



St. John's Episcopal Church Hear the Spirit ~ See God's Beauty ~ Act in Love

The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2026 10am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Sheep may safely graze*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn #645 *The King of love my shepherd is*

ST. COLUMBA

Opening Acclamation

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

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.

Kyrie S-91

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The Gospel: John 9:1-41

insert

Presider The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Following the Gospel

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rector

During Lent, we will observe a minute of silence for reflection and prayer between the sermon and the creed.

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

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Julia; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, especially Bridget, Tony, Lyn, Megan, Cecilia, Lin, David, Alicia, Mateo and Ellen.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence.

Celebrant add a concluding collect

The Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

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.**

The Presider continues to give thanks, and invites all to join in

Presider Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Presider continues praying, concluding with

Presider 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.

All **AMEN.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

**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 *The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.*

Agnus Dei S-161



The musical score for Agnus Dei S-161 is written on four staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:". The second staff contains: "have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the". The third staff contains: "sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,". The fourth staff contains: "you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace." The music consists of a single melodic line with various note values and rests.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:

All who seek to receive Christ in the sacrament of this meal are welcome to partake of the bread and wine. Please come to the altar up the center aisle and return to your pew down the side aisles. You are welcome to receive both the bread and the wine, bread only, or a blessing. To receive the bread, stand or kneel at the altar rail and the priest will place the host in your hands. The wine is available either from the common cup, or in individually pre-packaged containers on small tables at either end of the altar rail. To receive the wine from the pre-packaged cup, open the foil seal at the top of the container, drink the wine, and place the empty cup into the basket.

Anthem at Communion *Sabbath*

English Folk Tune (text by the Rev. Thomas Mousin)

The Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand as able.*

Presider Let us pray.

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 Prayer over the People *please kneel as you are able*

Closing Hymn #493 *O for a thousand tongues to sing*

AZMON

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Fughetta in G*

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

*You are invited to remain seated in the Sanctuary for the Postlude
or move immediately to the kitchen for refreshments.
Please help maintain a quiet atmosphere in the sanctuary during the Postlude.*

Ministers Serving Today:

The Rev. Greg Johnston, Rector
Douglas Witte, Organist and Choir Director
Jen DiManno, Vestry Person of the Day
Augusta Fry and Shannon Fry, Readers
Catherine Womack, Intercessor
Catherine Womack and Jen DiManno, Ushers
Duncan Holbrook-Smith, Chalice
Robin Moody, Altar Guild
Paul Newell, and Catherine Womack, Coffee Hosts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY, the Garden Group will have shamrocks and fabulous baked goods for sale during coffee hour! Proceeds will be used to purchase spring plants for our garden. If you don't need shamrocks or treats, the Garden Group will graciously and gratefully accept a monetary donation to help our garden grow!

This coming Saturday, March 21, our Charlestown Community Cares friends will be hosting their wonderful open closet throughout the Parish Hall and gardens. All are welcome to shop from 2pm to 4pm for housewares, linens and clothing of all sizes and for all seasons. Everything is free to all.

On Thursday, April 2 at 6pm, we will share our traditional Agape meal followed by Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary. There is a paper sign-up sheet in the kitchen as well as our electronic sign-up. Please see News and Notes for details. If you can assist with set-up or clean-up or if you plan to bring food or drink to share, please note that when you RSVP. If you prefer, you can notify Priscilla in the office via email or voice mail or by sending a note.

Easter Flower donations are now being accepted. Please use the designated envelopes and donation information slips available from an usher and at coffee hour. Information slips must be in the office by Tuesday, March 24. Donations can also be made online. Please use the drop-down menu to note that your gift is for "Easter Flowers." In addition, please send the name(s) of those you are honoring to the office via email or note.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

27 Devens Street, Charlestown, MA 02129
617-242-1272 | stjohs02129@gmail.com | www.stjohs02129.org
The Rev. Gregory Johnston, Rector
Mr. Douglas Witte, Organist and Choirmaster
Nancy Savage, Godly Play Teacher
Ms. Priscilla Burns, Parish Administrator
Mr. Brian O'Neill, Sexton
Mr. Matthew Hast and Ms. Shannon Fry, Wardens