

Welcome to St. John's Church



Valencian School, 17th Century, Workshop of Cristobal Garcia Salmeron

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.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, 9:30 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/UCoOwTnqlRss4BT8VwFul4qg>

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*Children's activity bags are available on the bench by the Baptistry.
Please return them after the Service.*

Choral Prelude *Surrexit Pastor Bonus* Michael Haller (c.1840-1915)

Translation: *The Good Shepherd is arisen, who gave his life for his sheep and for his flock is worthy to die. Alleluia.*

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 205 *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing*

1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the
*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the

1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:
5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The people standing, the Celebrant may say

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***

The Celebrant says

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

The Gloria S# 278

Glory to God

Mathias



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Readings

INTRODUCTION: The new community of believers in the resurrected Jesus devote themselves to teaching and fellowship, to sharing in eucharistic meals, and to the prayers.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2:42-47)

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All

who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 23 *the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain*

Refrain

The Lord is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

INTRODUCTION: In this reading we learn that disciples are called to bear undeserved suffering with patience, even as Christ has set an example for us, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness.

A Reading from the First Epistle of Peter (2:19-25)

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an

example, so that you should follow in his steps. “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn # 645 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

INTRODUCTION: Our reading presents two related images in which Jesus is first the shepherd in charge of the sheep and then the gate through which the sheep enter.

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to St. John (10:1-10)**

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, Lord 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

We offer our prayers to Jesus, who is the Good Shepherd and guardian of our souls, responding to each petition by saying, "Hear us, O risen Christ."

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers

+ For the parishes and missions of our diocese, that we will devote ourselves to the teaching and fellowship of Christ, to the breaking of bread, and the offering of prayers; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ That an outpouring of generosity will flow from the gratitude and thanksgiving that dwell in our hearts, moving the Church, the household of faith, to provide relief to those in any want or need; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ For the courage to share the faith we hold, and the willingness to listen humbly to those whose interpretation of the faith differs from our own; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ For all who exercise leadership, that their actions may reflect the ways of the Servant, whose obedience to God released the power to overcome every darkness, and whose sacrifice opened the gates to eternity; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ In thanksgiving for our merciful Jesus, who loves us beyond our shame and guilt, frees us from the tombs of our past, and invites us to receive his gift of overwhelming forgiveness; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ That we may not fear the day of judgment, but entrust ourselves to the one who judges justly; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

+ For all the faithful departed, who now behold the Lord Jesus in his risen glory; let us pray.

Hear us, O risen Christ.

Let us continue our prayers now either silently in our hearts or aloud in our midst, praying in the Name of the One in whom we sing the triumphant strain, “Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.”

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of God be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

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.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Anthem *These are They Which Follow the Lamb*

John Goss (1800-1880)

Text: These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first-fruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile, for they are without fault before the throne of God.

The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord God.

People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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

Sanctus

Missa Quarti Toni

Adriano Banchieri (1568-1634)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *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 S # 154

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The second staff contains 'Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;'. The third staff contains 'there - fore let us keep the feast.' The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.



Agnus Dei *Missa Quarti Toni* Adriano Banchieri (1568-1634)

*Translation: 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.*

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.

All baptized Christians of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive Communion in this place. This is God’s house and the Lord’s table, not ours

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.

If you need to receive Communion in the pews, just let the ushers know.

Communion Hymn # 328 *Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord*



1 and drink the ho - ly Blood for you out - poured.
 2 with souls re - freshed, we ren - der thanks to God.
 3 by his dear cross and blood the vic - tory won.
 4 him - self the Vic - tim, and him - self the Priest.
 5 and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

6 He that his saints in this world rules and shields
 to all believers life eternal yields;

7 with heavenly bread he makes the hungry whole,
 gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

8 Alpha-Omega, unto whom shall bow
 all nations at the doom, is with us now.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

The peace of God, which surpasses 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 Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn # 708 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
 2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
 learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
 with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Organ Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Rector

Tom Brand: *Organist & Choirmaster*

Jay Bauer: *Reader at 8:00 a.m.*

Mary Davis: *Reader at 10:00 a.m.*

MB Witt: *Chalicer*

Fr. Geoff: *Veejay (VJ)*

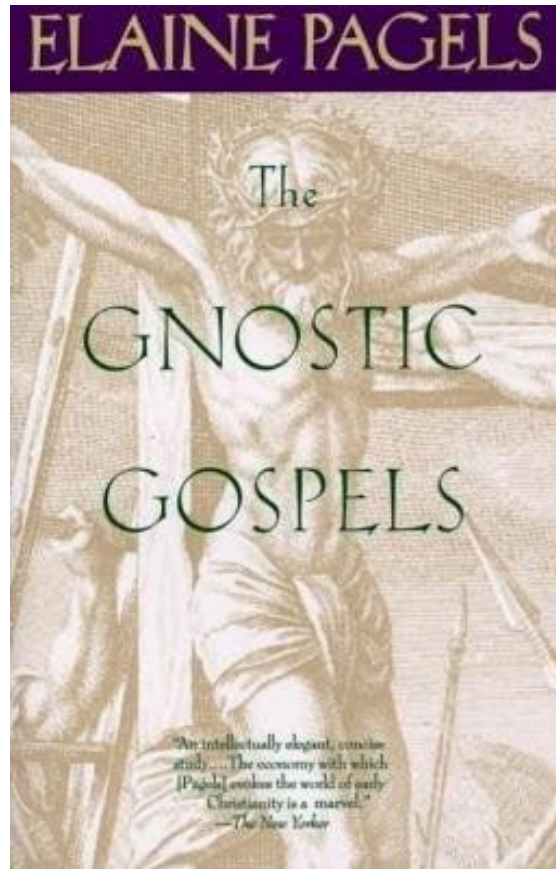
MB Witt, Sara Coles: *Altar Guild*

Karen Saxe, Natalie Dyer: *Ushers*

Karen Saxe & MB Witt: *Coffee Hour Hostess*

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

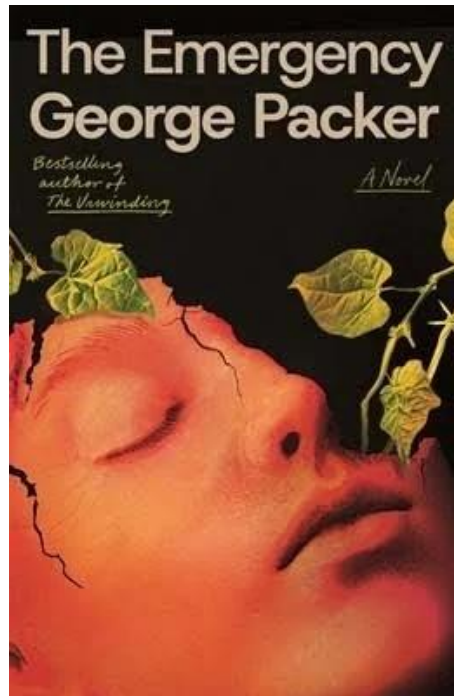
Elaine Pagels'
“The Gnostic Gospels”



*starting Friday, May 8th
10:30 a.m. in the Parish Library*

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

ST. JOHN'S READING CLUB



CURRENT SELECTION

George Packer's *"The Emergency"*

*to gather for a Group Discussion in the Parish Library,
after the 10:00 Coffee Hour in a few weeks' time!*

So start reading now!

One ordinary late-spring day, the Emergency begins. In the city by the river where Burghers live, separate from the agricultural Yeoman faction, Dr. Rustin watches the old imperial structures authorities flee, airwaves falter, and officials disappear without a trace. The laws that once upheld strict harmony soon don't fit anymore; the new idea of *Together* takes hold. Self-reliance and solidarity build across the population, from specialized committees deemed "self-orgs," to *We Are One* gatherings for group decisions. *The Emergency* is a soaring, captivating story of a man and a family amid a changing landscape, in which the award-winning author George Packer presents a tale of our times in a work of social and political urgency, revelation, and prophecy.