# Welcome to St. John's Church



# The Last Sunday After The Epiphany:

# Saturday, February 18, 2023 5:00 p.m.

#### ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

78 Green Hill Road Washington, CT 06793

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527

Parish Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

St. John's Email: stjohnschurch@snet.net

St. John's Website: http://stjohnswashington.com/

St. John's Facebook Page:

https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT

St. John's YouTube Page:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg

#### A SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER

Masks are recommended in the church, but are optional

Children's activity bags are available on the bench by the Baptistry.

Please return them after the Service.

There is a furnished children's room downstairs with soft toys and rugs, and audio of the Service, if parents wish to use it.

There is a Reception for all in the Parish Hall, following the Service.

#### Prelude

#### The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

All stand

Officiant O God, be not far from us.

People Come quickly to help us, O God.

Officiant and People

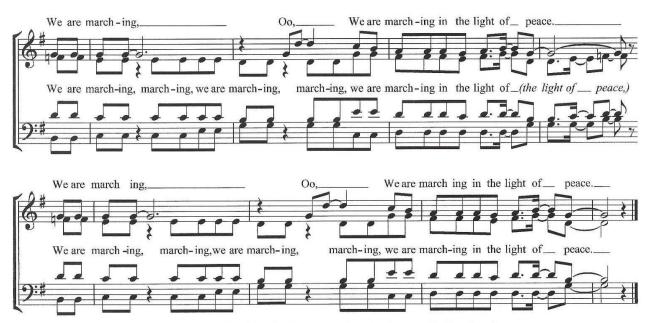
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

**Opening Hymn WLP # 787** We Are Marching In The Light Of God

#### We are Marching in the Light of Peace

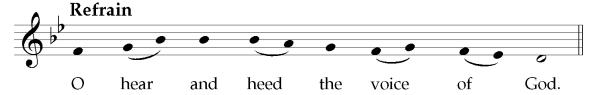
Verse 1: We are marching in the light of peace. Verse 2: We are marching in the light of hope. Verse 3: We are marching in the light of love.





Siyahamba, traditional South African song, adapted and arranged by Tom Brand Copyright © 2023 Thomas Brand, used by permission

## **Psalm 119:1-8** the congregation is invited to join the refrain



- 1 Happy are they whose way is blameless, \* who walk in the law of the LORD!
- 2 Happy are they who observe his decrees \* and seek him with all their hearts!
- 3 Who never do any wrong, \* but always walk in his ways.
- 4 You laid down your commandments, \* that we should fully keep them.
- 5 Oh, that my ways were made so direct \* that I might keep your statutes!
- 6 Then I should not be put to shame, \* when I regard all your commandments.
- 7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, \* when I have learned your righteous judgments.

8 I will keep your statutes; \* do not utterly forsake me.

# The Readings

#### A Reading from the Scroll of the Deuteronomy

Moses said, "Today I am giving you a choice. You can choose life and success or death and disaster. I am commanding you to be loyal to the LORD, to live the way he has told you, and to obey his laws and teachings. You are about to cross the Jordan River and take the land that he is giving you. If you obey him, you will live and become successful and powerful. On the other hand, you might choose to disobey the LORD and reject him. So I'm warning you that if you bow down and worship other gods, you won't have long to live. Now I call the sky and the earth to be witnesses that I am offering you this choice. Will you choose for the LORD to make you prosperous and give you a long life? Or will he put you under a curse and kill you? Choose life! Be completely faithful to the LORD your God, love him, and do whatever he tells you. The LORD is the only one who can give life, and he will let you live a long time in the land that he promised to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

After each Reading, the Reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

**Canticle** *Nunc Dimittis* 

Gibbons, Orlando (1583-1625)

## A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Peter

When we told you about the power and the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, we were not telling clever stories someone had made up. But with our own eyes we saw his true greatness. God, our great and wonderful Father, truly honored him by saying, "This is my own dear Son, and I am pleased with him." We were there with Jesus on the holy mountain and heard this voice speak from heaven. All of this makes us even more certain that what the prophets said is true. So you should pay close attention to their message, as you would to a lamp shining in some dark place. You must keep on paying attention until daylight comes and the morning star rises in your hearts. But you need to realize that no one alone can understand any of the prophecies in the Scriptures. The prophets did not think these things up on their own, but they were guided by the Spirit of God.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

### **A Homily**

Fr. Geoffrey, Priest-in-Charge

# The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### **Offertory Anthem**

Carry Me Home

(spiritual), arr. Tom Brand

During the singing of this anthem, an offering will be taken to support the work and ministries of St. John's. Please be generous in your support.

### The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Officiant: May Almighty God grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, but also time for true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of God's holy Spirit. **Amen**.





#### Concluding Sentence

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen*. (Ephesians 3:20,21)

#### **Postlude**

#### **Worship Ministers Today:**

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Celebrant* Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster* Paige Del Nin, *Reader* Laura Daly, *Veejay (VJ)* 

MB Witt: Altar Guild

# HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S

Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service, with the imposition of ashes Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 a.m.

**Palm Sunday Service**, with chanting of the Passion Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service, with foot-washing

Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 noon

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:15 a.m.

*Ecumenical Sunrise Easter Service* at the old stone church, New Preston Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Festival High Mass Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m.

Children's Easter Egg Hunt