

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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 30, 2025

8am & 10:30am

HOLY EUCHARIST



"Prodigal Son" by Wayne Pascall

3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832

Phone: (301) 774-6999

Website: www.stjec.org

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 8am to 12pm for children age 5 and under.

SUNDAY @ ST. JOHN'S

8am	<i>Worship with Eucharist, no music, in the Sanctuary</i>
9am	<i>Adult Forum: Book & discussion group in the undercroft Meeting Room</i>
8:45am	<i>Choir Rehearsal in the undercroft Choir Room</i>
9:30am	<i>Holy Household Half-Hour, Intergenerational "Sunday school" in the Parish Hall</i>
10:30am	<i>Worship with Eucharist and choir in the Sanctuary</i>
12-1:30pm	<i>Middle & High School Youth Group in The Gathering Space downstairs</i>

COME JOIN US

TODAY

- Youth Group Meeting @ 12pm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

- *Hospitality Sunday*
Spring Clean-Up for Easter – Sanctuary, Parish Hall, and Garden area (lunch provided).
- Newcomer's Coffee Hour @ 12pm
- Youth Group Meeting @ 12pm
- Spring Clean-Up for Easter

Holy Week



Wednesday
April 16
7:30pm



Thursday
April 17
5:30pm & 7:30pm



Friday
April 18
12pm & 7:30pm



Saturday
April 19
8pm

HOLY EUCHARIST

*In keeping with our seasonal theme of "Back to Basics"
please enter in silence and allow the music to begin your worship experience.*

10:30AM
Prelude

The people stand.

10:30AM
Hymn #470

There's a wideness in God's mercy

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is no place where earth's sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven;
3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is no place where earth's fail-ings have such kind - ly judg-ment given.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.

There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and more gra-ces for the good;
 There is plen-ti-ful re-demp-tion in the blood that has been shed;
 If our love were but more faith-ful, we should take him at his word;

there is mer-cy with the Sa-vior; there is heal-ing in his blood.
 there is joy for all the mem-bers in the sor-rows of the Head.
 and our life would be thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: Beecher, John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Kneel as you are able.

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.

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

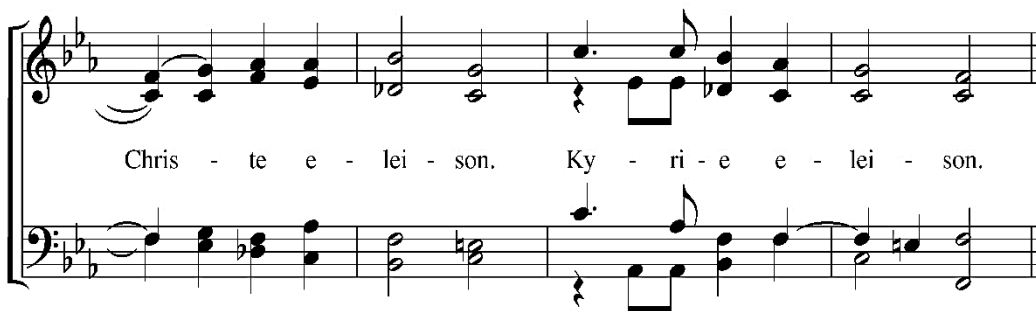
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

10:30AM

WLP 837 Kyrie eleison

Musical score for 'Kyrie eleison' in 2/2 time, B-flat major. The score consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.' are written below the treble staff. The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady bass accompaniment.



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.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Lector

A reading from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthian church

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself

through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

Hymn #693

Just as I am, without one plea

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - ya
 * 3 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,
 4 Just as I am: thou wilt re - ceive; wilt wel - come,
 5 Just as I am, thy love un - known has bro - ken

1 blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me
 2 con - flict, man - ya doubt; fight - ings and fears with -
 3 heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in
 4 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve, be - cause thy prom - ise
 5 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

1 come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 2 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 3 thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 4 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 5 thine a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am, of thy great love
 the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
 here for a season, then above:
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliot (1789-1871) Music: *Woodworth*, William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (15:1-3, 11b-32)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him

anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

People

Reflective Music

In keeping with our seasonal theme of "Back to Basics" 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 In this holy season let us turn to God in prayer, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all the people of God, that we may be led by the Spirit to hunger for God's holy Word, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer**

For the peoples and nations of the world, and for those in authority, that power and glory lead us in the way of justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer**

For all who are afflicted and oppressed, that God will open our ears so we hear their cry, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer**

For this community, that we may believe in our hearts and confess with our lips, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer**

For our own needs and those of others especially, **Mary Faith, Brian, Julie, Lois, Steve, Celeste, Paula, and Mary**, that God is walking with us, will hear us in our need, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer**

For those who have died, may they rest in peace and rise in Glory, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer**

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: Dona Nobis Pacem

Traditional

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

pg. 361

The people stand.

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

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 every-where 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.**

10:30AM

Sanctus WLP 850

Dimmock

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, —
hea-ven 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, Ho - san - na,

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

Music: Jonathan Dimmock (b. 1957), from *Missa Appalachia*. Copyright © 1996 Jonathan Dimmock.

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.**

**Vater unser im Himmel,
geheiligt werde dein Name.
Dein Reich komme.
Dein Wille geschehe,
wie im Himmel so auf Erden.
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns
heute.
Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,
wie auch wir vergeben unsern
Schuldigern.
Und führe uns nicht in
Versuchung,
sondern erlöse uns von dem
Bösen. Amen.**

Communion is offered to all who are called by Christ to participate. You can receive in both hands, 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. For health reasons, we do not instinct (dip) the bread. 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.**

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 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 several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) and repeat signs (double bar lines with dots). The lyrics are placed below the vocal line, with a long dash indicating a breath or a pause in the music.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people stand.

Celebrant and 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.

The Blessing

Hymn #332

O God, unseen yet ever near



1 O God, un - seen yet ev - er near, thy pres - ence may we feel;
2 Here may thy faith - ful peo - ple know the bless - ings of thy love,
3 We come, o - be - dient to thy word, to feast on heaven - ly food:
4 Thus may we all thy word o - bey, for we, O God, are thine;



and thus in - spired with ho - ly fear, be - fore thine al - tar kneel.
the streams that through the des - ert flow, the man - na from a - bove.
our meat the Bo - dy of the Lord, our drink his pre - cious Blood.
and go re - joic - ing on our way, re - newed with strength di - vine.

Words: Edward Osler (1798-1863) Music: *St. Flavian*, from *Day's Psalter*, 1562

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

In keeping with our seasonal theme of "Back to Basics" 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

Mary Faith Almasi

Brian Soukup

Julie Metcalf

Lois Taylor

Steve Ruff

Celeste McGee

Paula Fangboner

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 PRAYERS**

Join us Wednesday evenings through April 9th for a simple soup and bread meal at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall followed by Lenten evening prayers at 7:30pm. Please see Friday's Bell Tower to sign-up to bring soup or bread on the coming Wednesdays.

- **SPRING CLEANING FOR EASTER**

Join us as we prepare the inside and outside of the church for Easter on Sunday, April 6th following the 10:30am service. Help us spruce up the sanctuary, Parish Hall, and the lawn and garden area. Supplies will be provided for indoor cleaning, we will however, need some outside tools - rakes, garden forks and garden gloves. Lunch will be provided.

- **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

Food Pantry needs for this week include: Meal Helper | Sardines | Rice Pasta Sauce | Taco Kit.

Thanks to your generous donations, the Pantry is well stocked, however the following sale items from Safeway or Giant is also appreciated:

Safeway - Campbell Chunky/Homestyle Soups, General Mills Cereal;
Giant - Starkist Chunk Light Tuna, San Giorgio Rice-a-Roni, Pasta Roni, or Mac-a-Roni, and Idahoan Potatoes.

- **EASTER FLOWER & MUSIC**

Celebrate the Resurrection and honor loved while beautifying our church with a donation toward the Easter flowers on Easter Sunday. The Easter flowers in the church are provided by your contributions. Each flower is available for a donation of \$40. We also offer the opportunity to contribute towards special Easter music. All donations, (Flowers & Music) will be recognized in our Easter morning bulletin. Deadline to fill out and return the form is Sunday, April 13th.



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, APRIL 13 ***

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, APRIL 13 ***

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 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*

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The Reverend Nancy Stockbridge, *Deacon*

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Doug Perkins, *Interim Head of School*

Doug.Perkins@stjes.org

Jonathan Chai, *Sexton*

Selva Selvarajah, *Verger*

VESTRY

Will Lederer, 2026 - *Formation*

Bill Fleming, 2026 - *Sr. Warden*

Mary Kerr, 2026 - *Pastoral Care*

Andrew Hamill - *Treasurer*

Aparna Williams - *Asst. Treasurer*

Julie Metcalf - *Registrar*

Vicki Hudson, 2027 - *Stewardship*

Carmen Jones, 2027 - *Evangelism*

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

Becky Hast, 2028 - *STJES*

Mary Lou McMaster, 2028 - *Worship*

Rob Schellhase, 2028 - *Parish Life*

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 ~