



March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship Notes

There are offering trays located at each entrance to the sanctuary. If you would like to give, you can put your offering there before worship. You can also give online using this QR code:



If you have a prayer request, there are blue prayer cards in your pew racks that can be put in the trays, as well.

The ^ symbol indicates that you are invited to stand, as you are able.

Today is the fifth Sunday in Lent. Lent is a 40-day season (not counting Sundays) in which we prepare for the death and resurrection of Jesus. It comes from an Old English word that means, "spring," after the season in which it is observed. The 40 days are modeled on Jesus' time in the wilderness, but Sundays are treated as "little Easters" of joy, renewal, and rest.

Welcome to St. John's!

No matter who you are, where you come from, what you look like, or what you are wearing, you are welcome here! No matter where you are in your faith, you belong here. All we want is to help you experience the presence and love of Jesus Christ! If there is anything we can do to help you feel more at home, please feel free to ask one of the greeters located at the sanctuary doors. We would love for you to join us for refreshments downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship. We are so glad that you are here and hope you will worship with us again soon!

Welcome & Announcements

Introit "Be Still" *Manley*

Answering God's Call to Worship

One: The good news is that God does not require you to have a perfect singing voice.

All: The Psalms simply say, "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!"

One: The good news is that God does not require you to be wide awake and standing up straight.

All: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

One: The good news is that God does not require you to constantly have a smile on your face.

All: Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, and those who are persecuted."

One: The good news is that God does not require you to have it all figured out.

All: A man cries out to Jesus, "I believe; help my unbelief!"

One: *What does God require of us?*

All: To do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with the Lord.

One: Let us embody this good news as we worship God.

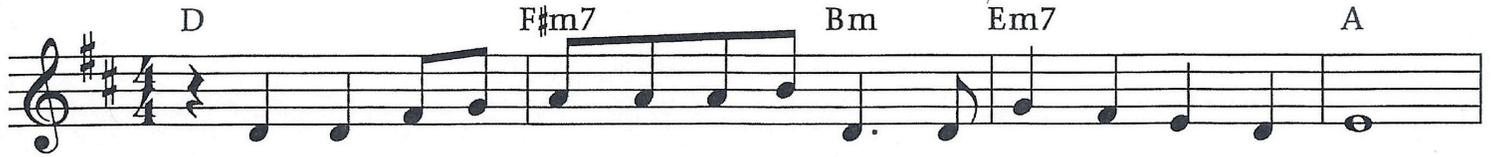
^ Hymn "Be Still, for the Presence"

Prayer of Invocation & Confession (ending with the Lord's Prayer)

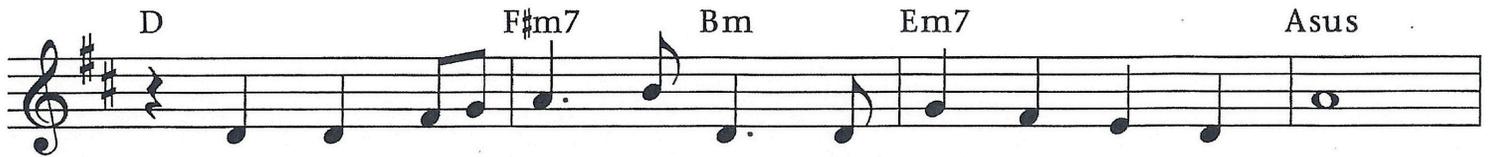
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

The Promise of Forgiveness

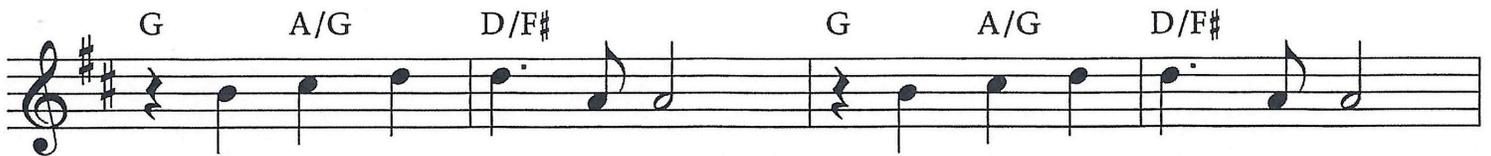
Be Still, for the Presence



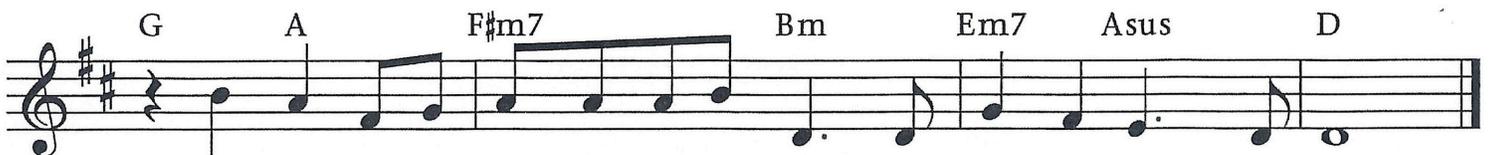
1 Be still, for the pres-ence of the Lord, the Ho - ly One, is here.
2 Be still, for the glo - ry of the Lord is shin-ing all a - round.
3 Be still, for the pow - er of the Lord is mov-ing in this place.



Come bow be - fore him now, with rev - er - ence and fear.
He burns with ho - ly fire; with splen-dor he is crowned.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to min - is - ter his grace.



In him no sin is found; we stand on ho - ly ground.
How awe-some is the sight, our rad-iant King of light!
No work too hard for him; in faith re - ceive from him.



Be still, for the pres-ence of the Lord, the Ho - ly One, is here.
Be still, for the glo - ry of the Lord is shin-ing all a - round.
Be still, for the pow - er of the Lord is mov-ing in this place.

Let Us Remember

ADELAIDE 5.4.5.4 D (“Have Thine Own Way”)

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: George C. Stebbins (1907)



What is im - por - tant? What mat - ters more?
We've been shown mer - cy all of our lives
Fol - low - ing Je - sus, liv - ing in truth
What does the Lord re - qui - re of us?



Hu - man con - nec - tion or keep - ing score?
By the cre - a - tor of hu - man - kind
We re - main faith - ful to our roots
To re - main hum - ble, lov - ing, and just



In our pur - suit of jus - tice and truth
So when we're in a po - si - tion to judge
When those roots lead us out - side the lines
Keep - ing the heart of the gos - pel in mind



Let us re - mem - ber: we fall short, too
Let us re - mem - ber: they're just like us
Let us re - mem - ber: faith is a - live
Let us re - mem - ber: do what is right

Announcements

Congregational Life

Supper @ St. John's

This week is our last Supper at St. John's until the Fall! Join us on Wednesday at 6 p.m. for a delicious "home cooked" meal in Fellowship Hall. Then stay for Guitar Club or the Enghetas' discussion on Iran.

Follow-up Discussion on Iran with the Enghetas

Join us in the Carriage House after Supper this Wednesday as Nader & Susanne Engheta discuss the most recent events in Iran. This event will also be available on Zoom, but it will not be recorded. If you would like to receive the Zoom link, sign up using the link in today's weekly email. If you're planning on coming for supper, please RSVP for that too!

St. John's Guitar Club

The next gathering of our new Guitar Club will be this Wednesday, March 25 at 7 pm (after Supper at St. John's). Whether you are a beginner, an experienced player, or are just curious, this is open to all levels of ability. We just want to have fun, play together, and learn from each other. For questions, contact Brian Bouvier or John Senior.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to sponsor a lily for Easter Sunday, please contact Jeanne Lynam (cwlynam@msn.com) or use the link in the weekly email. The cost is \$10 per lily, and it is yours to take home after worship.

Book Exchange

In celebration of Earth Day, we will be hosting a book exchange on Sunday, April 19 after worship in Fellowship Hall. Simply bring in books that day that you are ready to pass on to others and pick up new ones to read. Recycling at its finest! If you are interested in bringing in books, please contact Pam Schafer (pschafernl@gmail.com)

Annual Progressive Dinner - Saturday, May 16

5:30-7:15 p.m. — Appetizer & Cocktail Reception

7:30-9:30 p.m. — Dinner & Dessert

Mark your calendar for the Annual Progressive Dinner. This joyful evening brings us together for a delicious meal and meaningful fellowship as we move from home to home, sharing conversation and connection along the way. Please plan to join us for this special night. Signups will open in early April. If you would like to host the appetizer reception or a dinner group, please contact Wanda Odom at wmodom@verizon.net.

Congregational Life (cont.)

March Birthdays

Happy Birthday to members and friends of our St. John's Family who are celebrating birthdays this month!

March 4	Janice Rosencrance
March 5	Steve Scolari
March 7	John Lieberman
March 8	Chris Oliver, Ryan Marshall
March 10	Colvin Oliver
March 11	Peter Oliver
March 17	Charlie Scott
March 20	Jen Marshall
March 21	Susanne Engheta
March 25	Jared Holcomb
March 27	Pat Churchill
March 29	Ellie Fisher

Service

Coffee Drive for Great Valley Food Cupboard

Starting today, we are accepting ground coffee or Keurig cups (decaf and caffeinated) for the Great Valley Food Cupboard. A collection box will be in Fellowship Hall.

Calling all Bakers...

Great Valley Food Cupboard would love for us to provide home-baked cookies for each of their 40 families, so we need help from all interested bakers! Please bring a batch or two of your favorite cookies to church today and drop them on the collection table in Fell. Hall. Please package in zip-lock bags.

Clothing Drive

The Deacons will be collecting items for Cradles to Crayons through April 12. If you would like to help, please choose one more from the following list and drop it off at the church in the drop box by the elevator:

- new children's socks (all sizes)
- new children's underwear (all sizes)
- diapers/pull ups (all sizes)
- gently used children's pajamas

Faith Formation

Women's Book Study – 2 Opportunities

Sundays at 8:15 a.m. in the Carriage House (except the first Sunday of each month). Contact Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net) for more information. **Mondays at 10:00 a.m.**, both in person and on Zoom. Contact Nancy Arico (nancy.arico@verizon.net) for more information.

Men's Group

Wednesday, April 8 at 7 a.m. in the Carriage House. Contact Pastor Patrick to get more information.

Holy Week Worship

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

Families are invited to join us for a morning of fun! 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, there will be an egg hunt in the Memorial Garden! If you are interested in donating candy for this event, please leave your donated bag in the Church Office by March 25.

Thursday, April 2 – 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.

Friday, April 3 – Good Friday

Join us at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Frazer at 7 p.m. for an intergenerational service remembering the death of Jesus through both contemporary and traditional music, as well as visual media.

Sunday, April 5 – Easter Sunday

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

This Week in the Church Office

Any announcements for next week's bulletin or email must be sent to Annie 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, please call 484-604-0499

Financial Update

As of February 28, year-to-date operating income from all sources totaled \$196,604, above budget by \$82,921, due largely to some people already giving their full pledges for the year. That always slightly inflates the financial picture in these first few months, but will average out over the course of the year.

Expenses for the month were \$128,921, under budget by \$8,334.

Income minus Expenses yielded a surplus of \$67,682. Thank you for all the ways that you make the life and ministry of our church family possible!

Children & Youth

Subscribe to our Children & Youth Newsletter here:



Youth Work Day - Meet us in the Youth Room at 7 p.m. after supper. We will be continuing our reno project!

Upcoming Children/Youth Activities

Mar. 22: All Church Game Night 4-6 p.m. (TONIGHT)

Mar. 29: Palm Sunday Parade & Egg Hunt

Save the Date

April 17-19

Youth Mission Trip with the Philly Project

April 20

Lunch & Learn with Rev. Jed Koball (missionary in Peru)

April 26

Education Seminar: "Faith, the Brain, and Mental Well-Being" by Rev. Miriam Diephouse-McMillan

May 9

Women's Retreat - Church of the Loving Shepherd

May 16

Annual Progressive Dinner

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Patrick Marshall

Senior Pastor

patrick.marshall@stjohnsdevon.com

Rev. Ridgley Beckett

Associate Pastor

rbeckett@stjohnsdevon.com

Annie Carruthers

Church Administrator

admin@stjohnsdevon.com

Janet Kaido

Director of Music

music@stjohnsdevon.com

Nancy Arico

Treasurer (outgoing funds)

treasurer@stjohnsdevon.com

Brian Bouvier

Financial Secretary

(incoming funds)

brianbouvier57@gmail.com

This Week at St. John's

Sunday, March 22 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

8:15 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

4:00 pm All Ages Game Night (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, March 23

10:00 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)

Tuesday, March 24

5:30 pm Set up for Supper at St. John's (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, March 25

3:00 pm Youth Study Club (Youth Room)

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

7:00 pm Discussion with the Enghetas (Carriage House)

7:00 pm Guitar Club (Music Room)

7:00 pm Youth Work Day (Youth Room)

Thursday, March 26

7:00 pm Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, March 27

2:30 pm Confirmands meet & depart for the Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, March 28

10:00 am Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, March 29 (Palm Sunday)

8:15 am Women's Book Group (Kean Room)

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

10:30 am Egg Hunt (outside)

11:00 am Called Session Meeting for Confirmands (Kean Room)

Scan this QR Code
for the complete
church calendar:



St. John's Mission Statement

Reflecting God's unconditional love to all!

Core Values

Faith

We seek to grow in our faith and to recognize God's presence in our lives through scripture, worship, music, fellowship, study, and prayer.

Love

All people are welcome here. We are a caring, inclusive, intergenerational community, following Jesus Christ's example to love everyone, to be with one another in difficult times, and to share in each other's joys.

Service

We are passionate about helping those in need within our church family, in our local communities, across the country, and throughout the world.

Led by the Holy Spirit, we are generous with our time, talents, and resources to bring hope to others in tangible, transformative ways.

Vision Statement

A spiritual home for the community where...

- everyone is welcomed with open hearts, showing each other grace in a complicated world
- people find belonging as they are known, valued, and loved
- together, we grow in our knowledge and love of God
- Jesus inspires us to serve others with compassion

