



SAINT JOHN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rooted in God, Growing in Faith

Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024 8:30 a.m.

576 Concord Rd. Glen Mills, PA 19342
Phone: 610-459-2994 SaintJohnsConcord.com

Founded 1702 - Celebrating 322 Years of Worship

The Rev Jill M. LaRoche Wikel – Rector
Rev. Terry Dinovo – Priest Associate

Mission of Saint John's:

To be a welcoming community committed to seeking, serving, and growing in Christ.

*Episcopalians believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God.
St. John's welcomes all to our diverse, inclusive, and affirming community.*

Holy Eucharist Rite I

What is Lent?

Lent is a time when we slow down, reflect, pray, and remove from our lives things that distract us from who we are, and pull us from our relationship with God. In places of worship, we return to simplicity and stillness: our music is tempered and we do not sing the Gloria nor say or sing any Alleluias. We begin worship with the Great Litany or reciting the Decalogue (Ten Commandments) and Confession. These changes tell us that the journey to Jerusalem which we take in Lent is one that will change us and the world, and we need to have a chance to stop for a moment the craziness of our lives to enter into a fullness of relationship with one another and with God.

The Word of God

The procession enters in silence.

Opening Words *All stand.*

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: God's mercy endures for ever.

Decalogue *All kneel as able.*

Confession

Kyrie

BCP p. 317

BCP p. 320

BCP p. 324

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: 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 Lesson

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Reader: A reading from the book of Genesis.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."...God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:22-30

Deus, Deus meus

BCP p. 610

22 May all who fear you, O God, give praise; *
may the offspring of Israel stand in awe and
all of Jacob's line give glory.

23 For you do not despise nor abhor the poor in
their poverty; neither do you hide your face
from them; *
but when they cry for you, you hear them.

24 My praise is of you in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those
who worship you.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek you shall praise you: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn
to you, *

and all the families of the nations shall bow
before you.

27 For your is the royal power, O God; *
you rule over the nations.

28 To you alone all who sleep in the earth bow
down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before you.

29 My soul shall live for you;
my descendants shall serve you; *
they shall be known as yours for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people
yet unborn *
the saving deeds that you have done.

The Second Lesson

Romans 4:13-25

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

All stand

Mark 8:31-38

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

***People:* Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Celebrant Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:* Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel

Nicene Creed

Prayer Book, 326

The Prayers of the People

All kneel

Prayer Book, 328

Peace

Commissioning Newly Elected Vestry Members

Dick Constable, Carla Durdan, Ron Hammer, Ann McGonigal, and Gerry Tierney

Celebrant: Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. I present to you these persons to be admitted to the ministry the Vestry and confirm that they are prepared by a commitment to Jesus, by regular attendance, and by the knowledge of their duties to exercise their ministry to the honor of God and the well-being of St. John’s Church.

Celebrant asks the Vestry Members: You have been called to a ministry in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Members of the Vestry: I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant: Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Members of the Vestry: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your commitment to follow Jesus and to serve this congregation in his name?

Members of the Vestry: I do.

Celebrant to the congregation: Will you do all in your power to support these leaders with your prayers, your honest yet gracious communication with them, and your willingness to help them carry out Christ's ministry in this church?

Congregation: We will.

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation I commission you for this work. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in this and in all things, you may do God's will in the service of God's kingdom.

Let us pray. Almighty God, look with favor upon these persons who have reaffirmed their commitment to follow Christ and to serve in his name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world, and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Birthdays/Anniversary Prayer (*Prayer #51, BCP p. 830*)

Watch over your child, 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* heart may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Offertory

Scan this QR Code for easy giving options:



The Great Thanksgiving

Prayer I

Prayer Book, 333

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Sanctus

Prayer Book, 341

Prayer of Consecration

Prayer Book, 342

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Book, 336

The Breaking of the Bread

Prayer Book, 337

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.

We have two Chalices: for dipping your wafer, please remain at the altar rail; to sip wine, please visit the Chalicist at the organ.

We have gluten-free wafers for those that need them; please let the Priest know.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer Book, 339

Blessing

Celebrant: The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God

strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. Amen.

Dismissal

Announcements

Upcoming Events – Please Join Us!

Thursday, February 22 @ 10 AM – Thursday Café @ 11:30 – Healing Eucharist
Sunday, February 25 @ 11:15 AM – Green Team Lenten Rose Presentation in Battin Room
Sunday, February 25 @ 4 PM – Youth Group
Wednesday, February 28 @ 6 PM – Lenten Meal & The Chosen Meeting in the Church Sanctuary
Wednesday, March 6 @ 1:30 PM – Parkinson’s Support Group
Wednesday, March 6 @ 6 PM – Lenten Meal & The Chosen

What's going on?

St. John's is renting our Parish Hall building from **Wednesday, Feb 28- Friday, March 1** to a TV production company while they are filming in the area. Since TV crew will be using many of our rooms for costuming and catering needs, there will be limited parking available during the day. Any church meetings will be held in the sanctuary, including our Lenten program on *The Chosen* on Wednesday, February 28th at 6pm. While this is certainly an exciting opportunity, please refrain from coming to campus unless you are here for a meeting. All questions can be directed to Rev Jill.

Green Team: Lenten Rose Forum

TODAY Sunday, Feb 25 at 11:15

Presentation on Lenten Roses/ Hellebores and how they provide early food for pollinators. Learn how to help them thrive. Each participant will have an opportunity to transplant and take home a plant. This shade loving plant, in future years, will give you blooms between December and April. (They are deer resistant)

Lenten Program: The Chosen

Wednesday evenings: 6pm (meal) & 6:30pm (program)

Wednesday evenings beginning on Feb. 21, enjoy a simple meal as we watch Season 1 of *The Chosen*, a beautifully made TV series based on the life of Jesus. Following each viewing, we will discuss what we’ve learned, and end with the service of Compline. Meeting in the Battin Room.

Stations of the Cross Retreat

Lenten Retreat: Saturday, March 16 8:30-11:30am

Enter into the mystery of Jesus’s last days and imagine what you’d see and hear if you were there. We will gather in the Parish Hall for breakfast and learn about the history of the Stations of the Cross (a series of 14 images and prayers that mark the last hours of Jesus’s life). Then we’ll create something for our Stations of the Cross Walk on Good Friday, March 29; it can be a craft, poetry, painting, or writing prayers for St. John’s. We hope to see you there!

Lenten Mite Box Donations:

Chicken Ministry in Guatemala

Pick up a mite box and donations calendar in the Narthex. During the 40 days of Lent, follow the tasks on the calendar as you interact with God’s abundance. On Easter, we will collect the mite boxes and send our donations to our sister parish, San Andreas, in Guatemala.

Brief Bible Study 2024: Genesis

We are studying the second half of Genesis Sundays at 9:30 AM. View all the details and schedule on our website.

<p><u>Church Staff</u> Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel - <i>Rector</i> Rev. Terry Dinovo – <i>Priest Associate</i> Jen Troutman – <i>Parish Administrator</i> Margaret Hatcher – <i>Children’s Chapel and Christian Arts</i> Kevin Werner and Ron Arrants – <i>Sextons</i> Miriam Stanton & Maureen Thompson – <i>Office Volunteers</i></p>	<p><u>Vestry Members, Wardens and Officers</u> Danielle Yoch (<i>Warden</i>) Bill Calhoun (<i>Vestry Warden</i>) Burt Blackburn (<i>Treasurer</i>) Jacqui Dunn, Mary Pat Lynam, John Pachkowski, Tracey Payne, Carla Durdan, Dick Constable, Ron Hammer, Ann McGonigal & Gerry Tierney</p>
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Service Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel
Greeter: Steve Long
Readers: Diane Carlin & Peggy Long
Counters: Mary Alice Peeling, Tracey Payne & Light von Steuben
Altar Guild: Bill Calhoun, Melody Calhoun & Nancy McKean
Coffee Hour Host: Mary Pat Lynam

All scripture and prayers in bulletin are printed with permission.

View FULL bulletin online at SaintJohnsConcord.com/DigitalBulletins

Parish Weekly Prayer List

Please Note: After the last Sunday of each month, all names are removed from the Parish Weekly Prayer List. If you would like a name to remain on the Prayer List, please contact the Parish Office, either by phone at (610) 459-2994, by email at office@saintjohnsconcord.com or online at SaintJohnsConcord.com/prayer-requests. You may add or remove names at any time. Please include the first name and, if you wish, the first initial of the person's last name. Prayer list policies and requests can be found at SaintJohnsConcord.com/prayer-requests

Please keep the following people in your prayers

Barrie	Ed B.	Ann M.	Mildred T.	Jean C.	Jessica	Edie O.
Mary B.	Marissa	Lydia	Ethan B.	Bea B.	Felix B.	George S.
Viola B.	Cordelia V.	Cullen	Portale Family	Chris R.	Bonnie	Steven C.
Iranice	Bill B.	Joe F.	Jay P.	Family & Friends of	Bryan Gray	Natalie
Mateo C.	Nicolette C.	Cole & Kira	Bailken & Family	Donna S.	Becky F.	Paul
Dennis, Gabby & Makenzi S. Ginger	Greg B.	Bryan C.	Branan C.	Brennan Family	Finn M.	

For the concerns on our hearts and for those who have no one to name them.

Birthdays: Gavin Dunbar Barrie Parker Charlotte Grace Strickland
 Victoria Moulder Tina Douglas Meredith Strickland Cathy Blackburn
 Ashley Bassick Michaela Bassick Kate Flanagan Henry Yoch

Anniversaries: Cathy & Burt Blackburn; Rev. Jill LaRoche Wikel & Glenn Wikel

Prayers for those in the Military

Steven Michael Pascal, Navy	Daniel Stock, Navy	Scott Lister, Navy
Kyle Mullen, Army	Anna Harris, Navy	

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Rev. Jill: RevJill@SaintJohnsConcord.com	facebook.com/saintjohnsconcord
Rev. Terry: RevTerry@SaintJohnsConcord.com	instagram.com/saintjohnsconcord
Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday: 9 AM – 1 PM	youtube.com/saintjohnsconcord
	Talking about us on social media? Be sure to use our hashtag #SJConcord

