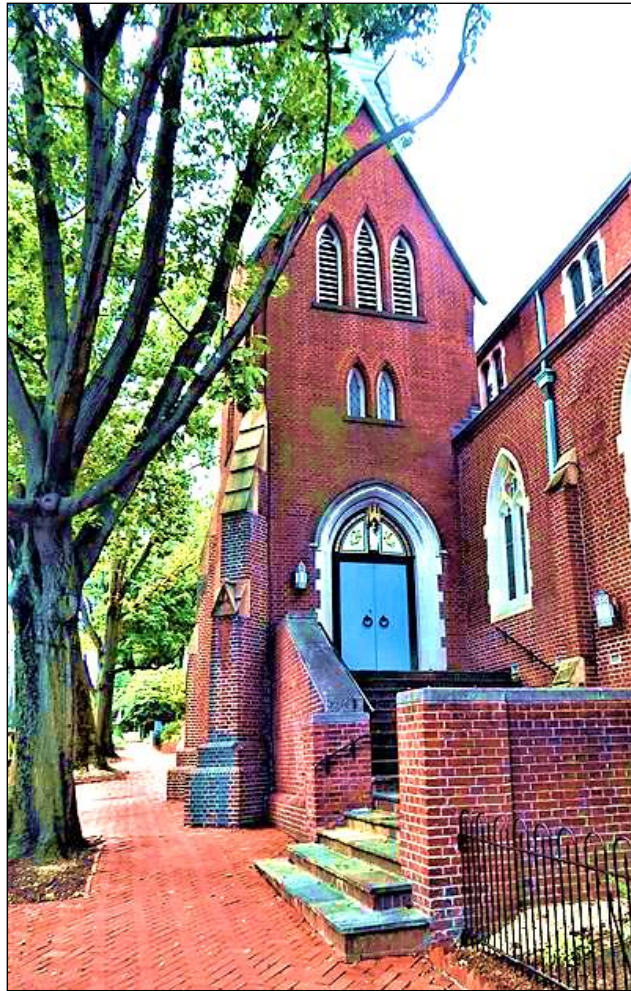


# ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II  
APRIL 27, 2025 AT 10:15 A.M.

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## **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.

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## 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**                      *Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won*                      Anton Wilhelm Leupold

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**      *This Joyful Eastertide*      **HYMNAL 192**

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

*Officiant* 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

*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 5:27-32 (*please be seated*)

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

*Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM 118:14-29**

- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! \*  
LORD, send us now success.

27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; \*  
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.

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.*

**SERMON**

DR. JOE PRITCHETT

**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.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Form III**

**BCP 387**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church. In the Diocesan and Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Andrew's, York and The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey, our Diocesan Bishop; Amanda and Joe, our pastors; and Emma, our seminarian,  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; especially Donald, our President; Josh, our Governor; Danene, our Mayor; and those serving in the Armed Forces.

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially Nancy Strasburg, Ella, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Richard Anderson, Collin, Eileen Waite, Andrew Wright, Carol, Denise Chandler, Sandy, Dawn, Virginia, Kim, Bonnie, Ken Brown, Debbie Linton, and Wade Hinkle.

*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest.

*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Celebrant* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:  
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **THE PEACE**

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

## **THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

*Easter Anthem*

William Billings

### **THE DOXOLOGY**

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

**HYMNAL 380 v.3**



<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	<i>And also with you.</i>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	<i>We lift them to the Lord.</i>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	<i>It is right to give God thanks and praise.</i>

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.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*      **HYMNAL S-129**

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

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

**BCP 365**

*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. 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 MUSIC

*Celebration*

Edward Payne

## 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

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Lord Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor*

**HYMNAL 307**

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Celebrant*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

*People*

*Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!*

**POSTLUDE**

*This Joyful Eastertide*

Keith Kolander

### **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,

Happy Eastertide to you and all my friends at St. John's. The sad news of the death of Pope Francis has of course spread world-wide, and it's reached the islands here. People are mourning the loss of his expressions of love and care, and also anticipating the upcoming conclave in which the next Pope will be elected. It will be interesting to watch and see how accurate the recent movie was.

The Province of the Indian Ocean includes three island nations. Madagascar is the largest, and famous as the source of most of the natural vanilla sold in the U.S. Speaking of movies, if you want a taste of what it's like for a group of Americans to land in Madagascar you can watch that Disney version of the adventure. If you like being outside in the sun and sand and crystal clear waters (you know I'll be surfing!), not to mention lush forests and waterfalls, Mauritius is as much of an island paradise as I've seen. I'm currently in Victoria, on Seychelles, though. This has the distinction of being the smallest national capital in the world, and it's delightful. St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral is also quite small, but it's a lovely sanctuary right next to the clock tower in the center of town. While it looks like a traditional island church, it was just built about 20 years ago. It was actually re-built after the first St. Paul's was so well used they decided it was time to start anew. The original settlement and Anglican congregation was established in the 1820's, and this church - well, the one that was here before this one - was a very real sanctuary when most of this town was destroyed by an avalanche in 1862. Being a small island in the middle of the Indian Ocean, there are occasional torrential rains. That year many people were left homeless, and they gathered here in the church for shelter, food, and community while they dug out from the mud that covered their homes. This church has a history of providing physical care as well as spiritual connection. It reminds me of all the community outreach and care you provide there in Lancaster. Pope Francis always focused on caring for those around us, and that's wonderful guidance to live by no matter where you or I are in the world. So, Happy Eastertide from the other side of the world on a little island in the middle of the ocean. I send you my love and care, always.

Blessings Always,  
John the 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

### **MONDAY, APRIL 28**

- 5:00 PM Stewardship/Finance Meeting

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 29**

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

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30**

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

### **THURSDAY, MAY 1**

- 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
- 10:00 AM Worship Committee
- 2:30 PM Food Pantry
- 7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

### **SATURDAY, MAY 3**

- 8:00 AM AIDS Memorial Garden Cleanup

### **SUNDAY, MAY 4 – BISHOP'S VISIT!**

*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

### **BISHOP'S VISIT – SUNDAY, MAY 4!**

Please join us next Sunday as we welcome our Diocesan Bishop to ST. John's! Bishop Audrey will lead confirmations/receptions and officiate at both our worship services!

### **BETTY FINNEY AIDS MEMORIAL GARDEN**

On Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 8:00 a.m. we will gather at the garden for spring planting and cleanup. Please join us as we tend to this sacred place for planting annuals, mulching, and cleanup. Bring gloves, trowels (I have some extra), water. If you have knee pads, they would be handy to have. Also bring your happy face. See Dave Martin for questions!

### **TLC: GAME NIGHT – MONDAY, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FROM 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.**

In lieu of our next meeting, TLC (Trans Loving Community) will host a Game Night in the parish hall geared towards teens and adults. Join us for a night of fun and fellowship. We'll have games, snacks and drinks, and plenty of room for friends and neighbors! All are welcome to join!

## **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](mailto:amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org)

Dr. Joe Pritchett, Assistant Rector  
[joe@stjohns-lancaster.org](mailto:joe@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](mailto:music@stjohns-lancaster.org))  
Dana Sanborn, Bookkeeper ([finance@stjohns-lancaster.org](mailto:finance@stjohns-lancaster.org))  
John Knouse, Property Manager ([property@stjohns-lancaster.org](mailto:property@stjohns-lancaster.org))  
Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian  
Danielle Hill, Nursery Attendant

**GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE**  
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