



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
& PARISH DAY SCHOOL

The Second Sunday in Lent

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026
11:00 A.M. • HISTORIC CHURCH

We welcome you here at St. John's to be met by God, who already knows you and loves you.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Music pages can be found following page 9.

During the service, the congregation reads the parts in bold.

A PENITENTIAL ORDER *(Please stand.)*

BCP 351

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures for ever. Amen.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(Silence may be kept.)

**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.**

ABSOLUTION

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.

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING (*Please be seated.*)

Genesis 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121 (*Congregation sings refrain.*)

Pechulis

My help comes from the Lord, the ma - ker of heav - en and earth.

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
 from where is my help to come?

2 My help comes from the LORD, *
 the maker of heaven and earth.

[Refrain]

3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep; [Refrain]

5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night. [Refrain]

7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.

8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore. [Refrain]

THE SECOND READING

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN *O Love, How Deep* (vs. 1 & 2 before; vs. 3 after)

(H 448) **M-1**

THE GOSPEL *(Please stand as you are able.)*

John 3:1-17

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is

flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. William Shiflet

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 *(After each petition, the following is said)*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, like Nicodemus we do not fully understand the mysteries of your love and we sometimes willfully ignore the truth of your word. Bring us again into new life lived in you and share with us the joy of your eternal kingdom. To you, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit we pledge our lives. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

I appeal to you, dear siblings in Christ, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *What Wondrous Love is This*

Manor

St. John's Youth Choir and Josiah Dykstra, violin

THE PRESENTATION HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together* (vs. 1-2)

Let Us Break Bread

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees (on our
2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees (on our

1. knees); Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees (on our
2. knees); Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees (on our

1. knees). When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing
2. knees). When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, Oh— Lord, have mer - cy on me (on me). me).

1. 2.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features two parts: a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into four systems. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the final two lines. The fourth system contains the final two lines, including a first and second ending. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and simple melodic lines in the right hand, and a bass line in the left hand.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

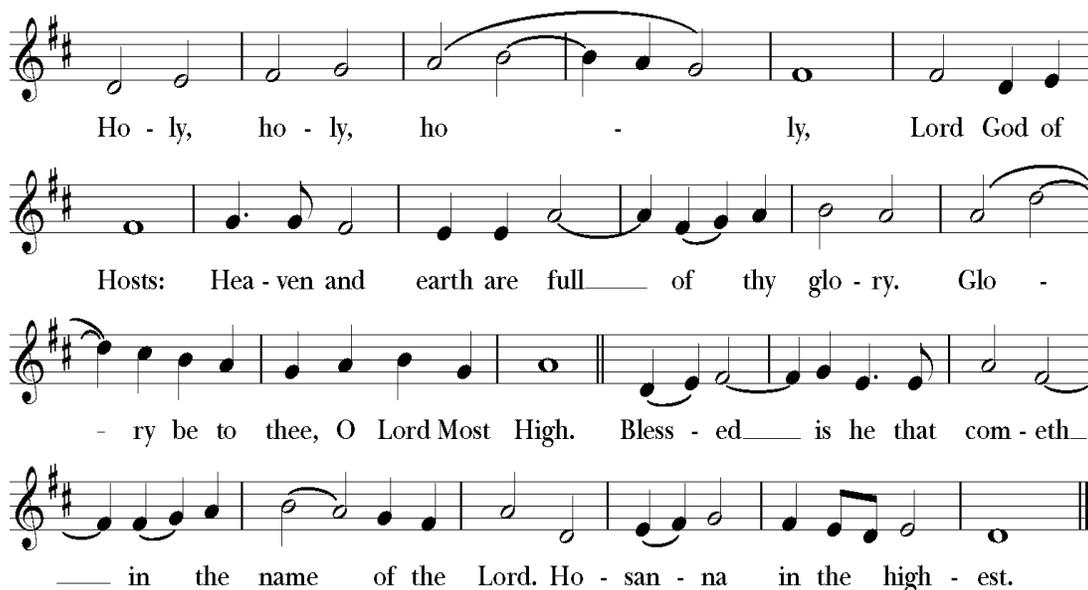
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. 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:

SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Willan



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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 God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Prayed by all in unison.*)

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

(A silence is held.)



FRACTION ANTHEM *Lamb of God*

Willian

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION: God Welcomes You to the Table

*This is Christ's Table, and God welcomes us all to be fed and blessed here. All those baptized, regardless of church tradition/denomination, background, or age are invited to receive Communion as members of the Body of Christ. Please let the clergy know if you require a gluten-free wafer. If you are not yet baptized, or wish to receive a Blessing instead of Communion, please cross your hands across your chest and the minister will affirm God's blessing on you. **If you are unable to come forward for Communion, please let an usher know so that the clergy may come to you.** If you are interested in exploring more of what baptism could mean for you, please speak to Rev. Derek, our Rector, and he would LOVE to talk about baptism with you!*

COMMUNION ANTHEM *God So Loved the World*

Chilcott

St. John's Choir

God so loved the world that he gave his Only-Begotten Son that whoso believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

COMMUNION HYMNS *How Firm a Foundation*
I to the Hills

(H 636) M-2
(H 668) M-3

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE (*Lent 2*)

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Lift High the Cross*

(H 473) M-4

DISMISSAL

The Celebrant or Deacon dismisses the congregation.
The People respond, Thanks be to God.

Music at St. John's presents

JUSTIN PECHULIS & Friends



Jocelyn Faison
oboe/clarinet



Avery Faust
soprano



Justin Pechulis
piano/organ



Chris Prestia
cello/tenor



Steven Rolban
piano



Hannah Wardell
mezzo-soprano

Free admission; donations welcome

Sunday, March 8, 2026 • 4:00 p.m.
Historic Church



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
 5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
 6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
 4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
 5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
 6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
 6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Mark, Laurie, Shirley & Jack, Katie, Kate, Debbie & David, Elizabeth, Ryan, Wilber, Renate, Jim, Kathryn, Kelly; Deb Avant, Melinda B., Tracey Ball, Steve Belknap, Leslie Edmonds, Ricky Emanuel, Lynn Engelke, David Fischel, Georgi Funderburk, Anne Gallagher, Allison Gradwell, Sunny Good, Marti Guillet, Pat Hersee, Angela Chaejung Lim, Soo Nam (Christina) Lim, Glenda Lovchik, Judy Lovchik, Scott Marks, Jean Marlow, Matthew Martin, Brent & Meg McDorman, Jimmy McEaney, Pat Merson, Charles H. Miller, Howard Mooney, Gordon Nahas, Kathy O'Dunne, Barbara Prettyman, Jean Purcell, Roland Russoli, Ernest & Amy Stalder, Dan Staples, Christopher Towle, Marion Walker, Allison Ward, Victoria Weimer, Dan Weston-Dawkes, Dylan Williams, and Maria, Taylor, & Felicia Wray.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY OVERSEAS & THEIR FAMILIES:

LCDR Matthew Kircher, USN

To have someone included on our prayer list, you may: Contact the Parish Office by phone or email your prayer request to Tracey Stone at tstone@stjohnsec.org. Names will remain on the prayer list for 30 days. After the initial 30 days, if you wish to have a name stay on the list, please re-submit your request.

COMMUNION HYMN I *How Firm a Foundation*

(H 636) M-2
Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,



1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;
4 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,
2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,



1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

COMMUNION HYMN II *I to the Hills*

(H 668) M-3
Burford



1 I to the hills will lift mine eyes; from whence shall come my aid?
2 He will not let thy foot be moved, his own he safe - ly keeps;
3 Thy faith - ful guard - ian is the Lord, thy shelt - er and thy shade;
4 From e - vil he shall keep thee safe and shall thy strength re - store



My help is from the Lord a - bove who heaven and earth hath made.
with watch - ful and un - tir - ing eye he slum - bers not, nor sleeps.
nor sun by day, nor moon by night, need make thy soul a - fraid.
and guard thy go - ing out and in, both now and ev - er - more.

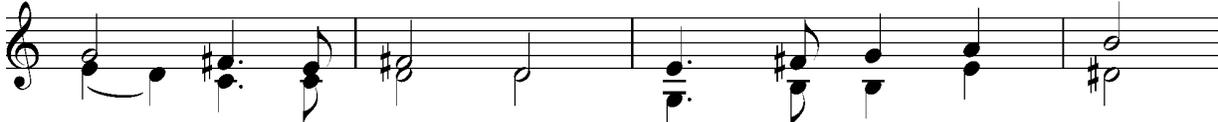
Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

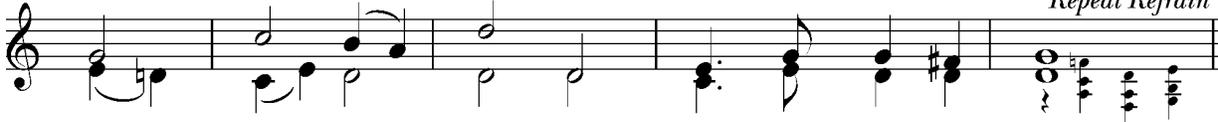


till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.



Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain



the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & PARISH DAY SCHOOL

9120 Frederick Road 🏡 Ellicott City, MD 21042

Church Office: 410-461-7793 🏡 Clergy On-call Phone: 443-538-2806

Church Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., or by appointment; Fri. Closed

www.stjohnsec.org 🏡 www.stjohnspds.org

WEEKEND WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturdays, 5:00 p.m.: Contemplative Worship, Historic Church

Sundays, 9:00 a.m.: Family-friendly, Contemporary Worship, All Saints Hall

Sundays, 11:00 a.m.: Traditional Worship, Historic Church

(11:00 a.m. is livestreamed whenever possible on YouTube — <https://bit.ly/SJEC-YouTube>)

주일 성찬예배 오전 10:30, 한국어 성찬예배는 *Resurrection* 채널에서 드립니다.

Find more worship information at <https://www.stjohnsec.org>



The Rev. Derek H. Miller, Rector/Celebrant • The Rev. Dr. William Shiflet, Preacher

The Ven. Ruth Elder, Deacon • Mr. Justin Pechulis, Director of Music Ministries & Organist



St. John's website
stjohnsec.org/give



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Text "SJEC" to 73256

Introduce Yourself
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