

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
MARCH 16, 2025 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. In addition to worship, opportunities for fellowship exist after the service in the Parish Hall. A nursery is available every Sunday for our littlest members next to the restrooms. 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.

	<h2>St. John's Food Pantry and Blessings Box Ministries</h2> <h1>Preparing with Hope</h1>	
<p>Week 3 Sunday, March 23 Collection</p>	<p>Food Pantry Healthy Breakfast Cereal 12-18 oz Boxes</p> 	<p>Blessings Box Soup Small Cans or Cups or Dry</p> 

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 *Improvisation on an Irish Air* Norman Coke-Jephcott

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *The God of Abraham Praise* **HYMN 401**

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

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

THE DECALOGUE (*please kneel as you are able*) **BCP 350**

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God and our neighbor.

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.

Celebrant 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 KYRIE

HYMNAL S-89

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 15:1-12,17-18 (*please be seated*)

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27 (*chanted by the choir*)



1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

- 2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.
- 5 One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- 10 Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, LORD, will I seek.
- 12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- 13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the LORD will sustain me.
- 15 Show me your way, O LORD; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.
- 17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the LORD *
in the land of the living!
- 18 O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the LORD.

THE EPISTLE: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(please kneel as you are able)*

BCP 389

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the holy Church of God, especially St. Luke’s, Mechanicsburg and The Church of the Province of Central Africa, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey, our own Bishop; Amanda, our priest; Emma, our seminarian, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust especially Donald, our President; Josh, our Governor; and Danene, our Mayor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, especially Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Carol Greenfield, Sandy Grove, Darlene Bentley, and Peggy Zuke, that we may show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; especially Pat Pankey, Nancy Strasburg, Ella, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Richard Anderson, Collin, Liz Kryder Reid, Eileen Waite, Andrew, Carol, Sandy, Marshall, Dawn, Virginia Young, Garth, Maria Sauder, Kim, and the family of Angel Suliveras, that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

Such is the Love of God

Douglas Nolan

PRESENTATION HYMN *As thou didst hunger bear and thirst,
so teach us, gracious Lord,
to die to self, and chiefly live
by thy most holy word.*

HYMN 142 (st. 3)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*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.

(During Lent, it is customary to kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer)

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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 365

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

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. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. The wine is administered in two chalices: the common cup for drinking and the intinction cup for dipping your wafer into the wine. 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. If you are unable to come to the altar, please let an usher know and we would be happy to bring communion to you!

COMMUNION HYMNS

St. Patrick's Breastplate

HYMN 370

SENDING FORTH OF THE 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.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we journey through these forty days. May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus

HYMN 495

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People *Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE

O Christ the Same Irish Tune arr. By John Bannard

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,

People sometimes ask if I get tired of traveling. The surprising answer I give is that, despite the constant change of scenery, much of what I do remains the same week after week and month after month. I have the privilege to meet people all over God's creation and work with them to make the world just a bit of a better place.

Two years ago, the Church of the Province of South Africa voted to allow women to become priests for the first time. Here in the bustling city of Blantyre in the African nation of Malawi, I've spent the week with the first female seminarian studying to become a priest in this country.

Her name is Manisha – Isha for short – and it's been an absolute pleasure to get to know her. She grew up in a smaller city called Zomba, about an hour north of Blantyre in the middle of the jungle. She grew up next to an elephant sanctuary and would spend weekends fishing on Lake Chilwa. Unfortunately, you may also know her hometown as one that still prohibits women from becoming priests, even though the overall Church now allows it.

I asked Isha if that bothered her. She was quiet for a minute before responding. "It used to," she said. "But I realized in the end, that doesn't matter. God has called me to this, even if the people back home haven't heard Him yet." She plans to return home after she's ordained, even if they still don't allow women priests, and do what she can to help who she can.

It's moments like this – changes like this – that remind me of the beauty in what I do. As we get closer to Easter, I hope you find moments like this as well.

Peace,
John Traveler

THIS WEEK 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
- 12:00 PM Vestry Meeting
- 1:00 PM Education for Ministry
- 4:00 PM St. Patrick's Day Event!

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

- 1:30 PM Martha's Ministry
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry
- 5:00 PM Immigration Clinic

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

- 12:00 PM HEII with Healing
- 2:00 PM Men's Bible Study
- 5:30 PM Lenten Program
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

- 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry
- 7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Rector's Day Off

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

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
- 1:00 PM Education for Ministry

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER & PROGRAM: EVERY WEDNESDAY IN LENT AT 5:30

Please join us in the Parish Hall for our Lenten Program "Walk in Love." Each week, we will have a simple soup supper and discuss Walk in love: Episcopal beliefs and practices. This class is for anyone who wants to learn more about the Episcopal Church, those who would like to be confirmed or received as official members when **the bishop visits on May 4**, or for those who are curious! The Youth Group and parents will join us for our meal and then break off for their own Lenten Program. All are welcome!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SUPPER 2025

TODAY starting at 4:00pm. We will be serving corned beef & cabbage, potatoes, and a vegan option. Our own Paul West will perform live, and all are encouraged to get up and sing along! The cost is \$25 per person, and \$50 per family. We will have a door prize as well as a basket raffle and 50/50 raffle!

STREAM TEAM MINISTRY

Each week, we stream the 10:15 a.m. service. This ministry is vital for folks who are homebound, those traveling, and for newcomers who are looking for a church home. To continue this ministry, we need a few volunteers to help set up the streams and run the camera. Currently, John and Amanda+ are running this ministry. Please see either of them if you'd like to assist! (p.s. you don't need to be technologically astute to do this!

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

VESTRY

Drew Dorgan (*Sr. Warden*), Charles Wear (*Treasurer*), Ted Loose (*Jr. Warden*), Molly Moyer (*Secretary*), Liz West, Kathy Kyper, Gretchen Walden, Penn Glazier, Mary Huber, Bruce Waskowicz, Sarah Jones

DELEGATES REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Pam Loose, Br. David Rutledge, Joe Way, Drew Dorgan

STAFF

Mark Herr, Minister of Music (*music@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
Dana Sanborn, Bookkeeper (*finance@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
John Knouse, Property Manager (*property@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian
Danielle Hill, Nursery Attendant

GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE

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