Welcome to St. John’s Church. We are grateful you have joined us for our online worship service this morning.

You can access the service through the YouTube link on our newsletter; our YouTube Channel, “St. John’s Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA;” or through our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/historicstjohnschurch. Search for the post entitled “Worship for the Second Sunday in Lent” and click on the arrow to begin the video premiere. The service is also available on our website, www.saintjohnsrichmond.org; click on the link to the video as indicated. The premiere has a “live chat” feature, and we welcome your participation; we will save the video for future viewing at your convenience.

If you are new to us today and have any questions about our worship or the life of our parish, do not hesitate to contact our rector, the Rev. Amelie Wilmer, at awilmer@saintjohnsrichmond.org. Be sure to visit our website, saintjohnsrichmond.org, and sign up for our newsletter.

Our Mission
We are a caring, spiritual community, joyfully embracing and nurturing all; serving God, each other, and the community.

St. John’s Church, Henrico Parish
Office: 2319 E. Broad St., Richmond, Virginia 23223
804-649-7938
www.saintjohnsrichmond.org
www.facebook.com/historicstjohnschurch/
Parish founded 1611 Church built 1741
Prelude

I Can Hear My Savior Calling

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn “The God of Abraham praise”

Hymnal 401

1 The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above;
2 He by himself hath sworn: we on his oath depend;
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Righteousness,
4 The God who reigns on high the great archangels sing,
5 The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high;

1 Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love;
2 we shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heaven ascend;
3 triumphant o’er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
4 and “Holy, holy, holy,” cry, “Almighty King!”
5 “Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!” they ever cry;

1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed:
2 we shall behold his face, we shall his power adore,
3 on Zion’s sacred height his kingdom he maintains,
4 Who was, and is, the same, and evermore shall be:
5 hail, Abraham’s Lord divine! With heaven our songs we raise;

we bow and bless the sacred Name for ever blest,
and sing the wonders of his grace for ever more,
and, glorious with his saints in light, for ever reigns,
eternal Father, great I AM, we worship thee,
al might and majesty are thine, and endless praise.

Words: Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt. Music: Leoni, Hebrew melody; harm. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1875, alt.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People God’s mercy endures forever.
The Collect for Purity

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.

The Kyrie

Bridget (Iona)

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 Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

The Response

Psalm 22:22-30

Deus, Deus meus

22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *  
    stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
    all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
    neither does he hide his face from them; *  
    but when they cry to him he hears them.
24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *  
    I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
    and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *  
    "May your heart live for ever!"
26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.
28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD’s for ever.
30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

The Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn “Take up your cross, the Savior said”

Hymnal 675

1 Take up your cross, the Savior said, if
2 Take up your cross, let not its weight fill
3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and
4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength, and
5 Take up your cross, and follow Christ, nor

1 you would my disciple be; take up your cross with
2 your weak spirit with alarm; his strength shall bear your
3 let your foolish heart be still; the Lord for you ac-
4 calmly every danger brave; it guides you to a-
5 think till death to lay it down; for only those who

1 willing heart, and humbly follow after me.
2 spirit up, and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.
3 ceased death upon a cross, on Calvary’s hill.
4 burden life and leads to victory o’er the grave.
5 bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Arr. John Leon Hooker (b. 1944) Copyright ©1984, John Hooker. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”


People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Dorothy White

Music for Meditation

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

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

During this season of Lent, God invites us to reorient our hearts and our lives toward God and one another. Let us return to the God who loves us.

O God, creator of life and giver of gladness, let us be your Beacon on the Hill, shining your light so brightly that others may come to know you, to love, and to be loved. Help us to reach out to those around us, bearing fruit through acts of kindness, welcome, and fellowship.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the courage and the grace to be refined and changed during this season of Lent.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
For the holy catholic church throughout the world.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*
For Susan, Jennifer, and Porter, our bishops, for all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*
For President Biden, Governor Northam, for all elected officials and unelected policy makers, and for the strength and courage to hold them accountable to those they serve.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*
For those experiencing eviction, housing insecurity, poverty, homelessness, addiction, domestic violence, or trauma.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*
For all who are oppressed, afflicted, struggling, grieving, or in need, especially Cheyenne, Lydia, Paul, Judith, Herb, Patti, Faye, Dan, Stuart, Martin, Suzanne, Bill, Jack, Jalissa, and all those who suffer because of COVID-19.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*
For the dying and the dead, especially for Curtis Payne, Jr., who died recently.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*
For our families, friends, and companions, and for all those we love, especially those we name now, either silently or aloud.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*
For our own needs and thanksgiving, which we offer either silently or aloud.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant offers a concluding Collect*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*Leader*  
And now, as Jesus taught us, let us pray.

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 Confession and Absolution*

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.

*The Peace*

Announcements

*Solemn Prayer*

**Closing Hymn** “We’ve come this far by faith”  

*Refrain*  

We’ve come this far by faith. Lean-ing on the
Lord; Trust-ing in his ho-ly word,

He’s nev-er failed me yet. Oh,
can’t turn a-round, We’ve come this far by faith.

Verse 1

1. Don’t be dis-cour-aged when trou-ble’s in your life,
He’ll bear your bur-dens and That’s why we’ve
move all mis-er-y and strife.

Text: Albert A. Goodson, b.1933
Time: Albert A. Goodson, b.1933; arr. by James Abbington, b. 1990
© 1965, renewed 1993, Manaa Music, Inc./ASCAP (admin. by ClearBox Rights)
The Dismissal

Deacon    Let us bless the Lord.
People    Thanks be to God.
Postlude  We’ve Come This Far by Faith

Welcome to St. John’s Church
If you are seeking a place to explore your faith, we invite you
to make St. John’s Church your spiritual home.
Please visit our website at saintjohnsrichmond.org and sign up for our newsletter. To inquire about membership, please
contact our rector, the Rev. Amelie Wilmer at awilmer@saintjohnsrichmond.org

Prayer for St. John’s Church
O God, creator of life and giver of gladness, let us be your Beacon on the Hill, shining your light so brightly that others may
come to know you, to love, and to be loved. Help us to reach out to those around us,
bearing fruit through acts of kindness, welcome, and fellowship. Amen.
**Serving this Morning**

**Celebrant**  
The Rev. Amelie Wilmer

**Preacher**  
The Rev. Dr. Dorothy White

**Assisting Priest**  
The Rev. Dr. Dorothy White

**Deacon**  
The Ven. David Curtis

**Minister of Music**  
Jim Bennett

**Choristers**  
Elisabeth Gruner, Lisa Wood, Susan Bagot, John King, III, Ron Johnson

**Readers**  
Lora Toothman, Jane Hunnicutt, August Butler, and Lisa Wood

**Video Editor**  
Andy Russell

---

**In our prayers this week:**

**Our city:** We pray for the coming of God’s realm in Metropolitan Richmond; for the enhancement of our common life through the Holy Spirit, and for the resurrection of metropolitan Richmond as a modern metropolitan city of hope for the world.

**The sick or in need:** for Cheyenne, Lydia, Paul, Judith Bowen, Herb Broda, Patti Ferguson, Faye Proto, Dan Roberts, Stuart Sherman, Martin and Suzanne Smith, Bill Thornton, Jack Walton, Jalissa White, and all those who suffer because of COVID-19.

**Those who have died:** for Curtis Payne, Jr.

**The diocesan cycle of prayer:** for churches in the Northern Piedmont Region— for Christ, Lucketts, Leesburg; Church of Our Redeemer, Aldie; Emmanuel, Delaplane; Emmanuel, Middleburg; Grace, The Plains; Leeds, Markham; St. Andrew’s, Ada, Marshall; St. David’s, Ashburn; St. Gabriel’s, Leesburg; St. James’, Leesburg; St. Matthew’s, Sterling; St. Paul’s, Haymarket; St. Peter’s, Purcellville; Trinity, Upperville.

*If you have a prayer request, please notify Patty Duffy, our Parish Administrator. We will pray for those who are sick or in need for one month, unless you specifically request us to do otherwise.*
Staff
The Rev. Amelie Wilmer, Rector, awilmer@saintjohnsrichmond.org
The Rev. Dr. Dorothy White, Associate Priest, dwhite@saintjohnsrichmond.org
Patty Duffy, Parish Administrator, pduffy@saintjohnsrichmond.org
Jim Bennett, Minister of Music, jim@saintjohnsrichmond.org

In the Diocese of Virginia
The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff, Suffragan Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, Assisting Bishop

Associated Clergy
The Ven. J. David Curtis, Deacon, dcurtis@saintjohnsrichmond.org
The Rev. Anne Lane Witt, Children's Chaplain, annelanewitt@me.com

St. John's Church Vestry
Paul Broughton, Senior Warden, paulb2000@verizon.net
Mike Broda, Junior Warden, michael.broda@gmail.com
Brendan Cleary-Wildt, bren.wildt@gmail.com
Rita Driscoll, driscoll.rita@gmail.com
Stewart Gamage, shg7f@virginia.edu
Victoria Hauser, valhauser@gmail.com
Maureen Matsen, maureen.matsen@cnu.edu
Joni McKeen, joni.mckeen@gmail.com
Marshall Schutt, schuttm@yahoo.com