

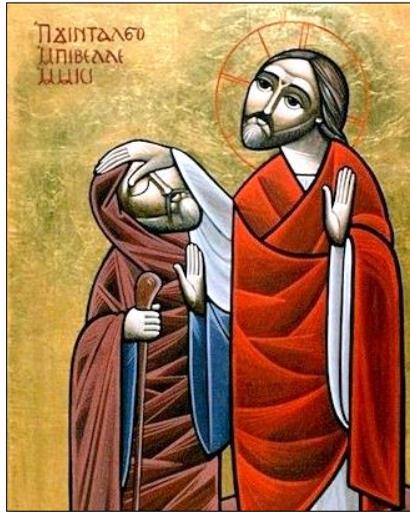
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL
& AFRICAN PALMS USA

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 15, 2026

8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832
Phone: (301) 774-6999 | Website: www.stjec.org

~ CALLED BY CHRIST IN LOVE, TO LIVE IN TRUTH AND ACTION ~

Welcome to St. John's Church

We are a diverse faith community committed to carrying out Christ's mission in the world around us. We love the beauty of worship, and live into the faithful and constant commitment towards seeking social and economic justice and reconciliation among all peoples. We come from across the globe, with varied family configurations, educational backgrounds, occupations, interests, and talents and invite you to join us.

If you are visiting our church for the first time, please introduce yourself to an usher or a member of the Clergy. We have a small gift for you from the parish.

If you are seeking a spiritual home, please speak with the Clergy.



Please join us for Coffee and fellowship following the worship service

If you are a guest with us today, please know that you are welcome to enjoy fellowship, coffee, and tea with us in the Parish Hall following the service.

Children are welcome at all services

If you have little worshipers with you today who might enjoy coloring, Play-Doh, or a Rubik's cube, these can be found at either entrance.

The Nursery is open from 10:15am to 12pm for children age 5 and under.

SUNDAY @ ST. JOHN'S

8am	<i>Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary</i>
9:15am	<i>Adult Forum in the undercroft Meeting Room</i>
9:45am	<i>Holy Household Half-Hour, Intergenerational "Sunday school" in the Parish Hall</i>
9:45am	<i>Holy Play, Intergenerational faith formation for families with children 1st grade and under in the Nursery</i>
10:30am	<i>Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary</i>

LOOKING AHEAD

TODAY

- Baby Sprinkle for Baby Benson

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

- Meal Preparation for Women's Shelter @ 4pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

- Lenten Soup & Bread Supper @ 6:30pm
- Lenten Evening Prayer @ 7:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

- Casserole Club Meeting @ 12pm

MONDAY, MARCH 23

- Women of St. John's Just1Child Guest Speaker @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

- Lenten Soup & Bread Supper @ 6:30pm
- Lenten Evening Prayer @ 7:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

- Palm Sunday Services @ 8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST

*In keeping with the intention of Lent
please enter in silence and allow the music to begin your worship experience.*

10:30AM
Prelude

The people stand.

10:30AM
Hymn #493

O for a thousand tongues to sing

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heayen.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Azmon*, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

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

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Kneel as you are able.

Minister and 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.

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 people stand.

8AM

Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy.

10:30AM

WLP 837 Kyrie eleison

The image shows a musical score for a Kyrie eleison. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The first system has the vocal line starting with 'Ky - ri - e c - lei - son.' and the piano accompaniment. The second system has the vocal line starting with 'Chris - te c - lei - son. Ky - ri - e c - lei - son.' and the piano accompaniment. The music is in 3/2 time and features a mix of eighth and quarter notes.

Music: Kevin R. Hackett (b. 1956), from *Hymn Tunes Mass*; based on *Herzliebster Jesu*, Johan Cruger (1598-1662), alt.
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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Lector A reading from the first book of Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here."

He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

- 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.

Ephesians 5:8-14

Lector A reading from the letter of Apostle Paul to the church in Ephesus.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

Hymn #490

I want to walk as a child of the light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.
 I want to look at Je-sus.
 I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
 When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.
 show me the way to the Fa-ther.
 shall know the joy of Je-sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (9:1-41)

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight."

They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to

him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

People The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

THE SERMON

The Rev. Shivaun Wilkinson

Reflective Music

In keeping with the intentions of Lent enjoy the music, or the silence, and take a moment to reflect on the sermon.

The people stand.

The Nicene Creed

**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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord,
saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for
the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For this community of Olney, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For **Andrew, Kathleen, Gregoria, Nancy, Betty, Patrick, Jessica, Stephanie, Cynie, Sara, Aurora, Katie, Carole, Ivy, Steve, Celeste, and Mary**, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of beloved John and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People

To thee, O Lord our God.

Officiant

Strong and faithful God, hear us as we cry to you. Stretch out your hand to save us, that we may praise you for your mercy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.



Use the QR code to donate from your mobile device.

Anthem: Break Thou the Bread of Life

Eithun

The people stand.

People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

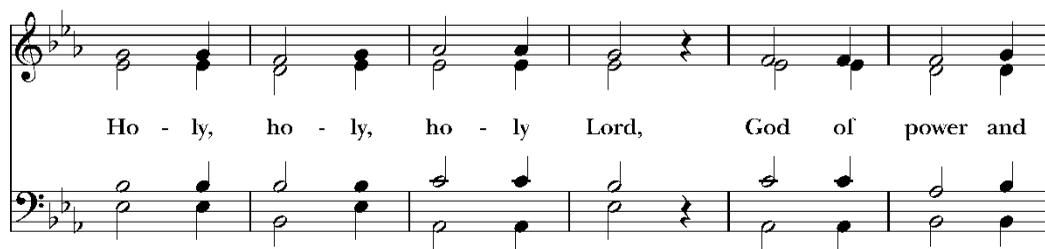
People Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

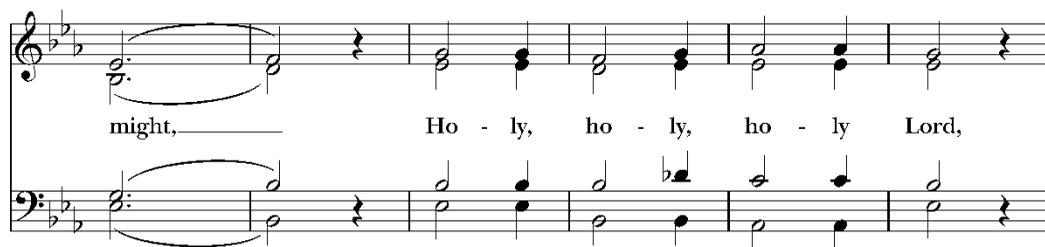
And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

8AM

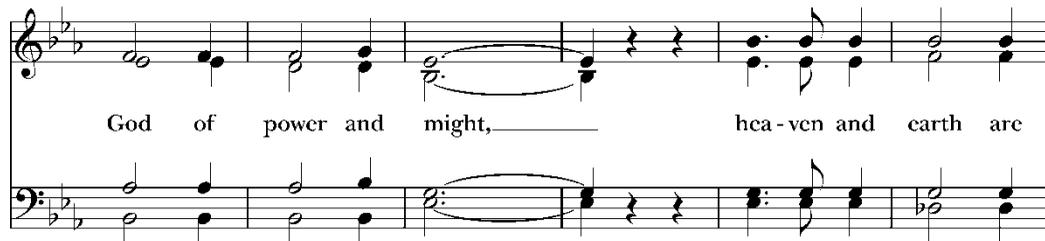
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**



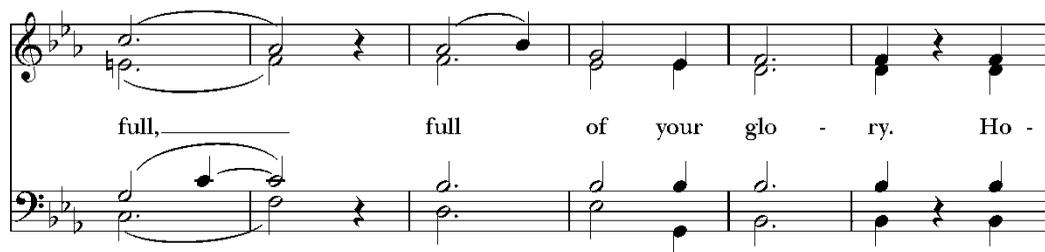
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



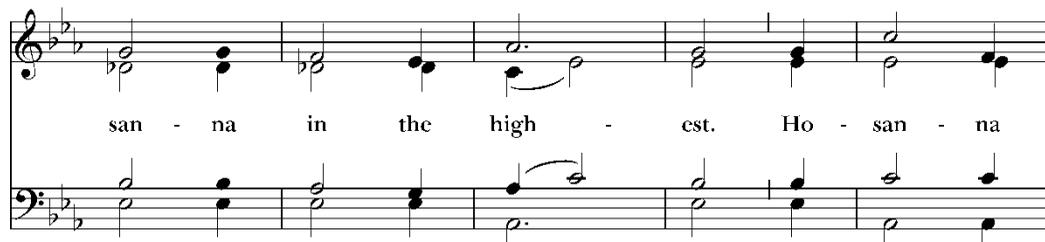
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are



full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a three-system musical score for a vocal part. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a basso continuo line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some rests and ties. The final system ends with a double bar line.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and people.

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

The Celebrant continues.

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, in the language closest to our hearts, we are bold to say,

**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.**

**Onze Vader die in de hemelen zijt,
Uw Naam worde geheiligd;
Uw koninkrijk kome;
Uw wil geschiede,
gelijk in de hemel also ook op de
aarde.
Geef ons heden ons dagelijks brood;
en vergeef ons onze schulden,
gelijk ook wij
vergeven onze schuldenaren;
en leid ons niet in verzoeking,
maar verlos ons van de boze.
Want van U is het koninkrijk
en de kracht en de heerlijkheid
tot in eeuwigheid. Amen.**

Communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. You can receive in both kinds, bread and wine or in just one. To receive communion, or a blessing, please come forward to the priest at the front of the altar. To receive bread, put your hands out, to receive wine, please drink from the chalice. To receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest. Gluten-free host is available. Please make your needs known to the priest.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

8AM

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

10:30AM
WLP 871

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the

world: have mer-cy on us. — Lamb of God, you

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand. The vocal line includes a triplet of eighth notes in the first system and a triplet of quarter notes in the second system. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us. — Lamb of God, you".

take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The people are seated.

Sending Prayers for Eucharistic Visitors.

Deacon In the name of God and 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 because we all share one bread and one cup.**

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

The people stand.

Celebrant and people.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn #533

How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise!

1 How won - drous and great thy works, God of praise!
 2 To na - tions of earth thy light shall be shown;

How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!
 their wor - ship and vows shall come to thy throne:

O who shall not fear thee, and hon - or thy Name?
 thy truth and thy judg - ments shall spread all a - broad,

Thou on - ly art ho - ly, thou on - ly su - preme.
till earth's ev - ery peo - ple con - fess thee their God.

Words: Henry Ustick Onderdonk (1759-1858), alt.; para. *The Song of the Redeemed*. Music: Lyons, att. Johann Michael Haydn (1737-1806).

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

In keeping with the intentions of Lent, we invite you to enjoy and experience the music as a time of reflection.

Postlude

TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Use this list to pray and to show your love and concern for the sick, shut-in, bereaved, or those merely in need of prayer. If you wish to submit a name please contact the office at accounting@stjec.org.

In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email pastoralcare@stjec.org

Andrew Erickson

Kathleen Benson

Gregoria

Nancy Soukup

Betty, Patrick & Jessica Blackburn

Stephanie Sidella

Cynie Eisler

Sara R.

Aurora

Katie Fairbanks

Carole

Ivy Choe-Branstetter

Steve Ruff

Celeste McGee

Mary Persinger

If you are ill for an extended period, are hospitalized, need a visit or Eucharist brought to you, want your home blessed, are celebrating a birth, adoption, or want specific prayers for any number of celebrations or sorrows, please email: pastoralcare@stjec.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **LENTEN EVENING PRAYER & SOUP**

Mark our Lenten journey and join us every Wednesday evening through Lent for fellowship and a simple meal of Soup & Bread at 6:30pm followed by a beautiful service of Evening Prayer at 7:30pm.

- **MEALS FOR THE WOMEN'S SHELTER**

Tuesday, March 17th at 4pm, the women of St. John's will prepare and cook (at St. John's) and serve a meal for approximately 50 people at the Women's Shelter at Crabbs Branch in Derwood.

- **WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S**

Guest speaker Conwree Denton will join the Women of St. John's on Monday, March 23rd for their in-person meeting to speak about her non-profit called Just1Child. Just1Child's mission is to get books into the hands of just one child. Just1Child accepts books of all kinds and levels for children grades K-6.

- **CALLING ALL WOMEN OF ST JOHN'S**

Join us at the Celebration of Women on Saturday, April 11th at Montgomery Country Club from 11:00-2:00. Come meet your sisters from all over the diocese and enjoy a good meal and fellowship. The cost is \$60.00. Questions? Please contact Mathy Milling Downing by phone (301-938-8089) or email mathy02@aol.com.

- **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Canned Chicken | Sardines | Spaghetti Sauce | Meal Helpers | Cake Mix & Frosting | Pudding Cups Chef Boyardee (large & small) | Jelly | Pancake Mix .

Please leave ALL donations on the bench outside the Rector's office and check expiration date before donating. THANK YOU!

2026 VBS



JOURNEYS TO THE HOLY

*The Outward, Inward, Upward,
Downward Travels of Faith*

An all ages, all-parish Vacation Bible
School exploring the meaning of
pilgrimage and faith

Sun. July 26th – Wed. July 29th
6-8:30pm each evening

REGISTER @
WWW.STJEC.ORG

*Includes dinner, Bible reflection,
games, crafts, activities, laughter,
learning, and a prayerful reflection.

- **HOLY PLAY**

Holy Play, our intergenerational faith formation gathering for families with children in 1st grade and younger is intentionally designed to engage toddlers through early childhood learners. Formation leaders will guide children and their caregivers through Bible stories, sensory play, and simple conversations about faith. Parents and guardians are invited to join us Sunday mornings at 9:45am in the Nursery.

- **NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**

The nursery is transitioning from having a paid nursery worker to a rotating volunteer nursery team during the 10:30am service. If you are interested in being a part of a rotation of four primary volunteers (older teens/ adults) and four helpers to provide safe and consistent care for our youngest members, please speak with Mo. Shivaun.

Holy Week



WEDNESDAY
April 1
7:30pm



THURSDAY
April 2
6pm & 7:30pm



FRIDAY
April 3
12pm & 7:30pm



SATURDAY
April 4
8pm



INTERACTIVE
Family Service
9am

EASTER EGG
Scavenger
Hunt
10am

EASTER
Traditional Service
11am

WORSHIP WITH US

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION WITH MUSIC & FLOWERS

Celebrate the Resurrection and honor loved ones by donating Easter Flowers or Easter Music for Easter Sunday. Easter Flowers are available for a \$40 donation, and you may also contribute toward special Easter Music. All donations will be recognized in the Easter morning bulletin. Forms **MUST** be submitted to the office by Sunday, **MARCH 22**.



Easter Altar Flowers

Return completed form along with your check for **\$40** made payable to:
St. John's (Easter Flowers on the memo line)
place in Sunday's Collection Plate, Bookkeeper's mailbox or mail to church office.

CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, MARCH 22

GIVEN BY: _____

IN THANKSGIVING OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____



Easter Music

Return completed form along with your "Special" Easter Music Donation to:
St. John's (Music on the memo line)
place in Sunday's Collection Plate, Bookkeeper's mailbox or mail to church office.

CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, MARCH 22

GIVEN BY: _____

IN THANKSGIVING OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL & AFRICAN PALMS USA

Diocese of Washington

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, *Archbishop of Canterbury*

The Most Reverend Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop*

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, *Bishop*

STAFF

The Reverend Henry P. McQueen, *Rector*

rector@stjec.org

The Reverend Shivaun Wilkinson, *Associate Rector*

associate@stjec.org

The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon*

deacon@stjec.org

Tammy Turner, *Parish Administrator*

accounting@stjec.org

Cambria Van de Vaarst, *Minister of Music*

music@stjec.org

Africanpalms@stjec.org

Joe Powers, *Interim Head of School*

Joe.Powers@stjes.org

Eoin Benson, *Sexton*

VESTRY

Bree Bruemmer, 2027 - *Pastoral Care*

Carmen Jones, 2027 - *Evangelism*

Becca Roberson, 2027 - *Sr. Warden, Outreach*

Andrew Hamill - *Treasurer*

Julie Metcalf - *Registrar*

Becky Hast, 2028 - *Jr. Warden, STJES*

Mary Lou McMaster, 2028

Rob Schellhase, 2028 - *Parish Life*

Mark Glaudemans, 2029 - *Worship*

Francesco Paganini, 2029 - *STJES*

Mary Quinn, 2029 - *Stewardship*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832

(301) 774-6999 - Welcome@stjec.org

~ On the Land of the Piscataway Nation ~