

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II — 10:15 A.M.
SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 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.

Prelude **Chorale Prelude on Crimond** *The Lord's my Shepherd* **S. Peberdy**

All rise at the sound of the church bell.

Hymn 334, standing **Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing** **ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN**

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

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.**

Canticle 13 S-236 *Benedictus es, Domine* **J. Rutter**

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord
God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____
_ for the ra - di-ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will
praise you and high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____
3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your
tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, _____ seat - ed bet -

ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.
5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the
depths; in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to
you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther,
Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

The Collect of the Day

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

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

You may be seated.

The First Lesson: Acts 4:5-12

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is
`the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm is sung by the Choir. Please remain seated.

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

J. Goss

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Second Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 663, standing **The Lord my God my shepherd is**

CRIMOND

Holy Gospel: John 10:11-18, standing

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Kate E. Wesch

Silence and stillness are kept after the sermon.

The Nicene Creed, *standing*

**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.**

Pray for the World and the Church, standing

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Jeff and Laura our bishops, Kate our priest; for this gathering and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for those who are poor, sick, hungry, or oppressed, and for those who are in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially, Bill Bevan, Jinny Buracchi, Connie Cliffe, Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Nancy Gould, Toni H., John Hayes, Brigida Matute, Chris Miller, Marjorie Misch, Marguerite Quigley, Dorothy Rider, Christopher Rogers, and those we now name either silently or aloud.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Jim Bennett and Joyceanne Green. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for our St. John's community, Reverend Kate and her family as the discernment process for the next Bishop of the Diocese of Olympia continues in the weeks ahead. We also pray for the other nominees and their congregations. May we all be at peace with the waiting and the eventual results, continue to support one another in community, and share God's good news by word and example.

Silence

Intercessor: At this time, you may offer your own intercessions and thanksgivings.

Silence

Intercessor: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The people kneel as able. A moment of reflective silence is kept.

People **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace, standing

Presider The peace of the risen Christ be always with you!

People **And also with you!**

Then the ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

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

Anthem Savior, like a shepherd lead us

W. B. Roberts

*Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need thy tender care; in thy pleasant pastures feed us; for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are. Early let us seek thy favor, early let us learn thy will; do thou,
Lord, our only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill. Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us; love us still.*

Presentation, standing

The congregation's gifts of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Holy Table. Weekly donations to the Shoreline Pantry are placed before the Altar.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A Expansive Language, standing

Presider God 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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 S-125

Holy, Holy, Holy

R. Proulx

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

The people stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious God: 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 maker of all.

Jesus 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ. 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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, 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,
 the power, and the glory
 for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem S-169

My flesh is food indeed

R. W. Irwin

Cantor or Choir
 My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -
 deed, says the Lord. *All* My Lord. *Cantor or Choir* Those who eat my
 flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them. *All* My
 flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.

Hymn 343 Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

ST. AGNES

Prayer after Communion, standing

Presider 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.**

Sending of Eucharistic Visitors, as requested

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

People **We, who are many, are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Blessing, standing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 478, standing Jesus, our mighty Lord, our strength in sadness MONK'S GATE

The Dismissal

Presider Alleluia, Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude Prelude in Bb, BWV 560

J. S. Bach

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Altar Flowers

*Today's altar flowers are given to honor the spirit of Elizabeth Clark Miller
by Laurel V. McLaughlin and Sergey Smolin.*

Coffee Hour Reception

*Directly following the service, all are invited to attend coffee hour in the Parish Hall.
The Evangelists are hosting.*

OPEN HOUSE AND NEWCOMER RECEPTION
Sunday, April 21 — 5 PM service directly followed by reception

Are you new to St. John's Episcopal Church? Do you want to know how to become a member or how to become involved? Maybe you've heard about *The Saint John's Bible* and wondered - What is it?

Newcomers are invited to join us in the Parish Hall (church library) for a welcoming reception and an informal introduction to *The Saint John's Bible*. The clergy, vestry, and staff will be present to welcome you. We will have refreshments. For those interested in the Bible, docents will give a small introduction.

AVAILABLE SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS DATES

There are many dates available for 2023! If you want to celebrate an anniversary, birthday, or remember a loved one with your church family, please contact Chelsea DiDonato at 860-767-8095 ext. 10 or chelsea@stjohnsessex.org.

Dates Available: May 5, 12; June 2; July 7, 14, 21, 28; August 4, 25; September 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.

REGISTER FOR THE ONLINE PICTURE DIRECTORY
Parish Hall — 9 AM-10 AM & 11 AM-12 PM

Our first online picture is underway! We're using a secure cloud-based system called Breeze, specially designed for church databases. This directory is a fantastic way to keep everyone's contact details current and stay in touch with each other. Over 100 members already have accounts, and we hope you'll join them.

To make things easy, our office staff will be available in the Parish Hall this Sunday from 9-10 AM and 11-12 PM to provide tech support. Each session will be quick, about 10-15 minutes. We will create username and password account, as well as consent to the online directory. All drop-ins are welcome!

Visio Divina with *The Saint John's Bible*
Saturday, April 20, from 12:30-3:00 PM in the Parish Hall

You are invited to spend time with *The Saint John's Bible* to meditate, create, learn, and enjoy the art and the beauty of the illuminations and calligraphy. All are welcome and encouraged to drop in at any time throughout this offering.

This offering will be the third Saturday of each month from 1-3 PM (please make the notation in your summer newsletter of the time change): May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17.

TAIZÉ SERVICE | THURSDAY, MAY 9 AT 7 PM IN THE CHURCH

Thursday, May 9th, marks Ascension Day in our liturgical calendar. This evening we will have a special worship service in the style of Taizé at 7 PM. Taizé (pronounced: tay-zay) is a prayerful form of worship noted for its simple yet rich and meditative character. The Taizé worship tradition finds its roots in the ecumenical French monastic community of Taizé, founded in 1940. This ecumenical community receives visitors from across the globe of many denominations and seeks to unite all forms of Christianity. The Taizé service is a contemplative worship experience of meditation, reflection, liturgical readings, and music. There is no preaching, and the experience comes alive through the active participation of all assembled by focusing and deepening our faith through the power of prayer.

The heart of the body of music offered at this service often takes the form of ostinato (a simple melody that repeats over and over) and aims to center prayer. Simple in nature, Taizé music is designed to move our prayer from the head to the heart. If you have worshiped at a Sunday evening service at St. John's, you have likely experienced one of these short chants. This service provides time to get away from our busy week and experience the contemplative and quieting power of prayer.

Memorial Day Sunday: The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Sunday, May 26 — 8 AM & 10:15 AM Services 9 AM - 10 AM Forum

The Ministry for Military Veterans and Active Military Personnel (MVAMP) invites everyone to a special forum and reception dedicated to honoring veterans who have passed away.

David Pittsinger, a renowned opera singer and parishioner, will lead a discussion on an operetta he recorded with his son, Richard (an opera tenor), focusing on "Arlington Sons," which tells the story of The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Several years ago, Richard shared his perspective on this experience, and we are delighted to have David share his insights with us now. We will also honor parishioners and family members of parishioners who have died since Memorial Day 2023 with flags and nameplates in the Meditation Garden. Marlene Going is archiving all names of parishioners and family members of parishioners who have served in the military and passed away. If you have not previously listed family names or need to update the information, please send all submissions to Marlene Going (mjgosxct@gmail.com) by May 12. Following the morning services, our Liturgical team invites the parish to lay a wreath in the Memorial Garden, accompanied by a hymn and TAPS. We invite all parishioners to join us in honoring those who have served and are no longer with us.

ST. JOHN'S REMEMBERS DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MAY 12

Every Memorial Weekend Sunday, St. John's pauses to remember those who died while serving our country, as well as those who served and have since passed away. We want to give those new to the parish a chance to participate in this remembrance.

To help us continue to update our list, please provide Marlene Going with the names and military branches of any deceased family members who served but haven't been listed. Indicate if they passed away since last Memorial Day ("Yes" or "No") on the card. Please fill out a card in the narthex or email Marlene at (mjgosxct@gmail.com). Optionally include the conflict they served in and your name and phone number for any follow-up.

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*

anthony@stjohnsessex.org / 860.767.8095 x.17

Allison Fresher, *Minister of Worship Life*

allison@stjohnsessex.org

Meghan Wrinn, *Program & Events Coordinator*

meghan@stjohnsessex.org

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

mairi@stjohnsessex.org

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

860.767.8095 | www.stjohnsessex.org