

# Welcome to St. John's Church



Ash Wednesday  
*February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020*

We are delighted that you have decided to worship with us this evening. We pray that you will find in us a warm and welcoming group of Christians who seek to serve God in Christ Jesus in this place.

*Thank you for blessing us with your presence this evening.*

Please ask the Greeters if you have any questions or need any assistance.

**A NOTICE ABOUT THE READINGS:** The Lectors are meeting again on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to discuss recent changes to our liturgy. They welcome your feedback. Do you like the brief paragraphs in the bulletin about the context of the readings? Do you like the short introductions that the Lectors have read before the readings? Do you like the new Prayers of the People that vary each week with the readings and the season? Do you mind the Prayers of the People being read from the center aisle? Can you hear the Prayers without the microphone? Do you mind not having the readings printed in the bulletins? Do you listen differently when you cannot read along or know when the reading ends? These are the kind of issues that we will be discussing on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Upcoming Christian Education Events

### SO WHAT IN GOD'S NAME ARE YOU DOING HERE?

**Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.**

Our Priest-in-Charge, Fr. Hahneman, continues a series of training sessions on Saturday mornings "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."

Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup> Lectors  
Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> Outreach Committee  
Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> Acolytes, Thurifers, Crucifers  
Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> Eucharistic Visitors  
Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> Intercessors' Group  
Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> Holy Comforters

### CHRIST IN CRISIS: Why We Need to Reclaim Jesus

**Friday Mornings, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

Fr. Hahneman, our Priest-in-Charge, is leading an Adult Class reading Jim Wallis' new book about the Reclaiming Jesus Movement. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry wrote the foreword For more information, see the Priest-in-Charge.

### LENTEN VIDEO SERIES "The History of Christianity", a six part series

**Saturdays in Lent at 11:00 am in the Parish Library**

A History of Christianity, a six part series presented by Oxford history professor whose books about the Reformation have been acclaimed as masterpieces. Intelligent, thought-provoking and magisterial in its scope, the series will uncover how a small Jewish sect that preached humility became the biggest religion in the world.

February 29<sup>th</sup> : "The First Christianity"  
March 7th: "Catholicism: The Unpredictable Rise of Rome"  
March 14th: "Orthodoxy - From Empire to Empire"  
March 21st: "Reformation: The Individual Before God"  
March 28th: "Protestantism - The Evangelical Explosion"  
April 4th: "God in the Dock"

# Ash Wednesday

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## Order of Worship

We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God during this evening's services. Page numbers (BCP) in the bulletin refer to The Book of Common Prayer (red book), which are located in the pews. Hymn numbers in this bulletin, and on the hymn board, refer to The Hymnal 1982 (blue book). Service Music (S- followed by a number) is found in the front half of the Hymnal and hymns in the second half. Please ask the Greeters if you have any questions or need any assistance.

## THE SALUTATION

### THE COLLECT

BCP, p. 217

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JOEL [2:1-2,12-17]

In our Hebrew Bible reading the prophet pictures the day of the Lord as a time of judgement and darkness, but he holds out the hope of mercy if the people will repent. Some looked to the day of the Lord's coming as an event of great triumph and joy in Israel. But because of sin the sky will become black with swarms of locusts. The trumpet must be blown, calling for a solemn fast, a time for weeping, rending of hearts, and turning back to a compassionate Lord.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

*The congregation is invited to join in chanting the psalm.*



## Psalm 103:8-14

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mércy, \*  
slow to anger and òf great kindness.

9 He will not always accúse us, \*  
nor will he keep his angèr forever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to óur sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according tò our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above thé earth, \*  
so is his mércy great upon thòse who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from thé west, \*  
so far has he removed òur sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his chıldren, \*  
so does the Lord care for thòse who fear him.

14 For he himself knows whereof we áre made; \*  
he remembers that wè are but dust.

## A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS [5:20B-6:10]

In this lesson Paul urges the new disciples to be reconciled to God in this time of deliverance, and he reminds them of all the hardships he has patiently endured for their sake and for the gospel. The disciples' task is to respond to God's reconciling work in Christ who has taken upon himself their sinfulness so that they may have a right relationship with God. In order that he might offer his service without presenting any personal obstacles, Paul has accepted many of the paradoxes that were part of Jesus' own ministry. Although himself poor, he brings true riches to many.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

**GRADUAL HYMN**

*“Forgive our sins as we forgive”* (verses 1-2)

**HYMNAL 674**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

[6:1-6,16-21]

*People:*        **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In our gospel Jesus describes genuine charity, prayer, and fasting. For religious people the temptation is always strong to want to be recognized as full of piety more than to want honestly to be seeking God and the good of other. Praise and rewards for an outward show of religion all pass away. The real treasure is found in our relationship with God.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of our Lord.  
*People:* Praise be to thee, O Christ

GRADUAL HYMN “*Forgive our sins as we forgive*” (verses 3-4) HYMNAL 674

THE SERMON Fr. Geoff, Priest-in-Charge

THE INVITATION TO A HOLY LENT BCP, p. 264

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES` BCP, p. 265

PSALM 51 *Miserere mei, Deus* (chanted by choir)

THE LITANY OF PENITENCE BCP, p. 267

### THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* And with thy spirit.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY *A Lenten Prayer* Antonio Salieri

DOXOLOGY HYMNAL 380 (verse 3)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I BCP, p. 333

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS HYMNAL S113

THE LORD’S PRAYER BCP, p. 33

FRACTION ANTHEM HYMNAL S160

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## THE INVITATION

*All Baptized Christians are welcome and encouraged to come forward to receive Communion,  
If you do not wish Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing,  
by crossing your arms over your chest at the Altar Rail.  
If you wish Communion brought to you at your seat, please notify a greeter.*

## HYMN AT THE COMMUNION

*Adoro te devote*

plainsong

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP, p. 339

## THE BENEDICTION

## CLOSING HYMN

*Lord, who throughout these forty days*

HYMNAL 142

## THE DISMISSAL

**Ash Wednesday**, in the Christian church, the first day of Lent, occurs six and a half weeks before Easter (between February 4 and March 11, depending on the date of Easter). Ash Wednesday is a solemn reminder of human mortality and the need for reconciliation with God and marks the beginning of the penitential Lenten season. It is commonly observed with ashes and fasting.

In the early Christian church, the length of the Lenten celebration varied, but eventually it began 6 weeks (42 days) before Easter. This provided only 36 days of fasting (excluding Sundays). In the 7th century, 4 days were added before the first Sunday in Lent in order to establish 40 fasting days, in imitation of Jesus Christ's fast in the desert.

It was the practice in Rome for penitents and grievous sinners to begin their period of public penance on the first day of Lent in preparation for their restoration to the sacrament of the Eucharist. They were sprinkled with ashes, dressed in sackcloth, and obliged to remain apart until they were reconciled with the Christian community on Maundy Thursday, the Thursday before Easter. When these practices fell into disuse (8th–10th century), the beginning of the penitential season of Lent was symbolized by placing ashes on the heads of the entire congregation.



### **The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am

With the Liturgy of the Palms & Chanting of the Passion

### **Maundy Thursday Liturgy**

Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

With the Washing of Feet and the Stripping of the Altar

### **Good Friday Chanted Lenten Meditation**

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon

### **Good Friday Liturgy**

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

With The Solemn Collects and the Veneration of the Cross

### **The Great Vigil of Easter**

Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

### **Easter Sunday Morning**

Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

Festive Solemn High Mass

Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch

A **RESTROOM** is located at the bottom of the stairs in the Church undercroft. In the Parish House, there is a unisex restroom adjacent to the Choirmaster's office that is more handicapped accessible and Men's and Women's restrooms across from the kitchen next to the Parish Office.

**ASSISTING WITH THIS EVENING'S LITURGY**

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<b>Celebrant</b>	Fr. Geoff Hahneman
<b>Music Director</b>	Dr. Marguerite Mullee
<b>Organist</b>	Jon Lafleur
<b>Lectors</b>	

<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>	
<b>Acolyte</b>	Laura Daly
<b>Crucifer</b>	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	

<b>Greeter</b>	Sally & Bob Futh
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	

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**Staff**

Priest-in-Charge	The Reverend Dr. Geoff Hahneman (Oxon)
Music Director	Dr. Marguerite Mullee
Parish Administrator	Sarah Eyre
Foundation Administrator	Joan Burgess
Sexton	Jorge Artieda

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**Vestry**

Warden	David Gillespie
Warden	Susan McFeely
Clerk	Joan Beattie
Treasurer	Larry Littlefield
Assistant Treasurer	Hunter Brown

**Class of 2020**  
Rebecca Lambert  
Darcy Campbell  
Charles Dubow

**Class of 2021**  
Robert Futh  
Larry Littlefield  
MB Witt

**Class of 2022**  
Sara Coles  
Mary Davis  
Andris Kalnins

**Office Hours and Emergencies**

The Parish Office is OPEN Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. If you have a pastoral issue, please call the Parish Administrator who will arrange for someone to meet your needs.

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stjohnschurch@snet.net

Fax: 860-868-2823  
stjohnswashington.