

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
APRIL 7TH AT 10:15 A.M.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. John's is an Open and Affirming congregation. In faithfulness to Jesus and His commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves, we invite everyone to celebrate with us in the full life and ministry of the Church. We believe strongly in our mission statement to Grow in God, Act in Service, and Witness in Love.

TO THOSE WHO MAY BE NEW OR ARE VISITING

We are so glad you are here! Ushers are stationed at the back of the church and can answer any questions you may have or please ask a neighbor in the next pew. Restrooms can be found on the other side of the Parish Hall – just look for the red signs. In addition to worship, opportunities for fellowship exist between and after each service in the Parish Hall. For those with small children, a nursery is available every Sunday, however our youngest members are always welcome in worship. Thank you for being here!

A NOTE ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Our Rite II service comes from the Book of Common Prayer and is filled with vibrant music, sacred scripture, and the breaking of bread. This service is filled with the joyful sound of children rustling in the pews, anthems sung to the glory of God, and the heartfelt prayers of those gathered. With acolytes and processions, communal singing, and a mission to love and serve our neighbors, this service invites one to participate in the coming of the Kingdom. At St. John's everyone is welcome to the Lord's table.

The hymns we sing in worship are from one of two books found in your pews: 1982 Hymnal (the red book, the S stands for Service Music and is found in the front of the hymnal), or Wonder, Love, and Praise (WLP, which is the green book).

THE POWER OF WARMTH AND LIGHT

Today marks the official public launch of our Capital Campaign! To date, we have received \$651,653 pledges and gifts towards our \$1.2 million dollar goal. The Capital Campaign Steering Committee and Vestry are thrilled at the progress we've made thus far as we seek to be faithful stewards of this sacred space. A brand-new HVAC system across our campus, new lighting in our sanctuary, and the restoration of our windows is vital to our mission and ministry. Please consider joining us in this worthy endeavor. More information can be found in the brochures in your pew, along with pledge cards. To learn more, check out our website at www.stjohns-lancaster.org.

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*If you have an announcement, you would like the clergy to share,
please fill out the form on our website or let the office know no later than Thursday.*

PRELUDE *Give Me Jesus* **Jeremy Camp**

PROCESSIONAL *Crown him with many crowns* **HYMNAL 494**

OPENING ACCLAMATION (*please remain standing as you are able*)

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

COLLECT FOR PURITY **BCP 355**

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.*

A SONG OF PRAISE *Glory to you* **HYMNAL S-236**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY **BCP 222**

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

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 4:32-35 (*please be seated for the readings*)

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 133

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
 when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
 that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
 and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
 that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
 life for evermore.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the

truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

People Thanks be to God.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN *Eternal light, shine in my heart* **HYMNAL 466**
st. 1-2 before the Gospel reading; st. 3 after the Gospel reading

THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31 (*please remain standing as you are able*)

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE NICENE CREED *(please rise in body or spirit)*

BCP 358

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. (pause)
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 *(written by the Capital Campaign Prayer Team)*

Gracious Lord, guide us as we strive to add our unique light to the radiant glory of the body of Christ. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey, our own Bishop; Amanda, Jen, and Stacey, our clergy; and Emma, our seminarian. We give thanks for the light that radiates through our diocesan and Anglican siblings especially All Saints, Williamsport; Christ Church, Milton; and the Anglican Province of Alexandria.

Help us to inspire local, national, and world leaders toward enlightened policies. We pray for the light and warmth of your love to inspire the hearts and minds of Joe, our President; Josh, our Governor; and Danene, our Mayor.

Enliven our efforts to be good stewards of the facilities entrusted to us by our forebears, and of the environment in which we live, so that future generations may continue to serve and worship in a place of light and beauty.

Lead our work in offering our members, neighbors, visitors, and all seekers a spiritual home filled with warmth and light. We pray for our friends at home especially Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaxa, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Carol Greenfield, Sandy Grove, Carole Humphrey, Darlene Bentley, and Peggy Zuke.

Support us in determining how best to offer a warm embrace to all who are homeless, needy, hurting, lonely, or facing any other difficulties. We pray especially for Pat Pankey, Jeannie Zeller, Kent Strickler, Glenda Broad, Don Doolittle, Nancy Strasburg, Justin & Lisa, Ella, Matt Patterson, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Ann Marie, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Rich Hartley, Justice Deleo and family, Richard Anderson, Ruth and George, Bart, Andrew Wright, and Twari.

Kindle in us the fire of your love as we remember the departed and offer a place of comfort and solace to all who are bereaved.

At this time, we invite your own prayers of thanksgiving or intercession silently or aloud.

Celebrant Generous God, thank you for always hearing our prayers. We give you thanks for the inspiration this sacred space offers and for the community that gathers here. We remember those who came before us and pray that we may be good stewards of all entrusted to our care. Through the enhancement of our sacred space, we pray that strangers may become friends and the light and warmth of your love may be experienced by all. We ask this in the name of the One who makes all things new. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

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

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BCP 830

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts, may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY *Crown Him with Many Crowns* John Purifoy

THE DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;* **HYMNAL 380 v.3**
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER D

BCP 372

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also 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 God thanks and praise.*

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

THE SANCTUS

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

HYMNAL S-129

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMNAL S-149

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

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in
hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who

sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION

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.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The Episcopal Church invites all who seek God to our Lord's table. If you wish to receive, please come forward to the altar rail when the usher indicates. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. If you do not wish to receive the wine, cross your arms over your chest when the wine passes. If you desire a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are also available.

COMMUNION HYMNS	<i>My God, thy table now is spread</i>	HYMNAL 321
	<i>I am the bread of life</i>	HYMNAL 335

SENDING FORTH OUR EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Celebrant In the name of God and on behalf of this parish, 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. We who are many are one body.
People Because we all share one bread, one cup.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(please rise in body or spirit)*

BCP 365

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

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

HYMNAL 205

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Onward, Christian Soldiers!

Arthur Sullivan

St. John's Traveler Letter:

Did you know St. John's has a team of pilgrims who travel every week to the very places we pray for in the Anglican communion? Follow John as he shares a little bit about the church and the places he visits:

Dear Pastor Amanda,

Good morning and peace to you from the land of Egypt! I am spending this First Sunday of Easter in the ancient, beautiful Mediterranean port city of Alexandria. All around me, I hear friends and neighbors greet each other with "Sabah al-khayr," which means "good morning" in Arabic and "salaam," which means "peace." It is very early in the morning, and the sun is already beginning to turn the Mediterranean a dazzling shade of blue. As I sip my tea and listen to church bells ringing in the distance alongside the Muslim call to prayer, I am reminded that this city is indeed a crossroads of many cultures.

Alexandria, which is known as the second capital of Egypt, played a key role in the early days of Christianity. Many say that St. Mark, who wrote the Gospel of Mark in the New Testament, traveled to Alexandria around the year 49 AD and founded the Church of Alexandria. Earlier this week, I visited St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Alexandria and marveled at the beautiful mosaics and artwork. Many Christians in Egypt are known as Coptic Christians and follow the Orthodox tradition.

My most favorite pastime has been simply walking along the vibrant waterfront and exploring the city's historical landmarks, and bustling cafes. Alexandria is the largest city that lies directly on the Mediterranean, and it draws tourists from around the world. It is a true joy to see clothing of many cultures, hear so many different languages, and walk among brothers and sisters from around the world. In the Arab world, Muslims are celebrating the holy month of Ramadan, which coincides in part this year with our Lenten and Easter season.

It has been such a delight and a privilege to Egypt. I have seen pyramids, wonders of the ancient world, and I even rode a camel! I hope you'll keep this country and its people in your prayers. Egyptian leaders are now playing a key role in trying to mediate a ceasefire in Gaza. Many Egyptians are also facing challenges including water scarcity, inflation, and high pollution, and poverty is not uncommon in many places.

Blessings to you and our St. John's family this Easter season. My travels throughout the world continue to remind me that we are all one family, connected through and by the love of God.

Your friend,
John Traveler

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

Coffee Hour to follow each service

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

MONDAY, APRIL 8

6:00 PM Ministries Council

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

1:30 PM Martha's Ministry
2:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

12:00 PM HEII with Healing
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

9:00 AM Ministers' Meeting
10:00 AM Worship Committee
2:30 PM Food Pantry
7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Rector's Day Off
5:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

9:00 AM Voyager's Meeting
2:30 PM Wedding

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Coffee Hour to follow each service
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

VOYAGERS MEETING – SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

On Saturday April 13, Melissa Ressler of the Lancaster Downtowners will be the Voyagers' guest presenter. Lancaster Downtowners is a nonprofit that connects people choosing to age in community by providing social, educational, and wellness programs. It also provides informed recommendations when other services such as volunteer support for everyday tasks are needed. Join us in a conversation about how we can reshape our community through independence and interdependence.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP FORMING!

A Bible study group will begin meeting on Mondays at 7 PM in the parish hall starting on May 6. We'll be reading Holy Imagination by Judy Fentress-Williams. The book is subtitled, A Literary and Theological Introduction to the Whole Bible. While the subtitle may appear daunting, the book is well organized and the material is thoughtfully and clearly presented. We look forward to a time of good discussion and fellowship lasting no longer than an hour and a half.

If you'd like to learn more about the study group please contact Rich Garon, 703-477-5431 or rich@richgaron.com. Amazon has books on hand.

The Power of Warmth & Light



A VERY CURIOUS HISTORY

Did you know that for the first several years of St. John's history, services were held in the Undercroft and not in the church?

Did you know that two of the twelve disciples are MIA in Mary's window? Wonder which two they are?

Come and join us for a guided tour of our beautiful church and campus and take a brief dip into our history as we embark on our Capital Campaign: The Power of Warmth and Light. Tours will occur on the last two Sundays in April (April 21 and 28) between the services, and all are welcome.

WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church! We are glad you are here. Please tell us a little bit about yourself by filling out a pew card and placing it in the offertory plate.

OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Audrey C. Scanlan, Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Amanda Knouse, Rector
amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Jen Trenary, Assistant Rector
jen@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Stacey Catigano, Deacon
scatigano@gmail.com

VESTRY

Drew Dorgan (*Sr. Warden*), John Modene (*Jr. Warden*), Charles Wear (*Treasurer*),
Molly Moyer (*Secretary*), Nick DiPace, Andy Welaish, Liz West, Ted Loose,
Kathy Kyper, Gretchen Walden, Penn Glazier

DELEGATES REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Pam Loose, Webb Cook, Emma Di Pace
David Rutledge, Maggie Knox-Lee

STAFF

Douglas Beach, Minister of Music & Communications
Dana Sanborn, Bookkeeper
John Knouse, Property Manager
Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian
Amelia Aycock, Nursery Care

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