



March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

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 Palm Sunday, the day on which we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into the city of Jerusalem. This marks the beginning of Holy Week, the last week of Jesus' life, leading up to his death on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Christians first started celebrating Palm Sunday in the late 4th century, with the first documented palm processions taking place in Jerusalem around 390 CE.

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 "Pam Sunday Fanfare" *Morgan*

Scripture Reading Mark 11: 1-11

Answering God's Call to Worship

One: On this day Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

All: The good news is that he triumphed over evil and sin and death!

One: On this day the crowd chanted, "Hosanna! Save us!"

All: The good news is that he did...and he does!

One: On this day they cried out, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

All: The good news is that our king has come to take his rightful place on the throne of our lives.

One: By the end of this week, the crowd will be chanting, "Crucify him!"

All: The good news is that this is how he saves us!

One: Let us celebrate the good news of this day!

All: Hosanna in the highest heaven!

^ Hymn "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

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

Gloria Patri (#71 in the red hymnal)

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.

Today's Affirmation of Faith comes from Philippians 2:5-11. It is often referred to as "The Christ Hymn." While there is not absolute consensus on its origins, it is thought that Paul is quoting one of the earliest Christian hymns. It balances the humanity and divinity of Christ, focusing on the way that Jesus emptied himself out as a servant to others. Paul quotes it as a way of encouraging the Philippians (and us) to do likewise.

^ Affirming Our Faith

**Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself out,
taking on the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the Glory of God the Father.**

Scripture Reading

Matthew 21:12–17

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

"Palm Sunday Medley"

Poehlmann

Sermon

"Christ Is King"

Rev. Dr. Marshall

Sermon Series: "Tell Me Something Good"

^ 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 & Prayers of the People

^ Hymn

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

^ Benediction

^ Postlude

"Aurelia"

arr. Hopson

Enriching Our Worship of God

Music Director Janet Kaido

Ushers Bruce & Nancy Phillips

Greeter Lynne Hay

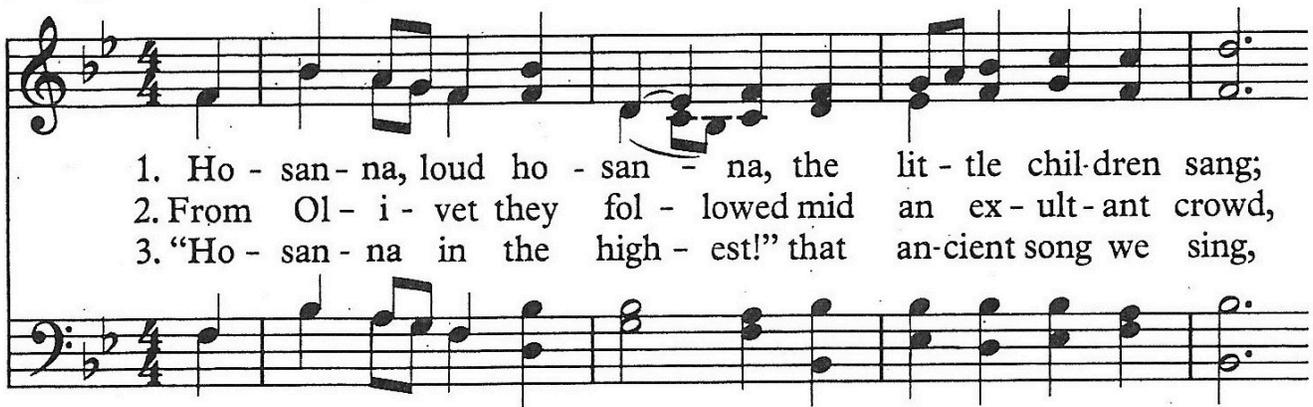
Coffee Servers Susanne Engheta, Alex Engheta

The Devon Brass Mark Ator, Jeff Estabrook, Frank Mercurio, Paul Steege

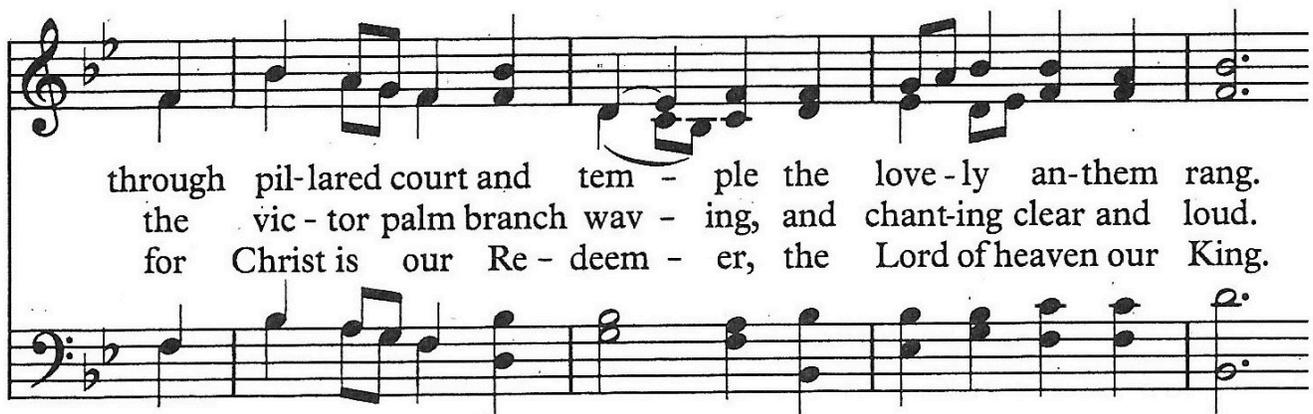
Flowers The flowers are given in loving memory of John Humphrey by Doris, Heather and Holly.

After the sermon, there will be a brief musical interlude, offering time for reflection.

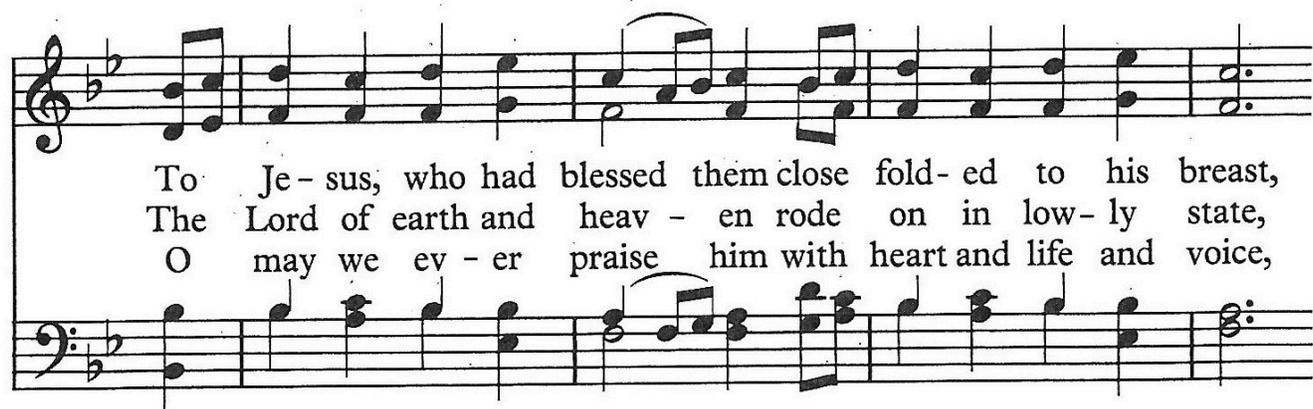
After the Postlude, you are encouraged to greet one another (especially people you don't already know!) and come downstairs for a time of refreshments and fellowship.



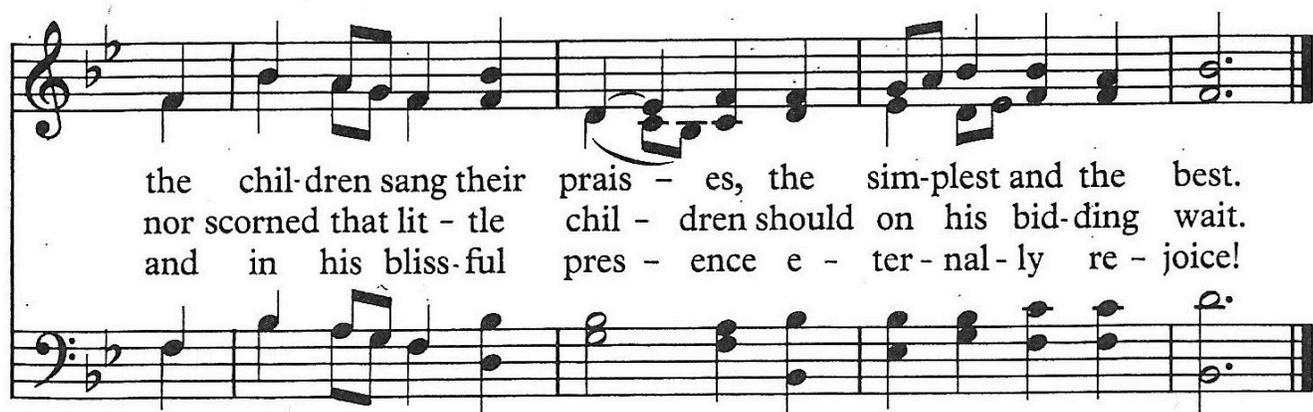
1. Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2. From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3. "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" that an - cient song we sing,



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang.
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er, the Lord of heaven our King.

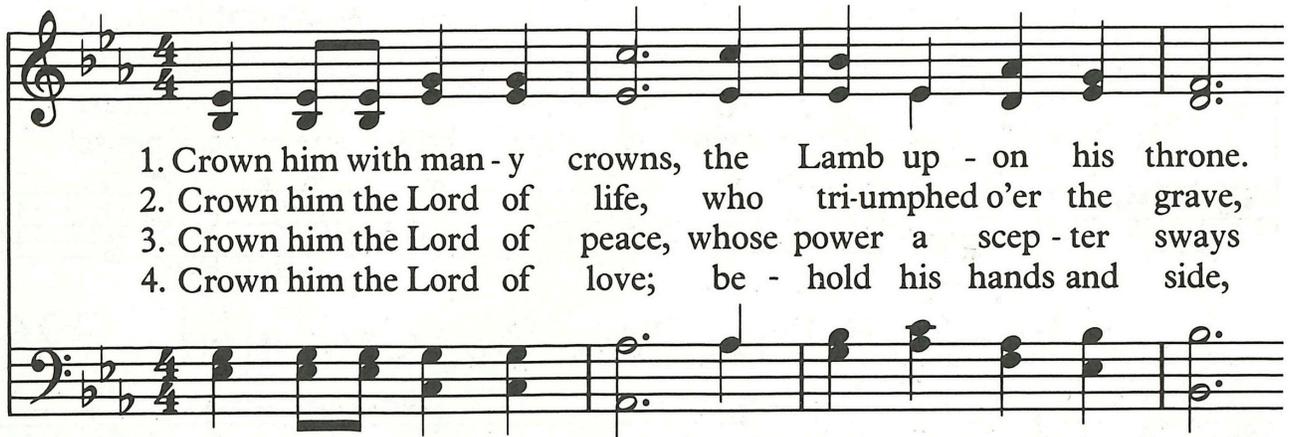


To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
 The Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

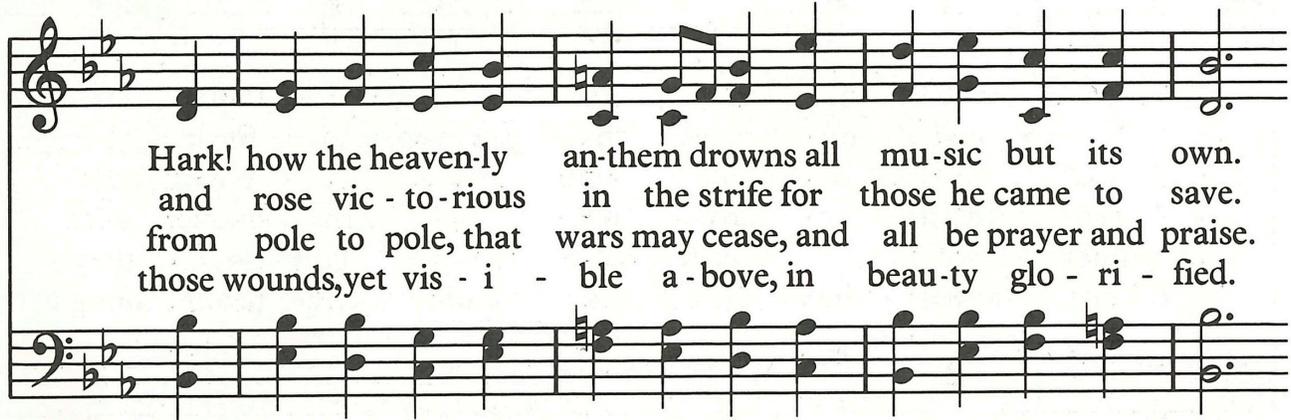


the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

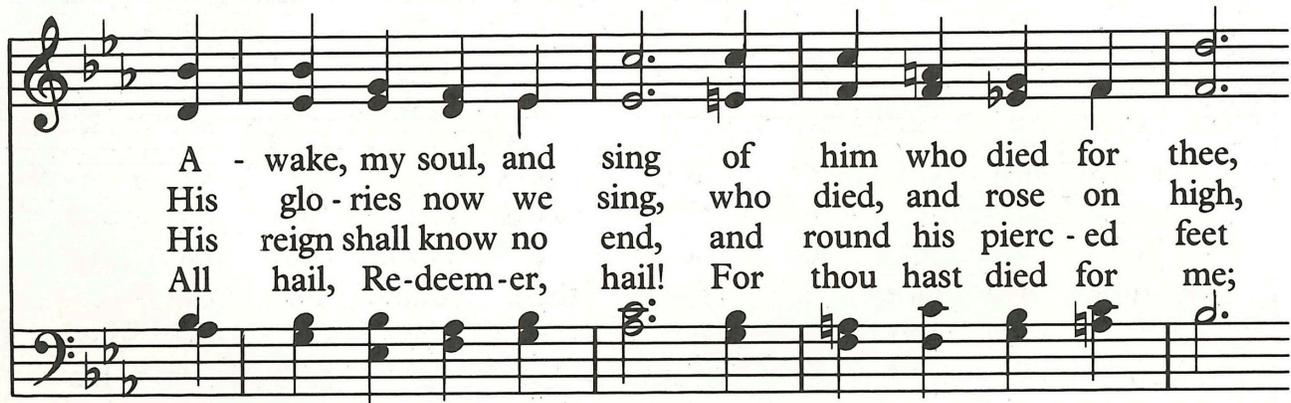
Crown Him with Many Crowns



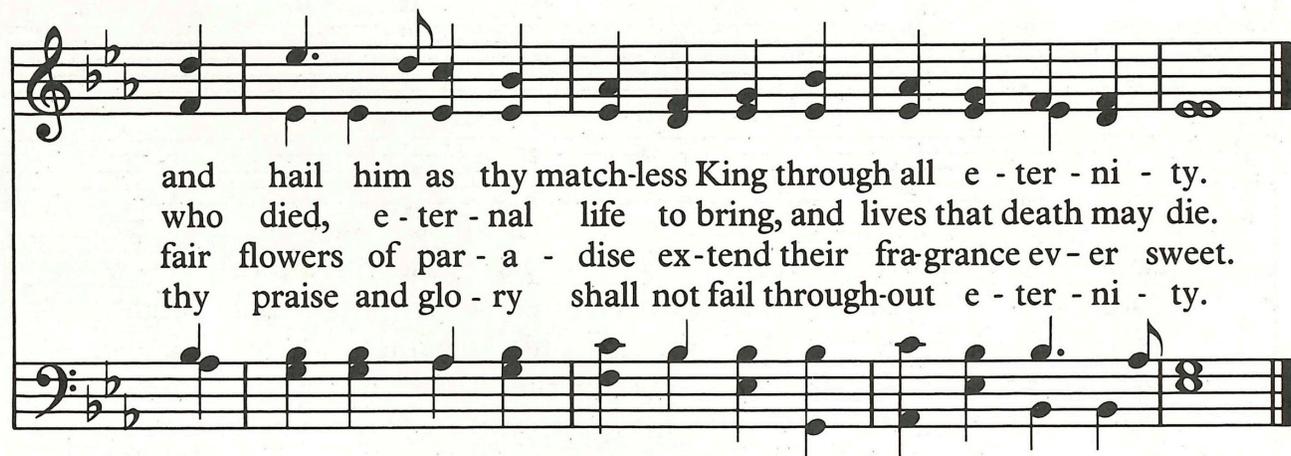
1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne.
 2. Crown him the Lord of life, who tri-umphed o'er the grave,
 3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,



Hark! how the heav-en-ly an-them drowns all mu-sic but its own.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
 those wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died, and rose - on high,
 His reign shall know no end, and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Announcements

Congregational Life

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)

St. John's Guitar Club

The next gathering of our new Guitar Club will be Wednesday, May 6 at 7:00 p.m. 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.

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.

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

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.

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

Holy Week Worship

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, there will be an egg hunt in the Memorial Garden!

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!

Faith Formation

Women's Book Study – 2 Opportunities

The Sunday group is taking a break until April 12. Contact Nancy Wolfe (nj.wolfe@verizon.net) for more information.

The Monday group meets 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.

Children & Youth

Subscribe to our Children & Youth Newsletter here:



Upcoming Children/Youth Activities:

Today: Palm Sunday Parade & Egg Hunt

April 17-19: Mission Blitz Weekend in Philadelphia

Sunday, April 26 (4-6 p.m.) Flick of the Wrist Painting in Malvern \$25 per person RSVP by April 1

This Week in the Church Office

The church office will be closed on Friday in observance of Good Friday.

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!

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

Scan this QR Code for the complete church calendar:



Sunday, March 29 (Palm Sunday)

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

10:30 am Egg Hunt (outside)

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

Monday, March 30

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

Tuesday, March 31

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, April 2

5:00 pm Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship (Sanctuary)

Friday, April 3 - Church Office Closed

7:00 pm Good Friday Worship at Covenant Pres. in Frazer

Saturday, April 4

10:00 am Exercise Class (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, April 5 (Easter Sunday)

9:30 am Worship & Communion

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

