

## The Fifth Sunday in Lent

*An asterisk (\*) indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able.*

Welcome and Announcements

Introit “Morning Has Broken” *arr. Bill Ingram*

\*Answering God’s Call to Worship

One: Why are you here?

**All: I am seeking God with my whole heart,  
with my entire mind,  
with a fire burning in my bones.**

One: I see it! You’re in the right place!  
This is God’s house. The door is open to you.

**All: Why are you here?**

One: I am seeking God with my whole heart,  
with my entire mind,  
with a fire burning in my bones.

**All: We see that in you! You’re in the right place.  
This is God’s house. The door is open to you.**

One: Let us worship God together.

**All: Let us learn from the Spirit!**

\*Hymn (**Insert**) “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

\*Prayer of Invocation and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Confessing Our Sin Together

**Holy God, we long to learn your ways.**

**We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind.**

**Instead, we often live as if we know best.**

**We forget that the disciples called you “Rabbi, Teacher.”**

**Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious.**

**Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best.**

**Forgive us for the moments when we imagine that our learning is done,  
and that we have all the answers.**

**Like Peter – who was brave enough to ask,**

**“How many times should we forgive?” – make us brave.**

**Spark a desire in us to learn,**

**and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters.**

Confessing Silently

**Lord, thank you for your mercy!**

**Christ, thank you for your mercy!**

**Spirit, thank you for your mercy!**

The Promise of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

\*Affirming Our Faith

One: We believe that faith is not just about declarations.

It is also about questions.

**All: “How many times should I forgive?”**

**“Jesus, where are you going?”**

**“What must I do to inherit eternal life?”**

One: We believe that humble curiosity can open our eyes.

**All: “Where does it hurt?”**

**“What do you need?”**

**“How can I help?”**

One: We believe that God is a teacher.

**All: “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”**

**“Here I am.”**

**“Send me.”**

One: We believe that faith invites our whole being to engage.

**All: With all our heart.**

**With all our mind.**

**With all our strength.**

One: We believe, Lord. Help our unbelief.

Scripture Reading Matthew 18:15–22 (pg. 20, N.T.) Bruce Phillips

Children’s Time

*As Pre-K–12th graders leave for Sunday School, we send them with this liturgy:*

Pastor: Now we go our separate ways to worship and learn about God.

Cong.: **May God be with you there!**

Children: **May God be with you here!**

Anthem “Carillon Chimes” *Moira Gannon Boynton*

Sermon “TEACH ME” Rev. Dr. Marshall  
*Sermon Series – Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter*

Offering (Blue prayer request cards can be placed in the offering trays.)

Offertory

\*Presentation of Offering & 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.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn **129 (Green), v. 1–5)**

“Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights”

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

**ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD**

**Greeter**

Wanda Odom

**Ushers**

Kathy Johnson, Kate Johnson

**Flowers**

Given by Lynne Hay in celebration of the birth of James Thomas McWhorter, son of Catherine & Henry McWhorter, and first grandchild of Tom & Lynne Hay

**Coffee Server**

Sue & Bob Chudy

**Guest Organist**

Anna Kislitsyna

**Devon**

**Chapel Bells**

Diane Alleva, Sue Chudy, Christina Fish, Jim Tiede,  
Sue Beth Johnson, Nancy Veronesi

**WELCOME TO ST. JOHN’S!**

We are so happy that you have joined us for worship this morning! We hope that you experience the presence and love of Jesus Christ here with us today. If there is anything we can do to help you feel more at home, please feel free to ask one of the ushers located at the sanctuary doors. We would love for you to join us for refreshments downstairs in the Fellowship Hall following worship. We are glad that you are here and hope you will worship with us again soon!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

After the Children’s Time, grades K–12<sup>th</sup> will leave with their teachers. If this is your child’s first time in Sunday School, the ushers have pamphlets that tell you everything you need to know. As always, nursery care is provided for children ages 5 and under.

**MEN’S GROUP**

The next meeting of our Men’s Group will be on **Wednesday, March 20 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House. They will be discussing chapter 2 of Romans. All men are welcome!

**WOMEN’S BOOK STUDY – 2 OPPORTUNITIES!**

The Sunday Women’s Book Group meets at 8:00 a.m. in the Carriage House to study *A is for Alabaster: 52 Reflections on the Stories of Scripture* by Anna Carter Florence. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net). The Monday group meets at meets at 11:30 a.m. in the Kean Room to read *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net).

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

The 2024 Flower Sponsorship Chart is posted in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to sponsor the flowers in the sanctuary on a Sunday, just write your name by the date. You can contact Jeanne Lynam (cwlynam@msn.com) or text 610-724-2704 with any questions.

**EASTER LILLIES**

The Deacons are accepting sponsorships for Easter lilies to beautify our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 31. The cost is \$10 per plant, and it is yours to keep after worship. A Deacon will be in Fellowship Hall at coffee time if you would like to purchase one (or more!).

## LENTEN SERMON SERIES

We are in the midst of a Lenten sermon series called, "Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter." Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, linear, or perfect, but he is always tethered to the love of God. When you look closely at Peter's story, you find Jesus at each step along the way – offering him abundance, catching him when he begins to sink, challenging him when he stands in the way, washing his feet, predicting his betrayal, and offering him love. This Lent, we will wander alongside Peter, open to what we might learn about Jesus (and ourselves) by stepping in his shoes.

### SUPPER AT ST. JOHN'S

This week is the last Supper at St. John's until September! We begin at 6:00 p.m. with a meal, followed by a class starting at 7:00 p.m. and conclude promptly at 8:00 p.m. This is a wonderful time of food, fellowship, and education; a great chance to slow down in the middle of the week, enjoy a delicious meal that you do not have to cook, and catch up with your church family! You are welcome to come for dinner, even if you cannot stay for the class (or just come for the class).

The Rev. Dick Ollinger is leading a Bible study on *Encounters with Jesus in the Gospel of John*, which looks at some of the life-giving and life-changing encounters Jesus had with individuals in the Gospel of John, and we reflect together on the implications they bear for our faith today. Study guides for each week can be found on St. John's website under "Resources," click on "News," then click on "Supper at St. John's."

### HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Sunday, March 24 marks the beginning of Holy Week, leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. There are several ways for you to observe this week:

#### Sunday, March 24 – Palm Sunday

Families are invited to join us on Sunday, March 24 for a morning of fun! Children in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and under will gather at the beginning of worship for a Palm Parade, where they walk through the sanctuary waving palms during the opening hymn. After Sunday School, parents will bring them out to the Memorial Garden for an egg hunt! If you are interested in donating candy for this event, please leave your donated bag in the Church Office by March 18!

#### Thursday, March 28 – Maundy Thursday

We gather at 7:00 p.m. to share communion and observe the night of Jesus' betrayal and arrest, when he shared the last supper with his disciples.

#### Sunday, March 31 – Easter Sunday

Join us for worship at 9:30 a.m. as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

### SAVE THE DATES – CHANGEMAKERS KIDS CLUB

**June 25, July 23, August 20 from 5:30–8:00 p.m. (with dinner)**

This summer we will be partnering with St. Luke Lutheran Church in Devon to provide a once-a-month bible camp for busy families. We will explore, experiment, and observe all the ways God loves us and how we can change the world for better. This event is for children 2 years old to rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Youth in grades 6 to 12 are invited to come and help as counselors! Registration begins on May 1.

## ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Mar 17

### Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:00 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)

9:30 am Worship, Sunday School

Mon, Mar 18

11:30 am Women's Book Study (Kean Room)

Tues, Mar 19

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Wed, Mar 20

9:00 am Companions in Prayer (Kean Room)

6:00 pm Supper at St. John's (Fellowship Hall)

Thurs, Mar 21

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sat, Mar 23

9:00 am Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sun, Mar 24

### Palm Sunday

8:00 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)

9:30 am Worship, Sunday School

Ordination/Installation of New Officers

10:45 am Egg Hunt (Memorial Garden)

### This Week in the Church Office

Our Church Administrator Roseann Christian is in the office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, and until Noon on Thursday. She works virtually on Mondays and Wednesdays, available by phone and email. If you call the church office, she will still answer. Any announcements for next week's bulletin or email must be sent to her by Noon on Wednesday.

Friday is Pastor Patrick and Pastor Ridgley's sabbath day, and the church office is closed on Saturday. If you email or call on those days, you will not get a response until they are back in the office. **If you have a pastoral emergency pertaining to a death, hospitalization, or crisis situation when the office is closed or on a Saturday, you can call 484-604-0499.**



www.stjohnsdevon.com

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Rev. Dr. Patrick Marshall, Pastor (patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com)

Rev. Ridgley Joyner, Associate Pastor (rjoyner@stjohnsdevon.com)

Roseann Christian, Church Administrator (Admin@stjohnsdevon.com)

Sue Chudy, Clerk of Session (susan.chudy@stjohnsdevon.com)



A CHURCH FAMILY, A FAMILY CHURCH

"Teach Me"  
by Rev. Sarah Speed

Teach me about the ways of the wind,  
about the ways of the world,  
about the ways of the heart.  
Teach me about the soft crook of my lover's arm,  
and the way two souls can hold each other close.  
Teach me about forgiveness,  
about the language of I'm sorry  
and the softness of sincerity.  
Teach me about abundance,  
about seventy-times-seven  
and all the days of my life.  
Teach me about joy,  
about its contagious weaving  
and its soul-healing.  
Teach me about mercy,  
about open hands and deep breaths.  
Teach me about the dawn of time and the stars in the sky.  
Teach me what matters most.  
Teach me what is mine to do.  
Teach this aching curious heart  
until I run out of questions  
or I run out of days.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
and I will have a life well-lived.

March 17, 2024

For the latest information and news about St. John's:

www.stjohnsdevon.com

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