Welcome to St. John's Church



Moses and the Burning Bush, Dieric Bout, 1415-1475

The Third Sunday In Lent

March 23, 2025 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

P.O. Box 1278 78 Green Hill Road

Washington, CT 06793

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527 Parish Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. St. John's Email: <u>stjohnschurch@snet.net</u> St. John's Website: http://stjohnswashington.com/

St. John's YouTube Page: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg

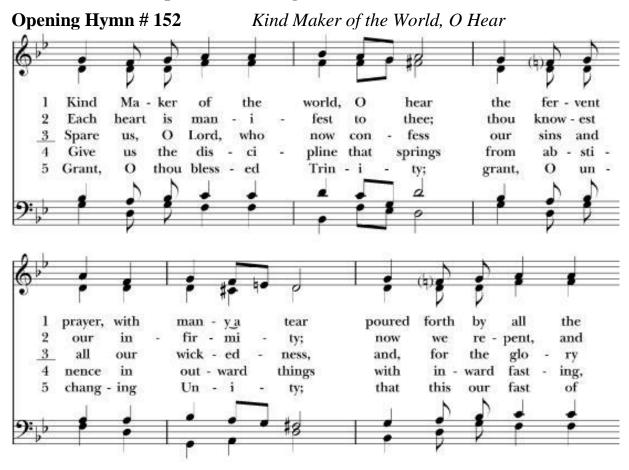
THE HOLY EUCHARIST

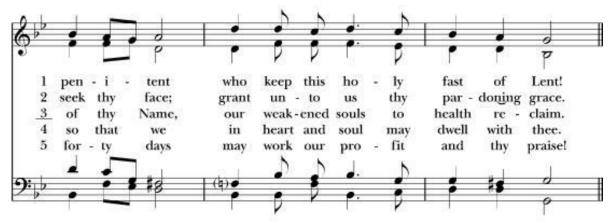
The Liturgy of the Word of God and Celebration of the Holy Communion

Choral PreludeOut of the DepthsFelix Mendelssohn (c.1809-1847)

Text: Out of the depths I cry to Thee; Lord, hear me, I implore Thee! Bend down Thy gracious ear to me, My prayer let come before Thee. If Thou remember each misdeed, If each should have its rightful meed, Who may abide Thy presence? Our pardon is Thy gift; Thy love And grace alone avail us. Our works could ne'er our guilt remove, The strictest life would fail us. That none may boast themselves of aught, But own in fear Thy grace hath wrought What in them seemeth righteous. And thus, my hope is in the Lord, And not in mine own merit; I rest up-on God's faithful word To them of contrite spirit. That God is merciful, merciful and just, This is my comfort and my trust, God's help I wait, I wait with patience. this is my comfort, What though I wait the live-long night, And 'til the dawn appeareth, my heart still trusteth in God's might; it doubteth not nor feareth; do thus, O ye of Israel's seed, ye of the Spirit born indeed; and wait 'til God appeareth! Though great our sins and sore our woes, God's grace much more aboundeth; God's helping love no limit knows, Our utmost need it soundeth; This gentle shepherd bringeth peace, And shall at last the world release From every sin and sorrow.

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell





The people standing, the Celebrant may say

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgive h all our sins.

People His mercy endureth for ever.

The Celebrant says

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Trisagion S # 102



The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

God be with you.PeopleAnd with thy spirit.CelebrantLet us pray.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Chris our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The Readings

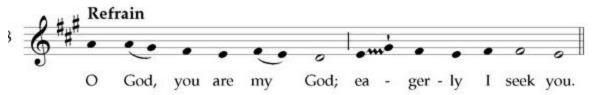
INTRODUCTION: In this Hebrew Bible story, Moses is encountered by God in the burning bush.

A Reading from Exodus (3:1-15)

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

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

People



1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; * my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, * that I might behold your power and your glory.

- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; * my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live * and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, * and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, * and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, * and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; * your right hand holds me fast.

INTRODUCTION: In this reading Paul looks back to the great events of the exodus story and sees lessons for contemporary Christians.

A Reading from 1 Corinthians (10:1-13)

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

After each Reading, the Reader may say The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

People



INTRODUCTION: In our gospel Jesus uses two contemporary disasters and a parable of his own to stress the need for repentance.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke (13:1-9) Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

After the Gospel, the Reader says The Gospel of the Lord. People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Rector

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

The Deacon or other person appointed says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world, responding, "O Lord, hear our prayer."

After each paragraph of this prayer, the People may make an appropriate response, as directed.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love; for this we pray.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Hosam, the Archbishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Bartholomew, Patriarch of Constantinople; Francis, Bishop of Rome; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Jeff and Laura, our Bishops; Geoffrey, our Rector, and all the members of St. John's, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments; for this we pray.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life; for this we pray. *O Lord, hear our prayer.*

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially António, Secretary General of the United Nations, Donald, our President, Ned our Governor, Jim, the First Selectman of the town of Washington, for the members of our Congress and Courts, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world; for this we pray.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty; for this we pray.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, pausing now that all may add their own prayers and petitions, either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst; (*pause for a moment*) for this we pray.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron, and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom; for this we pray. *O Lord, hear our prayer.*

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen*.



Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says the following

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

Silence may be kept. Minister and People Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath 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*.

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of God be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

Offertory Anthem Go Down, Moses

Spiritual, arr. Tom Brand

Text: When Israel was in Egypt's land, Let my people go, oppressed so hard they could not stand, Let my people go. Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land, tell old Pharaoh: Let my people go. The Lord told Moses what to do, Let my people go, to lead the Hebrew children through, Let my people go. They journeyed on at his command, Let my people go, and came at length to Canaan's land, Let my people go. Oh, let us all from bondage flee, Let my people go, and may we all at last be free, Let my people go.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant faces the congregation and sings or says

God 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Who dost bid thy 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 thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SanctusCommunion Service in C MinorAdrian Batten (1591-1637)Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one

body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN*.

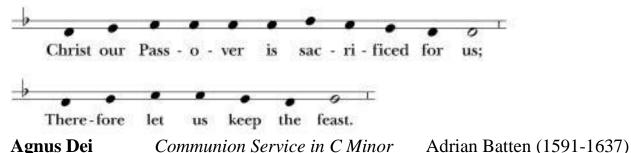
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Fraction Anthem S # 153



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Prayer of Humble Access

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son

Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

INSTRUCTIONS: Those wishing to receive Communion should come forward to the Altar rail as directed. Please speak with an Usher if you need to receive Communion in the pew. The consecrated host will be placed in the hands or upon the tongue of the recipient, as desired. If one wishes intinction, then either the chalice bearer or the communicant may take the host and dip it in the wine. Otherwise, communicants may sip from the chalice, assisting by taking hold of its base. If the communicant does not wish to receive the wine, one can simply cross their arms across their chest so to indicate.

Gluten free wafers are available. Just ask at the altar rail if you wish one.

Communion Hymn # 304 I come with joy to meet my Lord Unison or harmony



Communion Anthem

To Thee, O Lord My God

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

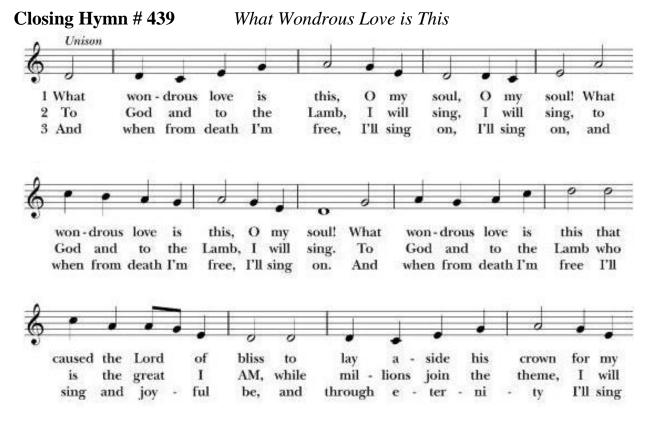
Text (Psalm 25: 1): O Lord my God, will I lift up my soul to thee. My God, I have put my trust in thee; let me never be confounded.

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray. The People may join in saying this prayer

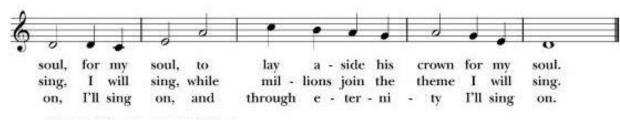
Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen*.



14



Let us go forth in the name of Christ. *Thanks be to God.*

Congregation departs in silence.

Worship Ministers Today:

People

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman: *Celebrant* Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster* Jay Bauer: 8:00 Reader Mary Davis: 10:00 Reader Sara Coles: *Chalicer* Laura Daly: *Veejay (VJ)* Bob Futh, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers* MB Witt, Sara Coles: *Altar Guild* MB Witt & Penny Bardel: *Coffee Hour Host*

Staff

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Rector Tom Brand, Organist & Choirmaster Dawn Rosiello, Parish Administrator Joan Burgess, Foundation Administrator

Vestry

Mary Davis, Worth Bracken: Wardens David Gillespie: Treasurer Andris Kalnins: Assistant Treasurer Karen Saxe: Clerk

<u>Class of 2025</u> Worth Bracken, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins <u>Class of 2026</u> Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Robert Reynolds <u>Class of 2027</u> Rebecca Bent, Michael Del Nin, Susan McFeely

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt Laura Daly: Alternate



HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, April 13th, 10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Service, with chanting of the Passion Thursday, April 17th, 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service, with foot-washing Friday, April 18th, 12:00 noon Good Friday Stations of the Cross Sunday, April 20th, 6:00 a.m. Ecumenical Sunrise Easter Service at the old stone church in New Preston Sunday, April 20th, 8:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Said Mass Sunday, April 20th, 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Festival Family Mass Sunday, April 20th, 11:30 a.m. Children's Easter Egg Hunt