

Welcome to St. John's Church



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 8, 2026

4:00 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>**

EVENSONG

Choral Prelude

Hear My Prayer

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Text: *Hear my prayer, O God, incline Thine ear! Thyself from my petition do not hide! Take heed to me!
Hear how in prayer I mourn to Thee! Without Thee all is dark, I have no guide.
The enemy shouteth, The godless come fast! Iniquity, hatred upon me they cast!
The wicked oppress me, Ah, where shall I fly? Perplexed and bewildered, O God, hear my cry!
O for the wings of a dove! Far away would I rove!
In the wilderness build me a nest, And remain there for ever at rest.*

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Processional Hymn # 662

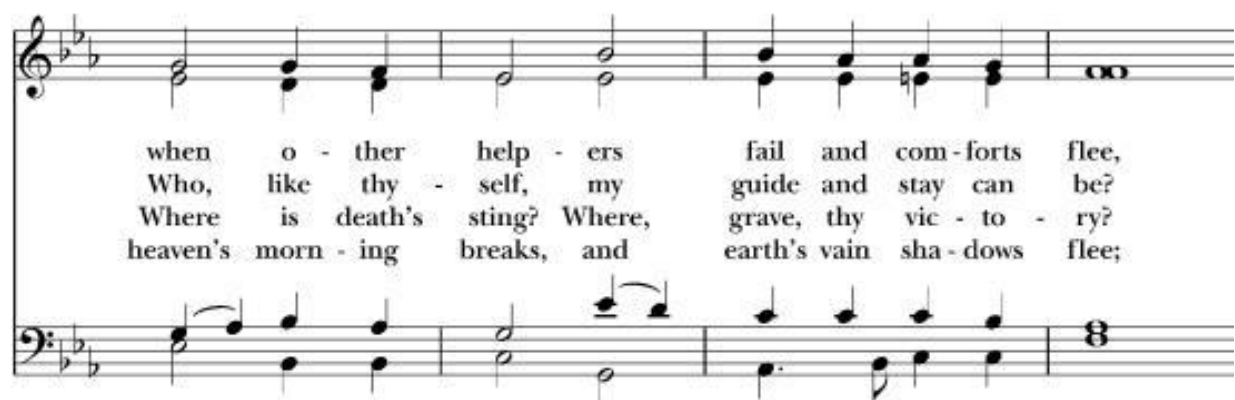
Abide With Me: Fast Falls The Eventide



1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide:
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help-less, O a-bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun-shine, Lord, a-bide with me.
 I tri-umph still, if thou a-bide with me.
 in life, in death, O Lord, a-bide with me.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Preces & Responses

traditional

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir *And our mouths shall shew forth thy praise.*

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and Choir

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.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be Praised.

Phos Hilaron O Gladsome Light

Alexander D. Kastalsky (1856-1926)

1 *(women only) O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,
 in you the Father's glory shone.*

*Immortal, holy, blest is he,
 and blest are you, his holy Son.*

2 *(men only) Now sunset comes, but light shines forth,
 the lamps are lit to pierce the night.*

*Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God
 who dwells in the eternal light.*

3 *(all) Worthy are you of endless praise,
 O Son of God, Life-giving Lord;
 wherefore you are through all the earth
 and in the highest heaven adored.*

The congregation may be seated for the Psalm.

Psalm # 34

In Lent



Turn from e - vil and do good; seek peace and pur - sue it.

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!
- 9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.
- 10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.
- 11 Come, children, and listen to me; *
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- 12 Who among you loves life *
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?
- 13 Keep your tongue from evil-speaking *
and your lips from lying words.
- 14 Turn from evil and do good; *
seek peace and pursue it.
- 15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, *

- and his ears are open to their cry.
- 16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, *
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them *
and delivers them from all their troubles.
- 18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted *
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.
- 19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.
- 20 He will keep safe all his bones; *
not one of them shall be broken.
- 21 Evil shall slay the wicked, *
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
- 22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

The Lessons

INTRODUCTION: In this reading, St. Paul is required to criticize a misguided understanding of Christian freedom that has been adopted by some of the Corinthians.

A Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (6:12-20)

“All things are permitted for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are permitted for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for sexual immorality but for the Lord and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun sexual immorality! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Magnificat *Full Evening Service*

Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

*My soul doth magnify the Lord.
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.*

*For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his handmaiden:
For behold, from henceforth:
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me:
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him:
throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm:
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things:
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
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: The second reading is the story of the healing of a man with an unclean spirit living among the tombs of the Gerasenes.

A Reading from the Gospel of St. Mark (5:1-20)

They came to the other side of the sea, to the region of the Gerasenes. And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. He lived among the tombs, and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain, for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces, and no one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him, and he shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." For he had said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the region. Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding, and the unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them." So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine, and the herd, numbering about two thousand, stampeded down the steep bank into the sea and were drowned in the sea. The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the man possessed by demons sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion, and they became frightened. Those who had seen what had happened to the man possessed by demons and to the swine reported it. Then they began to beg Jesus^[d] to leave their neighborhood. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused and

said to him, “Go home to your own people, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and what mercy he has shown you.” And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone was amazed.

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

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

Nunc dimittis *Full Evening Service* Adrian Batten (1591-1637)

O gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father, O Jesus Christ: Now having come to the setting of the sun, and having seen the evening light, we praise the Father, we praise the Son, we praise the Holy Spirit God. Meet it is for Thee to be praised with reverent voices. O Son of God, Giver of life. Wherefore the world doth glorify Thee.

The Apostles’ Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing.

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers.

The Prayers

The Officiant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

Choir *And with thy spirit.*

Officiant Let us pray.

Choir *Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy*

*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

traditional

V. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

R. *And grant us thy salvation.*

V. O Lord, save the State.

R. *And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

R. *And make thy chosen people joyful.*

V. O Lord, save thy people

R. *And bless thine inheritance.*

V. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

R. *Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.*

V. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

R. *And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in 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 Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise thee in that City of which he is the light; and where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. *Amen.*

Offertory Anthem

Deep River

(spiritual, arr. Tom Brand)

*An offering for the St. John's Music Program will be taken during this anthem,
please be generous in your support.*

Final Prayers

said by the priest at the High Altar

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. *Amen.*

Final 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.*

Recessional Hymn # 24

The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, Is Ended



1 The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended, the dark-ness
2 We thank thee that thy Church, un-sleep-ing while earth rolls
3 As o'er each con-ti-nent and is-land the dawn leads
4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall nev-er, like earth's proud

falls at thy be - hest; to thee our morn - ing hymns a -
on - ward in - to light, through all the world her watch is
on an - oth - er day, the voice of prayer is nev - er
em - pires, pass a - way; thy king - dom stands, and grows for

scend - ed, thy praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.
keep - ing, and rests not now by day or night.
si - lent, nor dies the strain of praise a - way.
ev - er, till all thy crea - tures own thy sway.

Congregation departs in silence.

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Rector*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Holly Flor, *Reader*

Fr. Geoff, *Veejay (VJ)*

Karen Saxe, *Ushers*

MB Witt: *Altar Guild*

There is a simple Reception for all in the Parish House following Evensong. Please stay and thank the choir members for the service and meet your neighbors.

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78 Green Hill Road

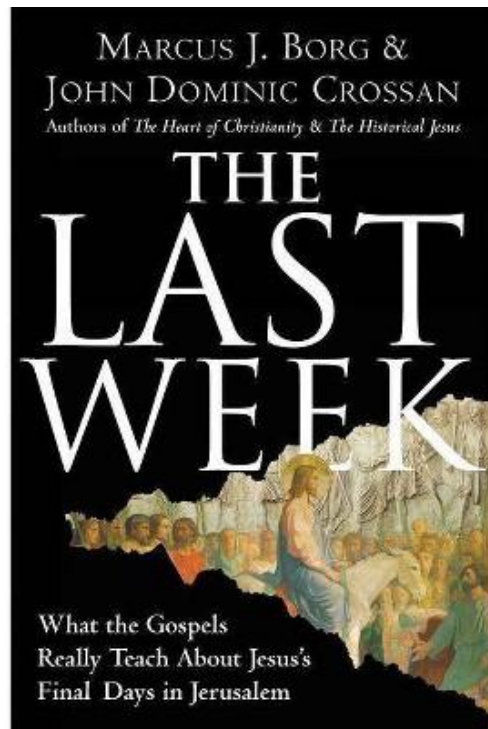
Washington, CT 06793

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Marcus Borg & John Dominic Crossan's classic:

“THE LAST WEEK:

*What the Gospels Really Teach about Jesus's
Final Days in Jerusalem”*



*starting Fridays, March 6th
10:30 a.m. in the Parish Library*

Fr. Geoff, our Rector, is leading a serious weekly study of the Christian Bible. ***The class is open to all interested people in the community.*** BYOB, bring your own Bible!



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