

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II — 10:15 A.M.
SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome to St. John's! We are glad you have joined us today. Everything you need is in this leaflet or the blue Hymnal 1982 found in the pew. We invite you to prepare for worship in silent prayer during the prelude, and we encourage you to participate throughout this liturgy in singing the hymns and service music and saying the portions in bold type. Prompts are provided for you to stand, sit, or kneel where appropriate and as you are able.

Prelude Christ lag in Todesbanden F. W. Zachau (1663-1712)

Welcome and Announcements, seated

All rise at the sound of the bell.

Hymn 305 "Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest" *Rosedale*

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant 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.**

Glory to God S-278 *Gloria in excelsis* W. Mathias

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

The Collect of the Day

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

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

You may be seated.

The First Lesson: Acts 2:14a,36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Lector The Word of God for the people of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17 *Dilexi, quoniam*
Sung by the choir

P. Buck

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.

- 2 The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: *
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."
- 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.
- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people
- 13 Precious in the sight of the Lord *
is the death of his servants.
- 14 O Lord, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the Lord's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Lector The Word of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Alleluia, *standing as able*

Celtic Alleluia

F. O'Carroll & C. Walker

Verse by A. Pandolfe

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Choral Verse: "Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
make our hearts burn while you speak to us."*

The Holy Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas

Silence for reflection.

The Nicene Creed, *standing as able*

**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

Celebrant

Jesus Christ is risen indeed. In the glorious light of the resurrection, let us bring our prayers before the Risen One whose deepest desire is that all might know the transforming power of God's love.

Intercessor

God of Love: All creation sings your praise this day. Bless this world and all that dwells in it. We give thanks for the many gifts you have showered on us, especially eternal life in the mighty resurrection of your Son. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

God of Truth: The Church Universal sings with joy this Eastertide. Be with all who lead in your Church: vestries and lay ministers; our Presiding Bishop, Sean; our bishops, Jeff and Laura; Elaine, our priest; and all who serve in your name. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

God of Justice: Shed your wisdom on this nation and its leaders, the state of Connecticut and all who govern it, and this community and all who seek to create a better world. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

God of Mercy: The sick and sorrowful followed Jesus in search of healing. We pray for all who suffer from illness in body, mind, or spirit, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts (*the people may add their own intercessions*). Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

God of Life: In the sure and certain hope of the resurrection, we pray for those who have died and whom we see no more, especially those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts (*the people may add their own intercessions*). Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant

For all these things as well as those prayers we have no words to pray, we come before you, risen Christ. To you we offer praise eternal: **Alleluia, alleluia! Amen.**

The Peace, *standing as able*

Celebrant The peace of the Risen Christ be always be with you.
People **And also with you.**

*The ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.
You may be seated following the exchange of the Peace.*

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Anthem O Sacred Feast Healey Willan (1880 - 1968)

O Sacred Feast, wherein Christ is received, the memory of his Passion is renewed in us, our souls are filled with grace, and the pledge of everlasting glory is given to us. Alleluia.

Presentation

*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 1

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are as follows:

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. 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, joining with angels and archangels and the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing

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 may remain standing or you may kneel or sit as is your preference.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, forever and ever.



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

The Lord's Prayer, said by all

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

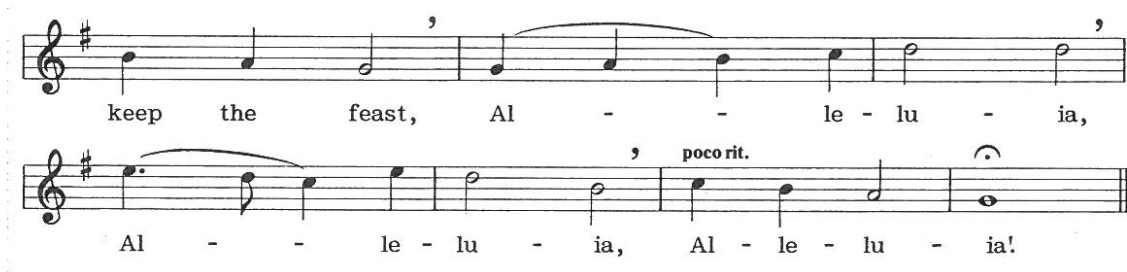
A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Alleluia! Christ our Passover

J. Rickard (b. 1942)





The Invitation to Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome at God's table no matter where you are in your walk with Christ. If you need gluten-free bread, simply ask the priest. If you prefer to receive a blessing, indicate that by crossing your hands over your chest when you come to the altar rail. The first chalice following the bread is for you to drink the wine. The second is if you choose to dip (or intinct) the wafer in the wine. If you are unable to come forward for any reason, 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 as able*

Celebrant Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn 174 "At the Lamb's high feast we sing" *Salzburg*

The Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Risen Lord.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude *Sortie* **Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)**

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St. John's Prayer List

Holding each other's joys, sorrows, and concerns before God in prayer is a spiritual practice that characterizes our life together at St. John's. In our worship services, we pray each other's prayers together. Outside of our time together many parishioners make it part of their daily lives to pray the prayers of the parish community. You are invited to participate in your own way.

Thanks be to God

for the gift of eternal life in the resurrection of our Lord;
for the promise of spring;
for those discerning a call to serve this community more deeply;
for all the blessings of our lives, and for the faith, fellowship, and ministries of this parish;

Your prayers are requested

for Wyatt Sampson who is to be baptized next week;
for an end to the war in Iran;
for a path to sustained peace in Israel, Palestine, Russia, and Ukraine;
for an end to political and hate-fueled violence in our public spaces;
for the elected leaders of the United States that they will govern with wisdom, compassion, and concern for the poor and outcast;
for lasting peace to come to areas of violence in our world, especially Sudan, Nigeria, and Congo;
for an end to gun violence in this country and the courage for each of us to work toward that;
for all LGBTQI+ people who face bias and violence each and every day;
for members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble, including Eileen Aiken, Ed Birch, Reginald Brulotte, Jinny Buracchi, Connie Cliffe, JoAnne Connor, Bea Comstock, Tony Custodio, Evelyn, Sherley Furgueson, Nancy Gould, Robert Henry, Ethel, Julia, and Jim Gribbins, Hazel, Erin Kraten, Dorothy Rider, Leona Savoie, Dione Solan, Gary Young, Jean Shaw, Tim Thomas;

Please note that any names on the prayer list will remain for a period of one month. At the end of each calendar month, the list will be cleared. If you would like to continue to have a name on the list, please contact the office after the first of the month.

for the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, including Christ Church, Middle Haddam; St. George's, Middlebury; Holy Trinity, Middletown;
for the Anglican Communion, including the Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

We commend to God's never-failing care

those who have died, remembering especially Mike Furgueson; the civilians and military personnel who have died this week in Iran; the dead in the ongoing violence in Sudan, Congo, Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Gaza; in gun violence around this country; those who are dying in climate-related disasters; immigrants who have died seeking a better life; and for U.S. civilians and service personnel who have died in the line of duty;

and all whom we love but see no more.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Studies and Midday Eucharist

Morning Bible study continues on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. with Part 2 of our Mark series covering chapters 4 & 5. Please bring a bible and your questions!

Holy Eucharist is also on Tuesday at 11:15 a.m. in the chancel (choir area) of the church.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study continues this week at 5:30 p.m. with Vickie Corbett discussing the Revelation to St. John.

Wednesday Contemplative Prayer is on hiatus. If this is something you might be interested in exploring in the future, please contact the office.

St. John's Socials will kickoff with a celebratory reception on Sunday, May 3, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. If you signed up, you will receive an invitation to this event. If you have not signed up, please contact the parish office!

Westbrook Food Pantry Needs

Please continue to bring non-perishable food items for our neighbors at the Westbrook Food Pantry. Donations are collected each Sunday after morning services.

For the next two weeks we will be collecting **Pasta and Sauce**.

Bill's Blessings: This week we are collecting "**All Free Clear**" Laundry Detergent. Next week we will collect **Hand Soap**.

Next week!



ST. JOHN'S SPEAKER SERIES

Creation Care as a Spiritual Practice

WITH THE REV. RACHEL FIELD

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026 AT 11:45 A.M.

Rooted in a lifelong love of the natural world, the Rev. Rachel Field invites us to explore creation care as a spiritual practice. With more than 15 years of experience leading creation-centered retreats in the Episcopal Church, she draws on her work in emerging ministries and her current role as Co-Owner and Co-Director of Heartberry Hollow Farm & Forest, a regenerative farm and retreat center in Vermont.

Rev. Field holds a Master of Divinity from Yale Divinity School and a certificate in Contemplative Leadership from the Shalem Institute.



Support the Speaker Series:
Donations help make future events possible.

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WORSHIP

SUNDAYS | Holy Eucharist — 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.
TUESDAYS | Bible Study — 10:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
TUESDAYS | Midweek Holy Eucharist — 11:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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