

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**APRIL 19, 2026**  
**10:00 AM**

**WELCOME!**

*YOU are welcome here, regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, sex, national origin, marital status, family makeup, socioeconomic status, or political persuasion. St. John's Episcopal Church is a community of people who gather to acknowledge our need for divine and human love, and to respect our common humanity. At St. John's, ALL ARE WELCOME.*

*It is our pleasure to have you join us for worship today. If this is your first visit, or even if you've been attending for a little while, and you'd like to learn more about us, please take a 'Welcome' card from our pews, complete and place the 'Connect' side in the offering plate or hand it to one of our greeters or clergy so that we may follow up with you. Or, feel welcome to contact us using the information on the back of this bulletin.*

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***Our mission***

*LINKING LIVES IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST*



**Risen Christ on the Road to Emmaus**

Bose Orthodox Monastery, Magnano, Italy  
from *Art in the Christian Tradition*

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***Our vision***

*WE JOYFULLY GATHER TO PRAY, WORSHIP, LEARN AND SERVE  
AS WE SEEK TO FOLLOW JESUS, AND INVITE ALL TO JOIN US  
ON A SACRED JOURNEY OF HOPE AND TRANSFORMATION*

## Following the pattern of THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER – RITE II

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!***All are invited to stand, as able*

Hymn - "Come, ye faithful, raise the strain"

#199 in **The Hymnal 1982\***

1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ hath burst his pris - on,  
 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
 4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,

God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness:  
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;  
 with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;  
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor - tal:

loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,  
 all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
 comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion  
 but to - day a - midst thine own thou didst stand, be - stow - ing

led them with un - mois - tened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
 from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
 wel - comes in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' re - sur - rec - tion.  
 that thy peace which ev - er - more pass - eth hu - man know - ing.

## The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All are invited to be seated*

### First Lesson - Acts 2:14a, 36-41

*Judy Ellis*

Reader A reading from Acts.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 116 – 1-3, 10-17

### The Portland Psalter\*

*Cantor will invite the congregation to join in on the refrain.*



I will walk in the presence of the Lord, I will



walk in the land of the liv - ing.

From *The Portland Psalter* © 2002, Robert A. Hawthorne. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- 1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, \*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me;  
the grip of the grave took hold of me; \*  
I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: \*  
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."
- 10 How shall I repay the Lord \*  
for all the good things he has done for me?
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation \*  
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord \*  
in the presence of all his people.  
13 Precious in the sight of the Lord \*  
is the death of his servants.  
14 O Lord, I am your servant; \*  
I am your servant and the child of your  
handmaid; you have freed me from my  
bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and call upon the Name of the Lord.  
16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord \*  
in the presence of all his people,  
17 In the courts of the Lord's house, \*  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
Hallelujah!

**Second Lesson** - 1 Peter 1:17-23

*Emily Garlinghouse*

Reader A reading from 1 Peter

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

*All are invited to stand, as able, for the Gospel Procession*

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Cantor will invite the congregation to join in on the refrain.*



Cantor Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Cantor Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;  
make our hearts burn while you speak to us.

**All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Words: Luke 24:32

Music: Alleluia 11, Taizé community

**Gospel Reading** - Luke 24:13-35

*The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson*

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**People Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Reader                      The Gospel of the Lord.  
People                      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

*See previous page . . .*

### **Sermon**

*The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson*

*All are invited to stand, as able, and say together*

### **Nicene Creed**

p. 326 in **The BCP**

**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.

### Prayers of the People Form III

p. 387 in The BCP

Leader	Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
<b>People</b>	<b>That we all may be one.</b>
Leader	Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
<b>People</b>	<b>That your Name may be glorified by all people.</b>
Leader	We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
<b>People</b>	<b>That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.</b>
Leader	We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
<b>People</b>	<b>That there may be justice and peace on the earth.</b>
Leader	Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
<b>People</b>	<b>That our works may find favor in your sight.</b>
Leader	Remembering especially Cathy & Juan, Char, Ronnie, Henry, Chris, Yvonne, Charlene, Phillip, Julie, Dennis, Mike, Bronda, Steve, Rod, Don, Vicki, Nikolas, Duane, and Linda & Dan, have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
<b>People</b>	<b>That they may be delivered from their distress.</b>
Leader	Give to the departed eternal rest.
<b>People</b>	<b>Let light perpetual shine upon them.</b>
Leader	We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**People**      **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader      Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

Celebrant:    O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Celebrant      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People**      **And also with you.**

### **Announcements**

#### **Prayer for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Other Milestones**

**Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Offertory Anthem** - "Ode to Joy"

*Beethoven, arr. Nykkoa Lurie*

*SJEC Handbell Choir*

### **Eucharistic Prayer D**

p. 372 in **The BCP**

Celebrant      The Lord be with you.

**People**      **And also with you.**

Celebrant      Lift up your hearts.

**People**      **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People**      **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant      It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Sanctus

#255 in Lift Every Voice and Sing\*

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly,  
 ho - ly, ho-ly, Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and  
 earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est. Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the  
 Lord, of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*All are invited to stand or kneel, as able*

**Celebrant** We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**Together We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Celebrant Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with John and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

**People AMEN.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

p. 364 in **The BCP**

Celebrant

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

**Together**

**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.

**Fraction Anthem**

p. 364 in **The BCP**

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**  
Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. These are holy gifts for holy people.

*All are invited to be seated*

**Holy Communion**

*All are welcome to receive communion. St. John's uses gluten-free bread, and wine. You may eat your bread/wafer and return to your seat, or hand it to a chalice-bearer who will intinct (dip) the bread and hand it back to you. Individually sealed cups with gluten-free, allergen-friendly hosts, and grape juice are available by request. Please follow the directions of our ushers.*

**A Prayer in lieu of Sacramental Reception** attributed to *The Rev. Charles Curtis*

*Those worshipping with us on our live stream are invited to use the following prayer as our in-person congregation receives Communion.*

O blessed Jesus, our Savior and Lord, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of your body and Blood. We love you above all things, and we long for you in our souls. Since we cannot now receive you in your sacramental Presence, grant that we may still be fed by your Holy Spirit in our hearts. We welcome you and embrace you, and unite ourselves wholly to you; and grant, most gracious Lord, that we may evermore dwell in you, and you in us. Amen.

**Communion Hymn - "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"**

#564 in **The Celebration Hymnal\***

1. I am weak but Thou art strong; Je - sus, keep me from all wrong.  
2. Thro' this world of toil and snares, If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?  
3. When my fee - ble life is o'er, Time for me will be no more;  
*Refrain: Just a clos - er walk with Thee, Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea.*

I'll be sat - is - fied as long As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.  
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.  
Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er To Thy king - dom shore, to Thy shore.  
*Dai - ly walk - ing close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

D.C. for Refrain

TEXT: Anonymous  
MUSIC: Anonymous

CLOSER WALK  
Irregular meter

**Post-Communion Prayer**

Celebrant Let us pray.  
**Together Eternal God, heavenly Father,**  
**you have graciously accepted us as living members**  
**of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,**  
**and you have fed us with spiritual food**  
**in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**  
**Send us now into the world in peace,**  
**and grant us strength and courage**  
**to love and serve you**  
**with gladness and singleness of heart;**  
**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Blessing**

*The priest blesses the people*  
**People Amen.**

*All are invited to stand, as able*

**Closing Hymn** - "Love's redeeming work is done"



1 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.  
 2 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King; where, O death, is now thy sting?  
 3 Soar we now where Christ has led, fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head;



Death in vain for - bids him rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.  
 Once he died our souls to save, where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?  
 made like him, like him we rise, ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.  
 Music: *Savannah*, from *Harmonia Sacra*, ca. 1760

77. 77

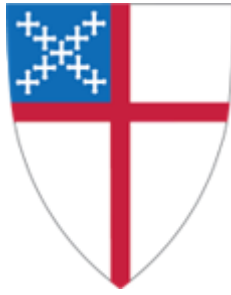
**Dismissal**

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!  
**People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Postlude**

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*The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God and  
 in celebration of Caroline Koonce's 25th birthday and Wesley Koonce's 20th birthday  
 by William and Denée Koonce.*



**HEAD OF THE CHURCH – JESUS CHRIST**  
**MINISTERS – ALL OUR MEMBERS**

**Clergy**

The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson .....*Rector*

**Staff**

Dr. Amon Eady ..... *Director of Music*  
 Travis Fader ..... *Director of Operations & Organist/Pianist*  
 Linda Germain..... *Children & Youth Director*  
 Colleen O'Dell ..... *Bookkeeper*  
 Ellen Woodard..... *Administrative Assistant*  
 Nick Lowthian..... *Sexton*  
 Vickie Densmore ..... *Janitor*

**SERVING**

Presiding ..... The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson  
 Preaching..... The Very Rev. Alissa G. Anderson  
 Cantor..... Amon Eady  
 Organist/Pianist ..... Travis Fader  
 Greeter/Usher.....Katharine Rose, Bob Stoney  
 Element Bearer..... Barb Tazelaar  
 Lectors..... Judy Ellis, Emily Garlinghouse  
 Intercessor..... Deb Blackhurst  
 Crucifer/Eucharistic Minister..... Eric Heglin  
 Eucharistic Minister ..... Karen Newhouse  
 Altar Guild ..... Marcy Kirksey, Andrea Burditt  
 Broadcast Technician ..... Bill Kent  
 Coffee Hour Host ..... Doug & Eileen Germain  
 (signup sheet posted on the bulletin board outside Williams Hall)

**OUR VESTRY – OUR ELECTED LEADERS**

**Class of 2027**

Eric Heglin, *Clerk*  
 Susan Rye  
 Fred Schuster, *Co-Warden*

**Class of 2029**

Nykkoo Lurie  
 Mike Spencer

**Class of 2028**

John Adams  
 Doug Germain  
 Ann Wright, *Co-Warden*

To get in touch with any Clergy, Staff Member or Member of the Vestry, call or email the parish office:

(989) 631-2260

[office@sjec-midland.org](mailto:office@sjec-midland.org)

**Contact Us**

**St. John's Episcopal Church**

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Monday thru Thursday ... 9am-3pm  
 Friday ... 9am-noon

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