



St. John's Episcopal Church

Hear the Spirit ~ See God's Beauty ~ Act in Love

*The First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026 10am*

The service begins in silence.

At the ringing of the bell, please stand for the singing of the Great Litany. The Litany is a traditional set of prayers and petitions. Because of its penitential tone, it is often used during Lent; we sing it on the First Sunday in Lent to mark the transition into this reflective season of the church year.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Great Litany



O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,

*Have **mercy** upon us.*

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

*Have **mercy** upon us.*

O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,

*Have **mercy** upon us.*

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

*Have **mercy** upon us.*

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us, for ever.

*Spare **us**, good Lord.*

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

*Good **Lord**, deliver us.*

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of this nation, and all others in authority, that they may do justice and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

*We beseech thee to hear **us**, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, and all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

Grant us thy peace.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, hear us.

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 WORD OF GOD

The Collect of the Day

insert

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

The First Lesson: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

insert

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32

Beati quorum

Tone III.4

- 1 *Happy* are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
 and whose sin / is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LÓRD imputes nō guilt, *
 and in whose spirit there / is nō guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones wíthered áway, *
 because of my groan/ing áll day long.

- 4 For your hand was heavy upón me dáy ànd night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat / of sùmmér.
- 5 Then I acknówledged my 'sin tò you, *
and did not / conceál my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgréssions to thë LORD." *
Then you forgave me the guilt / of mý sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in
time of tróuble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall / not réach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;
you présérve me from tróuble; *
you surround me with shouts of / deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the wáy that you shóuld go; *
I will guide / you wíth my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which háve no undérstánding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will / not stáy near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations óf the 'wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust / in thé LORD.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejóice in thë LORD; *
shout for joy, all who / are trúé of heart. [Ant.]

The Second Lesson: Romans 5:12-19

insert

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn #150 *Forty days and forty nights*

AUS DER TIEFE RUFTE ICH

*Verses 1-4 will be sung before the reading of the Gospel.
Verses 5 will be sung after the reading.*

The Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

insert

Presider The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
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, Lyn, Megan, Cecilia, Elizabeth, Lin, David, Alicia, Lino, Melina, 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.**

Presider 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 Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All are invited to exchange greetings of peace.



During the Offertory Hymn, our ushers will pass the collection plate. You are welcome to make an offering by leaving cash or a check in the plate, or by scanning the QR code to donate online via [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly).

Whether you are able to support our ministry financially or not, please know that you are invited to full participation in this church on exactly the same terms and conditions as God's grace and love: completely free of charge.

Offertory Hymn #448 O love, how deep, how broad, how high

DEUS TUORUM MULITUM

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Presider continues, concluding with:

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:

The Sanctus S-124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and

earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.**

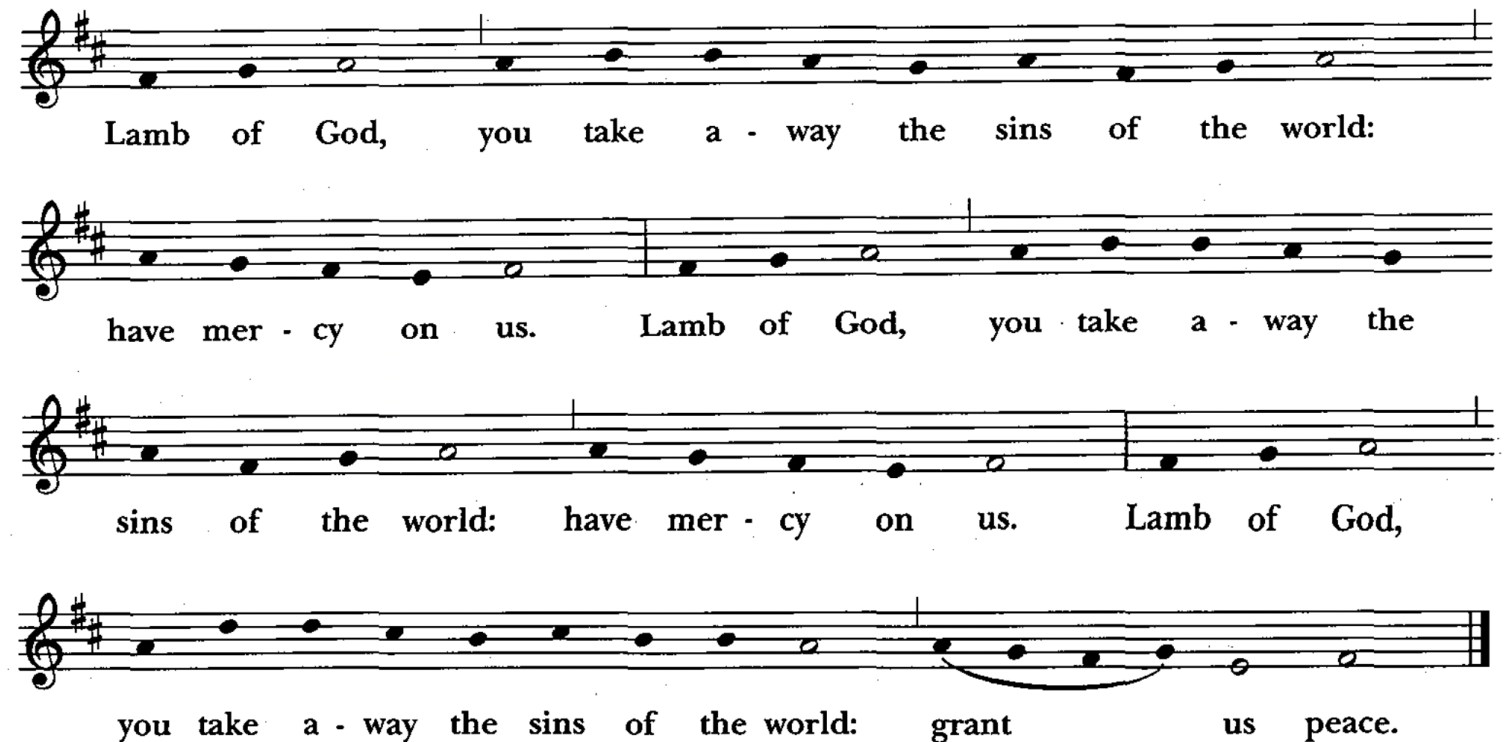
Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 notation for Agnus Dei S-161 is presented on four staves. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff also ends with a double bar line. The third staff ends with a double bar line. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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 *Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake*

Richard Farrant (1525-1580)

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 #142 *Lord, who throughout these forty days*

ST.FLAVIAN

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Benedicam Domino*

Robert Johnson (1583-1633)

*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

Matthew Hast, Vestry Person of the Day

Simon Ringrose and Josh Bresler, Readers

Tommy Bresler, Intercessor

Simon Ringrose and Nate Gunsch, Ushers

D. Lawrence Ross, Altar Guild

Maureen Lavelly, Robin Moody and Elizabeth Hay, Coffee Hour Hosts

Lenten Discipline Opportunities

The season of Lent provides an opportunity to try on new ways of practicing our faith: through prayer, giving, or service to the community. This Lent, you might consider one of the practices below, suggested and led by members of our community.

Centering Prayer Jane Struss, Alice Krapf and others gather each Thursday evening on Zoom. Lasting around 30 minutes, it begins with a short calming exercise and a simple chant. It is followed by an optional time of Lectio Divina (“Divine Reading”) where participants can listen to, read and reflect on a short piece from scripture or literature. Joining a regular group meditation like this can be a great way to build a brief quiet time into each week. There’s no formal sign up, but Jane sends a reminder with the Zoom link each week; speak to her if you’d like to be included in the list. Or just click on the Zoom link which appears every Thursday at the top of *News & Notes*.

Daily Devotionals This year, several of us are reading a new illustrated Lenten devotional entitled *The Sermon on the Mount: On Earth as in Heaven*, prepared by The Communities for Spiritual Vitality. It combines prayers, readings, and art that reflect each day on a verse from the Sermon on the Mount. There are hard copies available at Coffee Hour, and a free electronic version as well.

Intentional Giving Almsgiving is a traditional part of the observance of Lent, and there are many ways to approach it. The United Thank Offering gathers donations from across the Episcopal Church every year, then makes grants to programs that address compelling needs throughout the world. We have UTO “Mite Boxes” to gather loose change during the season of Lent. (You can return them to the church after Easter and we’ll process the donations.)

On March 1 during Coffee Hour, Catherine Womack will lead a discussion about the practice of intentional giving she’s developed during Lent, setting aside a small amount of money.

Feeding the Hungry Non-perishable food donations for Harvest on Vine can be dropped off in the back of the church each Sunday. Patricia Noonan will get them to the Harvest Vine collection center.

Caring for our Immigrant Neighbors A group of parishioners are spending a few hours each week this Lent volunteering digitally or in person with organizations that support immigrants in our community. If this idea calls to you and you’d like to learn more, you can speak with Kate Gunsch.

If you need contact information for any of the church members named above, please email the church office at stjohns02129@gmail.com

Calendar for the Weeks Ahead at St. John's

Sunday, March 1

10am ~ Holy Eucharist for the Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 8

10am ~ Holy Eucharist for the Third Sunday in Lent

Daylight Savings Time begins

Friday, March 13

7pm ~ Evensong

Sunday, March 15

10am ~ Holy Eucharist for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Garden Group Shamrock and Bake Sale!

Sunday, March 22

10am ~ Holy Eucharist for the Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 29

10am ~ Holy Eucharist for the Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 2

6pm ~ Agape Supper for Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 3

7pm ~ Holy Eucharist for Good Friday

Saturday, April 4

12pm ~ Holy Saturday Prayers 7pm ~ Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 5

The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Sunday

10am ~ Holy Eucharist

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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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