

Palm Sunday

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

Welcome and Announcements

Introit “Palm Sunday Fanfare” *der Herzogel*

Scripture Reading Mark 11:1–11 (pg. 47, N.T.)

*Answering God’s Call to Worship

One: Sing songs of loudest praise!

All: Hosanna!

One: Sing songs that are unashamed.

All: Hosanna!

One: Sing songs without being afraid.

All: Hosanna!

One: Sing for the God of tomorrow and today.

All: Hosanna!

One: Let us worship the One worthy to be praised.

*Hymn 278 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

*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 want to run into the streets and sing your praise!

We want to be bold and unashamed of this good-news Gospel.

However, too often we find ourselves standing against the wall.

Too often we stay quiet.

Too often we let others carry the song.

**Forgive us for the moments when we could lead the parade,
but instead find ourselves standing on the sidelines.**

Show us which songs are ours to sing.

Show us which parades are ours to lead,

and then give us the courage and conviction to do both.

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 in Jesus of Nazareth,

All: who rode through the streets of Jerusalem on a donkey.

One: We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

All: who challenged Rome’s oppressive power with peaceful protest.

One: We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

All: who was surrounded by crowds of dreamers and believers.

One: We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

All: so even today, we will sing songs of loudest praise.

One: Hosanna!

All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Scripture Reading Mark 11:12–24 (pg. 47, N.T.) Cindy Kerr

Ordination, Installation, and Commissioning of Officers

Presentation of Elders for Ordination/Installation

Dave Dalrymple, Doris Humphrey

Presentation of Deacons for Ordination/Installation

Rowan Bellew, Jeanne Lynam, Nancy Wolfe

Constitutional Questions of Ordination/Installation

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

All those who have previously been ordained as Deacons, Ruling Elders, or Teaching Elders are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.

Declaration of Ordination/Installation and Charge

Commissioning of Trustees

John Lieberman, Skip McClennen

Recognition of Outgoing Elders, Deacons, and Trustees

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 “Crown Him with Many Crowns” *Elvey*

Sermon “SONGS OF LOUDEST PRAISE” 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 “How Can I Keep from Singing” *Lowry*
“The Old 100th”

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

*Benediction

*Postlude “God So Loved the World” *Stainer*

ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP OF GOD

Greeter

Wanda Odom

Ushers

Jean Converse, Lynne Brown

Flowers

Given by Doris Humphrey in memory of
John Humphrey and Gladys Moncrief

Coffee Server

Linda Duncan, Sarah Duncan

Organist

Nancy Kimmons

Devon Brass

Mark Ator, Jeff Estabrook, Frank Mercurio, Paul Steege

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–12th 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, April 3 at 7:00 a.m.** in the Carriage House. They will be discussing chapter 3 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 Jenne 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!).

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – APRIL 7

The Session has called a congregational meeting for **Sunday, April 7**, following worship, for the purpose of electing the congregational representatives to the 2024 Nominating Committee: **Bob Miller, Stella Urbina, and Liza Ward**. The Session will also be providing an update on Pastor Patrick's sabbatical proposal, and we will hear an update from the Transformation Team. We hope that you can join us!

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.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

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

Today – Palm Sunday

Children in 4th 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!

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 5th graders. Youth in grades 6–12 are invited to come and help as counselors! Registration begins on May 1.

HOLY WEEK PACKS FOR KIDS

Families with children in grades 4 and under are invited to join us after worship in the Memorial Garden for an Egg Hunt! Whether you can make it to the Egg Hunt or not, please be sure to pick up this year's Holy Week Pack from the Faith Formation Committee located on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP – APRIL 14 (4:30–6:00 P.M.)

Youth grades 5–12 are invited to join us in the Carriage House for a Spring Cleaning workday. We'll be sprucing up our community spaces and enjoying dinner together after! **We are still in need of a meal for April 14! Please contact Pastor Ridgley if you would like to provide dinner for the youth.**

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sun, Mar 24

Palm Sunday

8:00 am Women's Book Group (Carriage House)
9:30 am Worship, Sunday School
10:45 am Egg Hunt (Memorial Garden)
3:45 pm Youth Advisory Council (Zoom)
11:30 am Women's Book Study (Kean Room)
5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
9:00 am Companions in Prayer (Kean Room)

Mon, Mar 25

Tues, Mar 26

Wed, Mar 27

Thurs, Mar 28

Maundy Thursday

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 pm Worship & Communion

Fri, Mar 29

Sat, Mar 30

Sun, Mar 31

Church Office Closed for Good Friday

9:00 am Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Easter Sunday

9:30 am Worship

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 Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. 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

"Courage"
by Rev. Sarah Speed

We summon every ounce of courage.
We give ourselves pep talks
and we call our friends.
We dig deep within.
We practice the words out loud,
rolling them around in our mouths,
imagining the response.
We deal out every "what if" card our brain holds on to
and spend absurd amounts of time
imagining all the ways it could go wrong.
And then finally, blessedly, we say it:
I love you.
To speak the truth of your heart takes courage.
It always has.
But please,
summon your courage,
join the parade,
and speak with conviction.
For God has been saying to the world since day one:
I love you.
What is your response?

March 24, 2024

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

www.stjohnsdevon.com

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