD, I am your sérvant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have / freed me fróm my bonds.

Antiphon

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgíving *
and call upon the / Name of thé LÓRD.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the LÓRD *
in the presence of / all his péople,

17 In the courts of the LÓRD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
/ Hallelújah!

Antiphon

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 315, standing Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pray

SONG 1

Holy Gospel, standing

John 13:1–17, 31b–35

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

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

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the

feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon, seated

Christina Rutland

A quiet time for reflection follows the sermon.

THE FOOTWASHING

The Bidding, standing

Fellow servants of our Lord Jesus Christ: On the night before his death, Jesus set an example for his disciples by washing their feet, an act of humble service. He taught that strength and growth in the Kingdom of God come not by power, authority, or even miracle, but by such lowly service. We all need to remember his example.

Therefore, I invite you who share in the royal priesthood of Christ, to come forward, that we may recall whose servants we are by following the example of our Lord. But come remembering his admonition that what will be done for you is also to be done by you to others, for “a servant is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.”

*Members of the congregation are invited to come forward to participate in the footwashing if they so desire.
Please remove your shoes and socks in your pew and come forward barefoot.*

There are two stations located at the front of the nave. During the footwashing, the congregation is invited to be seated and meditate on the significance of the servant ministry we all share in Christ.

Anthems at the Footwashing, Sung By the Choir

Drop, drop, slow tears

O. Gibbons

*Drop, drop, slow tears And bathe those beauteous feet Which brought from Heaven The news and Prince of Peace
Cease not, wet eyes His mercies to entreat To cry for vengeance Sin doth never cease In your deep floods Drown all my faults and fears
Nor let His eye See sin, but through my tears*

The Invited

H. Bird

*O Thou Who clotheth the lilies And feedeth the birds of the sky, Who ledest the lambs to the pasture And the hart to the waterside,
Who multiplied the loaves and fishes And converted the water to wine,
O Do Thou, come to our table, our table As Guest, and Giver to dine.*

The Mandatum

R. Lehman

The Lord Jesus, after he had supped with his disciples, and had washed their feet, said to them: Peace is my last gift to you, my own peace I now leave with you; peace which the world cannot give I give to you. Do you know what I, your Lord and your Master, have done to you? I have given you an example, That you should do as I have done. By this shall the world know that you are my disciples: that you have love for one another.

Voluntary Ubi Caritas

A. Pandolfe

Hymn, Sung By All Lord, help us walk your servant way

ST. AGNES

1. Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way wher - ev - er love may lead.
2. You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, but pow'r you laid a - side.
3. No gold - en scep - ter but a towel you place with - in the hands
4. You bid us bend our hu - man pride, nor count our - selves a - bove
5. Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way wher - ev - er love may lead.

And bend - ing low, for - get - ting self, each serve the o - ther's need.
You lived your years in ser - vant - hood; in low - li - ness you died.
of those who seek to fol - low you and live by your com - mands.
the low - est place, the mean - est task, that waits the gift of love.
And bend - ing low, for - get - ting self, each serve the o - ther's need.

WORDS: Herman G. Stuempfle (1923–2007) ©1997 G.I.A. Publications; public domain; MUSIC: John Bacchus Dykes (1823–1876), public domain.

The Peace, standing

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The ministers and people greet one another in the name of Christ.

Welcome and Announcements

You may be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Presider Jesus said, "Earnestly have I desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."

The congregation's offering for the mission and ministry of the church is received.

Offertory Anthem Ave Verum Corpus

C. Mawby

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, having truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for mankind, from whose pierced side water and blood flowed: Be for us a sweet foretaste in the trial of death! O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus, O Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.

Presentation, standing

The congregation's gifts of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Holy Table.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP p. 369

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Presider At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Presider From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Presider Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S-124

D. Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en 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.

The people stand or kneel, as the Presider continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People: We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Leah, Rachel, Bilhah, and Zilpah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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,

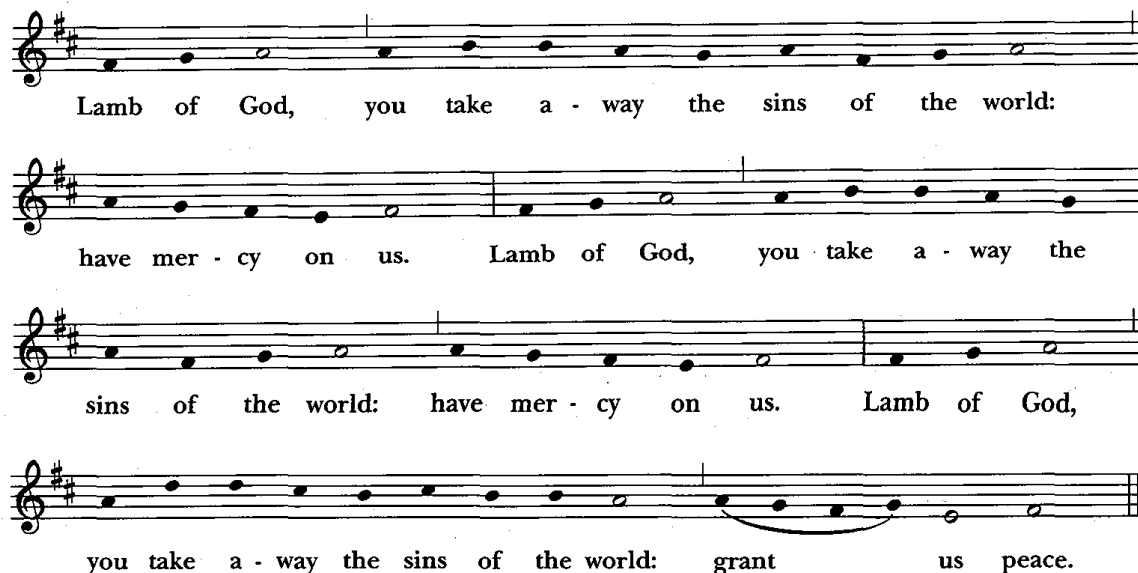
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread



The Invitation to Communion

Presider 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.

All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. For a blessing, place your hands across your chest. Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it. Please indicate this by holding one arm across your chest. If you are unable to come forward, please ask an usher or someone nearby to request that Communion be brought to you.

Hymn 325 Let us break bread together on our knees

LET US BREAK BREAD

Postcommunion Prayer, *standing*

Presider Let us pray.

**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.**

Prayer Over the People

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Stripping of the Altar

According to ancient tradition, the sanctuary is stripped of all ornamentation and the altar is stripped and washed in preparation for Good Friday.

The people are invited to kneel or be seated as the altar is stripped and the anthem is sung.

Psalm 22

Sung by cantors.

Plainsong

The ministers leave in silence.

Note: A loud sound happens at the end of the service to symbolically foreshadow the closing of the tomb.

Watchnight

The congregation is invited to remain in silent prayer in the church.

Good Friday — March 29

Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Church (By Appointment Only: Good Friday Morning)

Held in the Church on the morning of Good Friday with The Rev. Kate Wesch. Private and confidential, this sacrament is a healing way to end the Lenten season for any who wish to be restored to God because their relationship with God has been broken by sin. When preparing for confession, reflect on events from the past week, month, year, or even longer.

For those unfamiliar with the service, the rite may be found beginning at page 446 in The Book of Common Prayer. If you would like to schedule a time with Rev. Kate in the morning on Good Friday between 10:30 and 11:30 AM, please call the office 860-767-8095.

Good Friday Liturgy — Noon in the Church

This Liturgy marks Christ's crucifixion, but it is not a funeral. Instead, the focus is on extolling the glory of the Cross, through which all creation has been redeemed. The Church is bare and the ministers enter in silence. The Liturgy of the Word concludes with the reading of the Passion according to John. The sermon and the Solemn Collects follow. In praying the Solemn Collects, we pray on behalf of the entire world, for which Christ died. After the Solemn Collects, a heavy wooden cross is brought in and positioned in the Chancel. Time is allowed for worshipers to come forward and venerate the cross by kneeling before it, touching it, standing next to it, lighting a candle, even kissing it. The service concludes with a brief communion taken from the bread consecrated the night before at the Maundy Thursday service.

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee extends a warm invitation to the entire parish community to join in the spirit of togetherness during Holy Week as we prepare with Jesus for his final days before he is risen again.

The Great Vigil of Easter (March 30) — Light Reception — 8:30 PM in the Parish Hall

Saturday evening, join us for another dramatic service as we begin outside at dusk and move inside for a candlelight service with the St. John's Choir. Then directly following the service, a reception with cookies and drinks.

To make these occasions even more special, we encourage parishioners to contribute by signing up in the Narthex to bring food, drinks, or assist with clean up. If you have any questions, please contact the office at 860-767-8095 or email Chelsea DiDonato at chelsea@stjohnsessex.org.

Holy Saturday —March 30, 12 PM in the Church

Holy Saturday falls between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. It commemorates the day when Jesus Christ lay in the tomb after his death. At noon, people gather for a short, simple service of prayers and readings. There is no Eucharist and no music. In the midst of Easter preparations, all pause to pray and remember this day.

The Great Vigil of Easter — March 30, 7 PM beginning in the Amphitheater

Elaborate and dramatic, this service utilizes all the senses as we recount salvation history and revel in the saving power of God's great mercy. There will be incense at this service. The liturgy intended as the first (and arguably, the primary) celebration of Easter is also known as the Great Vigil. The service begins in darkness and consists of four parts: The Service of Light (kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet); The Service of Lessons (readings from the Hebrew Scriptures interspersed with canticles, and prayers); Christian Initiation (Holy Baptism) or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows; and the Eucharist. Through this liturgy, the church recovers an ancient practice of keeping the Easter feast. **You are also encouraged to bring bells of all kinds to ring out with joy at the Easter proclamation this night!**

Dessert reception following the Easter Vigil in the Parish Hall. There will be a sign-up sheet for help with the reception, however, if you have any questions please contact the office at 860-767-8095 or email Chelsea DiDonato at (chelsea@stjohnsessex.org).

Easter Day — March 31

All Easter services are in person, and the 10:15 service will be livestreamed for those who are unable to be with us.

Easter Sunrise Service, 6:00 AM at the CT River Museum (weather permitting)

This is a perfect service for welcoming the community and sharing the Easter celebration with our neighbors. It is beautifully timed to enjoy the first Eucharist of Easter Sunday just as the sun is rising over the river. For those attending, please bring your own chairs.

Easter Service, 8:00 AM & 10:15 AM

Holy Week concludes with the greatest feast of the Christian year, the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. With unbridled festivity, we pull out all the stops in our liturgy and music.

Easter Egg Hunt

The St. John's Easter Egg Hunt for children of all ages begins after the 10:15 AM service. The Egg Hunt takes place in the Amphitheater. *There is no 5:00 PM service on Easter Day. Those who regularly attend the 5:00 PM service are encouraged to attend either the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday evening or one of our other Easter services.

CLERGY & PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Kate E. Wesch, *Rector*

kate@stjohnsessex.org / 860-767-8095 x.12

The Rev. Wilk Miller, *Priest Associate*

Chelsea DiDonato, *Communications Director & Parish Administrator*

chelsea@stjohnsessex.org / 860.767.8095 x. 10

Anthony Pandolfe Jr., *Director of Music & Organist*

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Allison Fresher, *Minister of Worship Life*

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Mairi Graham-Shaw, *Intern for Liturgy & Preaching*

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Christina Rutland, *Seminarian Intern*

christina.rutland@yale.edu

Manuel Matute, *Sexton*

Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY LEADERS

Nancy Haslam, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

Marlene Going, *Weekly Food Collection*

Stephanie Patterson, *Altar Guild*

Peggy Tuttle, *Pastoral Care Card Ministry*

Jennifer Miller, *Meal Ministry*

Ernie Brainard, *Candle Master*

Nat Eddy, *Outreach Committee*

VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONALS

Bill Scharfenstein, *Building and Grounds*

Greg Perruccio, *Stewardship Chair*

Dave Rogers, *Treasurer*

Clio Coles, *Assistant Treasurer*

Shawn Honan, *Investment Oversight Committee*

VESTRY Scott Konrad, *Warden*; Sandy Loether, *Warden*; Anne Littlefield, *Vestry Clerk*; Dave Rogers *Treasurer*; Carol Beisser, Lois Blood Bennett, Tony Custodio, Nat Eddy, Wesley Henry, Stephanie Patterson, Patti Pickering, Rob van der Horst, Kevin Walsh



WORSHIP & STUDY TIMES

SUNDAYS | Holy Eucharist — 8:00 & 10:15 AM

“Come As You Are” Worship Service — 5 PM

TUESDAYS | Bible Study, *Parish Hall* — 10:00 AM & 5:30 PM

THURSDAYS | Zoom Bible Study — 2:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS | Morning Prayer — 10:00 AM

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3 Cross Street, / (P.O. Box 422) Essex, CT 06426

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