



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

The Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026 10am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Adagio in C*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn #343 *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

ST. AGNES

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 Collect of the Day

insert

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

The First Lesson: Exodus 17:1-7

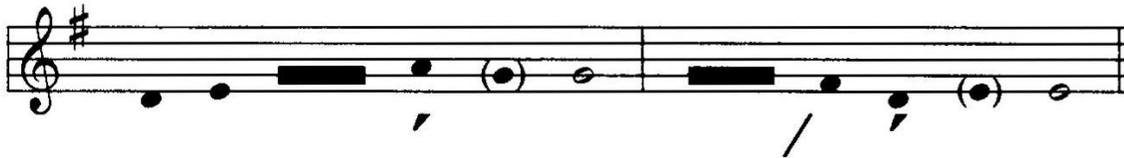
insert

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

Psalm 95

Venite, exultemus

Tone II.1



- 1 *Come, let us sing to the LÓRD; **
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our / salvátion.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout / to hím with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a gréat God, *
and a great King a/bove áll gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the éarth, *
and the heights of the hills are / his álso.
- 5 The sea is his, for he máde it, *
and his hands have molded / the drý land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bénd the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD / our Máker.
- 7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hánd. *
Oh, that today you would hear/ken tó his voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wílderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when / they témped me.

9 They put me to the t^ést, *
though they / had s^éen my works.

10 Forty years long I detested that generation and s^áid, *
“This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do / not kn^ów my ways.”

11 So I swore in my wr^áth, *
“They shall not enter / int^ó my rest.” [Ant.]

The Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-11

insert

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

Gradual Hymn #658 *As longs the deer for cooling streams*

MARTYRDOM

*Verses 1-3 will be sung before the reading of the Gospel.
Verse 4 will be sung after the reading.*

The Gospel: John 4:5-42

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, 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.

Welcome and Announcements of our Ministries

The Rector



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.

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 #309 *O food the pilgrims given*

O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN

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.

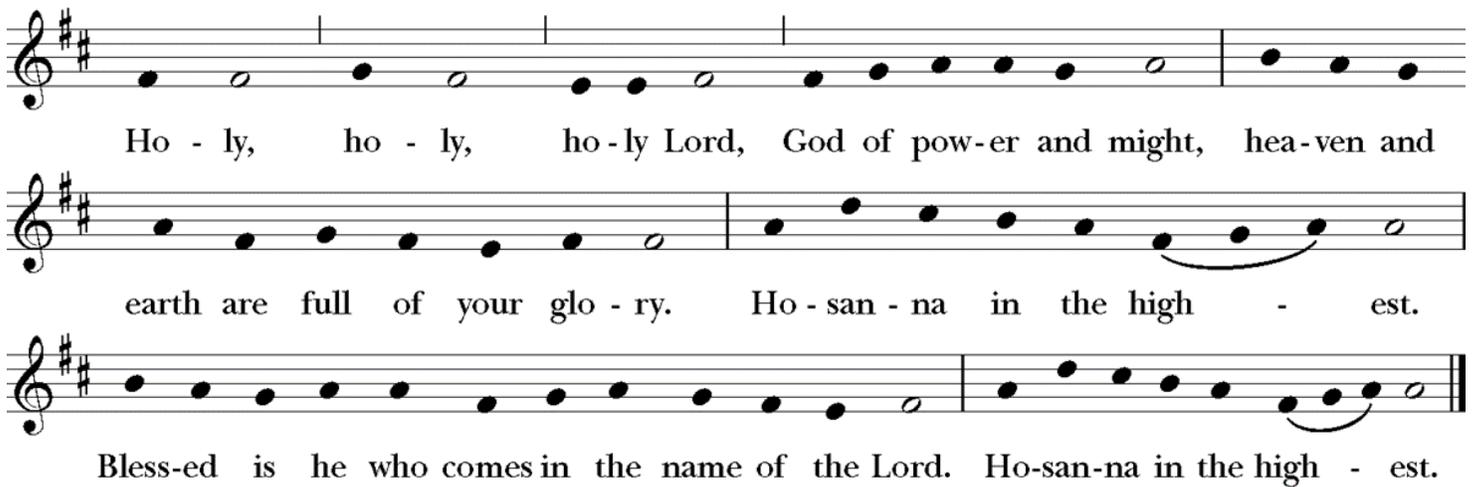
People

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

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.
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 *I heard the voice of Jesus say*

Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

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 #686 *Come, thou fount of every blessing*

NETTLETON

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Jesu, meines Lebens Leben*

J. S. Bach

*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

Brendan Ryback, Vestry Person of the Day

Tommy Bresler and John Quinn, Readers

Jane Struss, Intercessor

Matt Hast and Elizabeth Hay, Ushers

Kate Gunsch, Chalice

Cary Cox, Altar Guild

Birgitta and Brendan Ryback and August and Duncan Holbrook-Smith, Coffee Hosts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Friday evening at 7pm ... join us for Evensong in the sanctuary. All are welcome.

Check out our bulletin boards!! They have just been refreshed and are beautiful. Thank you Joanne Graziano for making them special!

This Saturday, March 14 at 7:30pm there will be a concert of Irish music held in the sanctuary, sponsored by the Friends of the Charlestown Library. The concert is free to all.

Next Sunday, 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 are away for the March 15 sale, please speak to Joanne Graziano who will be happy to hold a plant or some baked goods for you ... or simply accept a donation to help our garden grow!

Grocery donations for Harvest on Vine can be dropped off in the back of the church each Sunday.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

27 Devens Street, Charlestown, MA 02129

617-242-1272 | stjohns02129@gmail.com | www.stjohns02129.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