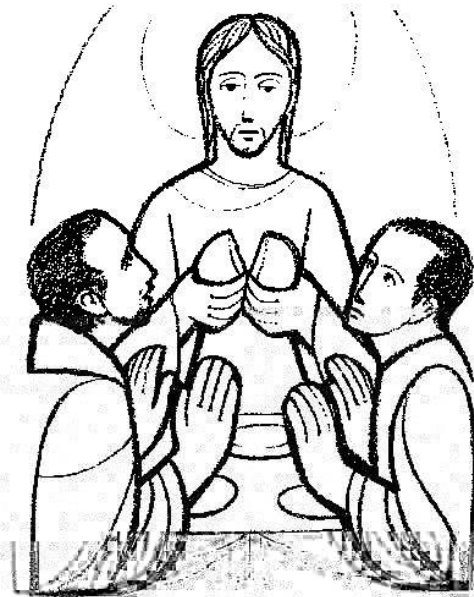


# St. John's Episcopal Church

*Saugus, Massachusetts*



## Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026 - 9am Holy Eucharist

### Prelude

Processional: *That Easter day with joy was bright*

1982 Hymnal #193

1. That Easter Day with joy was bright,  
the sun shone out with fairer light,  
when, to their longing eyes restored,  
th'apostles saw their risen Lord.
2. His risen flesh with radiance glowed;  
his wounded hands & feet he showed;  
those scars their solemn witness gave  
that Christ was risen from the grave.
3. O Jesus, King of gentleness,  
do thou thyself our hearts possess  
that we may give thee all our days  
the willing tribute of our praise.
4. O Lord of all, with us abide  
in this our joyful Eastertide;  
from ev'ry weapon death can wield  
Thine own redeemed for ever shield.

### Easter Acclamation:

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

### Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts be open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### Kyrie Confession

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, we might walk in newness of life. Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith:

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

### Absolution

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### Gloria

Hymnal S-278

*Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

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

First Lesson:

A reading from *The Acts of the Apostles* (2:14a, 36-41)

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.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm (116:1-3, 10-17)

Let us recite the psalm responsively, alternating verses.

- 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:

A reading from *The First Letter of Peter (1:17-23)*.

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.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Sequence Hymn: *Emmaus-bound on Easter Day* (tune: Winchester New #76) C.W. Gillette

1. Emmaus-bound on Easter Day, two travelers walked along the way.  
They'd once had hope, but hope had died when you, O Lord, were crucified.
2. When you appeared beside the two, they could not see that it was you;  
but as they talked and shared their pain, you gave them hope and joy again.
3. For as you spoke to them God's word, explaining all they'd seen and heard,  
they understood what God had done and that a new day had begun.
4. They shared their home; you broke the bread. They saw you, risen from the dead!  
That moment's grace helped them to see the gift of God's eternity.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Luke (24:13-35)*.

*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.

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

Sequence Hymn: *Emmaus-bound on Easter Day (v. 5)*

5. In scripture and at table, too, O Risen Lord, may we know you.  
And may your presence give us grace to share God's love in every place.

Homily

Fr. Walter Connelly

## 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.*

## Prayers of the People:

Common Worship, Church of England

Lay Leader: We pray to the risen Jesus who shares our journey by leading the way.

Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations.

Jesus, Lord of life: *in your mercy, hear us.*

Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry, and nourish us all with your word.

Jesus, Lord of life: *in your mercy, hear us.*

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way.  
Deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life.

Jesus, Lord of life: *in your mercy, hear us.*

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.

We remember especially Erica Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Lisa P., Kathy Pothier, Tom & John Puckett, Shirley Raithel, Sandy & David St. Clair, Marilyn Aham, Amy Wright, Bob Shaw, Nina Lafauci, Steve P., Janice Noseworthy, and all those whom we hold in our hearts before you this day.

Jesus, Lord of life: *in your mercy, hear us.*

Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you, especially those remembered with flowers this Eastertide.  
Raise us with them to eternal life.

Jesus, Lord of life: *in your mercy, hear us, accept our prayers,  
and lead us to heaven . Amen.*

*Priest:* Lord of the gathering feast, you walk with us on the shadowed road: burn our hearts with Scripture's open flame; unveil our darkened eyes as bread is torn and shared, and from the broken fragments bless a people for yourself; through Jesus Christ, the host of the world. *Amen.*

### Peace and Announcements

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'  
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*And also with you.*

### Invitation to the Offering

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works,  
and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Offertory: *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

Hymnal #343

1. Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless  
thy chosen pilgrim flock  
with manna in the wilderness,  
with water from the rock.
2. We would not live by bread alone,  
but by thy word of grace,  
in strength of which we travel on  
to our abiding place.
3. Be known to us in breaking bread,  
and do not then depart;  
Savior, abide with us, and spread  
thy table in our heart.
4. Lord, sup with us in love divine,  
thy Body and thy Blood,  
that living bread, that heavenly wine,  
be our immortal food.

*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.*

Creator of all, you wash away our sins in water, you give us new birth by the Spirit, and redeem us in the blood of Christ. As we celebrate the resurrection, renew your gift of life within us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. *Amen.*

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP, Eucharistic Prayer B

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 our thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might*

Hymnal S-128

*Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*+ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Mary Magdalen, Blessed Peter, Blessed John the Beloved Disciple and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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

*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: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

Hymnal S-165

*Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.*

The Invitation to Holy Communion

In fellowship with our sisters and brothers worshipping online, let us join together in praying for that spiritual communion shared by all Christ's disciples.

*My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Mt 11:28-29). All those wishing to share in the life of Christ are welcome at God's altar.

Communion Hymn: Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Post-communion Prayer

*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.*

Easter Blessing:

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional: *He is risen, he is risen! (vv. 1-3)*

Hymnal #180

1. He is risen, he is risen! Tell it out with joyful voice:  
he has burst his three days' prison; let the whole wide earth rejoice:  
death is conquered, we are free, Christ has won the victory.
2. Come, ye sad and fearful hearted, with glad smile and radiant brow!  
Death's long shadows have departed; Jesus' woes are over now,  
and the passion that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.
3. Come, with high and holy hymning, hail our Lord's triumphant day;  
not one darksome cloud is dimming yonder glorious morning ray,  
breaking o'er the purple east: symbol of our Easter feast.

Dismissal:

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Postlude

**Welcome to St John's Episcopal Church.** All those wishing to share in the life of Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. Proceed up the aisle on the right, allowing room on the left for others to return. You may kneel or stand at the rail to receive. Most people receive the consecrated Host in the hands, and some receive on the tongue. We have not returned to the Common Cup but offer individual Communion Cups. Please deposit the empty cups in the tray as you return. If you would prefer a blessing instead of Holy Communion, simply cross your hands over your chest as the priest approaches. Please join us for fellowship and refreshment in Ashworth Hall after worship.

**Parish Calendar**

May 5 Tues Deadline for lobster roll orders (*by 5pm*)  
May 8 Fri Lobster Roll Sale, 7am-Noon (*see flyer*)  
June 13 Sat Annual Yard Sale, 9am-1pm

## Weekly Prayer List

*(Please help to keep this list current and kindly inform the office of any changes)*

### Week One of the Month:

Emily Graves Autori, Nicholas Bettencourt, Paul Brophy, Norma Cahill, Barbara Cox, Ken DiBiccari, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Joanne & Paul Felci, Ruth Garrett, and Allison Gray

### Week Two:

Will Hare, Carolyn Hashem, Bruce Higgins, Louis Hoelzl, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Anthony K., Janet Lancaster, Melissa McSheffery, Matt, Mary & Dante, Harriet Miraglia, Jonelle Moloney, Joe W., and Debbie Rossetti

### Week Three:

Erica Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Lisa P., Kathy Pothier, Tom & John Puckett, Shirley Raithel, Sandy & David St. Clair, Marilyn Aham, Amy Wright, Bob Shaw, Nina Lafauci, Steve P., and Janice Noseworthy

### Week Four:

Nancy Scarry, Malcolm Silva, Teddi, Terrie Sevier, Gail Smith, Dom & Joanie Tello, Kathy Webber, Nancy White, Rachel, Abigail, Claire, Kevin O'Connor, and Jesse Tucker



### Participants in this Service:

The Rev. Walter Connelly, Priest-in-Charge

Stephen Sikorski, Music Director

John Rogalski, Lay Reader ~ Colleen Marcotte, L.E.M.

*St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Prospect Street, Saugus, MA 01906*