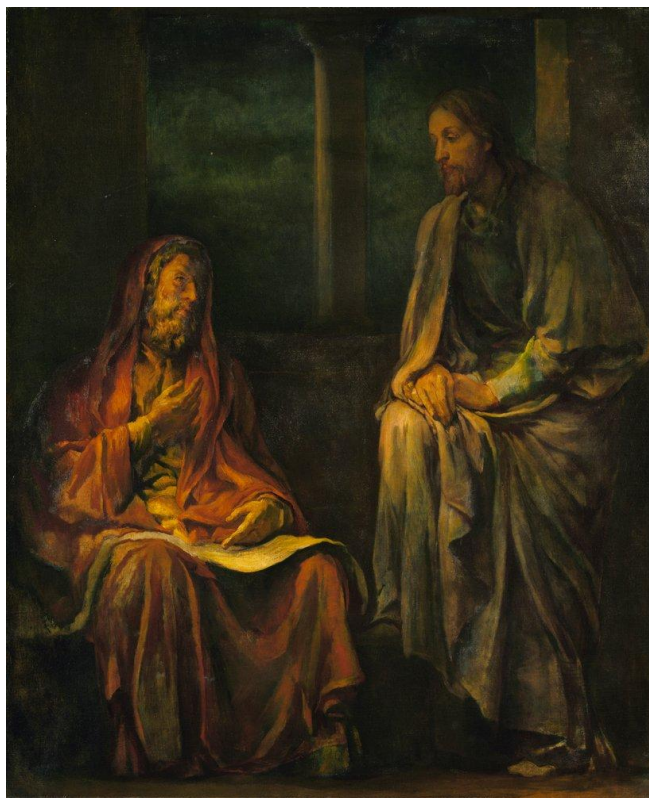


Welcome to St. John's Church



"Visit of Nicodemus to Christ," John La Farge, 1880

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

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: stjohnschurch@snet.net

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

St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

MORNING PRAYER

Choral Prelude *Sicut Moses serpentem*

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)

Translation: *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must that Son of man be lifted up That whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 147 *Now Let Us All with One Accord*



1 Now let us all with one ac - cord, in
2 The cov - e - nant, so long re - vealed to
3 Your love, O Lord, our sin - ful race has
4 Re - mem - ber, Lord, though frail we be, in
5 There - fore, we pray you, Lord, for - give; so



1 com - pa - ny with a - ges past, keep vi - gil with our
2 those of faith in for - mer time, Christ by his own ex -
3 not re - turned, but fal - si - fied; au - thor of mer - cy,
4 your own i - mage were we made; help us, lest in anx -
5 when our wan - derings here shall cease, we may with you for



1 heaven - ly Lord in his temp - ta - tion and his fast.
2 am - ple sealed, the Lord of love, in love sub - lime.
3 turn your face and grant re - pent - ance for our pride.
4 i - e - ty, we cause your Name to be be - trayed.
5 ev - er live, in love and u - ni - ty and peace.

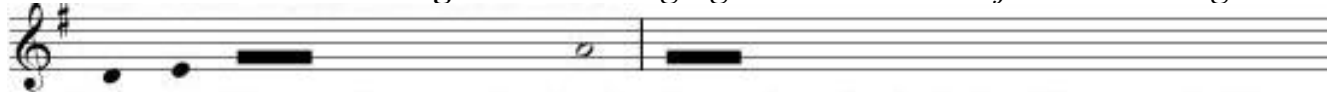
The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

People ***And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.***

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

Venite S # 3 **Plainsong** *the congregation is invited to join in the song*



1. O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our

sal - va - tion. 2. Let us come before his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
 and show ourselves glad in him with psalms. 3. For the Lord is a great God,
 and a great King a - bove all gods. 4. In his hand are all the corners of the earth,
 and the strength of the hills is his al - so. 5. The sea is his and he made it,
 and his hands prepared the dry land. 6. O come, let us worship and fall down
 and kneel before the Lord our Ma - ker. 7. For he is the Lord our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. 8. O worship
 the Lord in the beauty of ho - li - ness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
 9. For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, and with righteousness to judge
(Gloria Patri may be added)
 the world and the peo - ples with his truth. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to
 the Ho - ly Spi - rit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men.

Psalm # 121

the congregation is invited to sit and join in the Refrain



1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?

2 My help comes from the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

5 The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.

7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.

8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

The Readings

INTRODUCTION: Our Hebrew reading is the story of God's call of Abraham to leave his own country and become the father of a great nation.

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis: (12:1-4a)

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Canticle # 4 *Benedictus from The Short Service*

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

*Blessed be the Lord God of Israel :
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us :
in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets :
which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies :
and from the hand of all that hate us.
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers :
and to remember his holy Covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham :
that he would give us;
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies :
might serve him without fear;
In holiness and righteousness before him :
all the days of our life.
And thou, Child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest :
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people :
for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God :
whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death :
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.*

INTRODUCTION: In this second reading, Paul describes Abraham as an individual who through faith found a right relationship with God. He is the father of all who trust in the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans: (4:1-5, 13-17)

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn # 654 *Day by Day*

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
to see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,
fol - low thee more near - ly, day by day.

INTRODUCTION: In our third Reading, Nicodemus, one of the Pharisees, comes during the night to talk with Jesus.

A Reading from the Gospel of St. John: (3:1-17)

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God

without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Word of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

Richard C. Snider, *Lay Preacher*

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.***

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People *And with thy spirit.*

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

*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 Suffrages

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R. *And grant us thy salvation.*

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R. *And make thy chosen people joyful.*

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. *For only in thee can we live in safety.*

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

R. *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

V. Let thy way be known on earth;

R. *Thy saving health among all nations.*

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. *And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.*

The Collect of the Day

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.*

A Collect for Sunday

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, who didst stretch out thine arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our own hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love thee: for the honor of thy Name. *Amen.*

Offertory Anthem *God So loved the World* John Goss (1800-1880)

Text. God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

Officiant: Let us continue our prayers, pausing now so that all may add their own prayers or petitions, either silently in their hearts or aloud in our midst.

The General Thanksgiving

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, world without end. Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord.

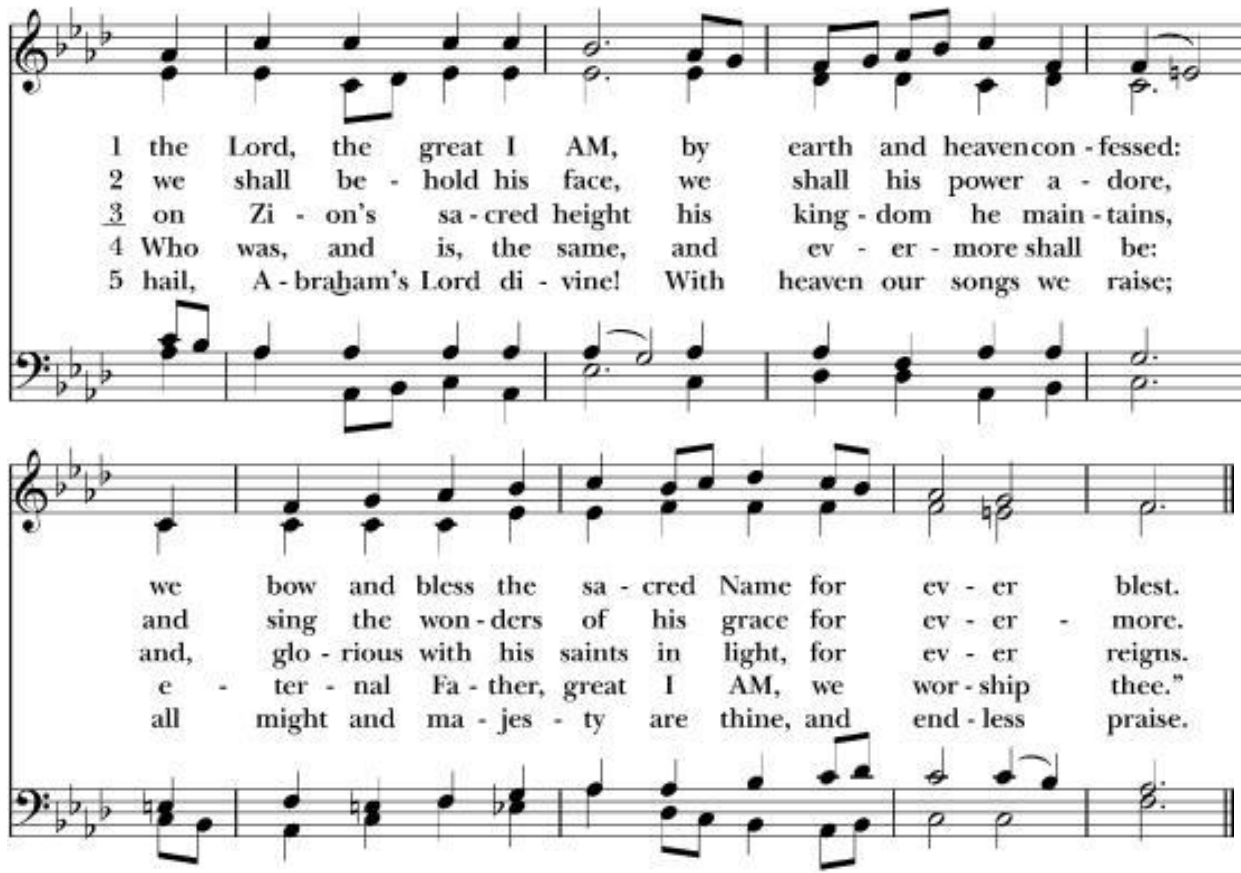
Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn # 401

The God of Abraham Praise

1 The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,
4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,
5 The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;

1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;
2 we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend:
3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
4 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," cry, "Al - might - y King!
5 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry;



1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed:
 2 we shall be-hold his face, we shall his power a-dore,
 3 on Zi-on's sa-cred height his king-dom he main-tains,
 4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev-er-more shall be:
 5 hail, A-braham's Lord di-vine! With heaven our songs we raise;

we bow and bless the sa-cred Name for ev-er blest.
 and sing the won-ders of his grace for ev-er-more.
 and, glo-rious with his saints in light, for ev-er reigns.
 e-ter-nal Fa-ther, great I AM, we wor-ship thee."
 all might and ma-jes-ty are thine, and end-less praise.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.* *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Congregation departs in silence.

Worship Ministers Today:

- Laura Daly: *Lay Worship Leader*
- Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*
- Richard C. Snider: *Lay Preacher*
- Tom Hollinger: *8:00 Reader*
- Sara Coles: *10:00 Reader*
- Laura Daly: *Veejay (VJ)*
- Virginia Reynolds, MB Witt: *Altar Guild*
- Natalie Dyer, Karen Saxe: *Ushers*
- Corinne Johnson: *Coffee Hour*



Holy Week



HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, March 29th, 8 a.m.

Palm Sunday Service, Said Mass

Sunday, March 29th, 10:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday Service, with chanting of the Passion

Thursday, April 2nd, 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service, with foot-washing

Friday, April 3rd, 12:00 noon

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

Sunday, April 5th, 6:15 a.m.

Ecumenical Sunrise Easter Service

at the Stone Church in New Preston

Sunday, April 5th, 8:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday, Said Mass

Sunday, April 5th, 10:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Festival Family Mass

Sunday, April 5th, 11:30 a.m.

Children's Easter Egg Hunt