

Celebrate the Resurrection!

Holy Saturday

Saturday, April 15
7 p.m.

The Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Eucharist and Baptisms

This ancient liturgy, led by St. John's youth group, is the first service of Easter and was the traditional time for baptism in the early centuries of the Church. The service begins on the courtyard in darkness. A new fire is lit, from which the Paschal candle is lighted. It signifies the Light of Christ coming into the world anew at the Resurrection. The service ends the season of Lent and begins the joy of the Easter season. We listen to the story of redemption from scripture lessons. With the Easter acclamation, we proclaim the Resurrection of Jesus and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter. Childcare is available at this service.

The Sunday of the Resurrection: EASTER DAY

Sunday, April 16
8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
Festive Holy Eucharist

The great day of Easter is a mighty victory celebration and the bedrock foundation of the Christian faith. Join us for the joyous celebration of Christ's victory over death and of our new life in Christ! Nursery care available for ages 3 and under during both services.

Bring A Flower To Church On Easter Day

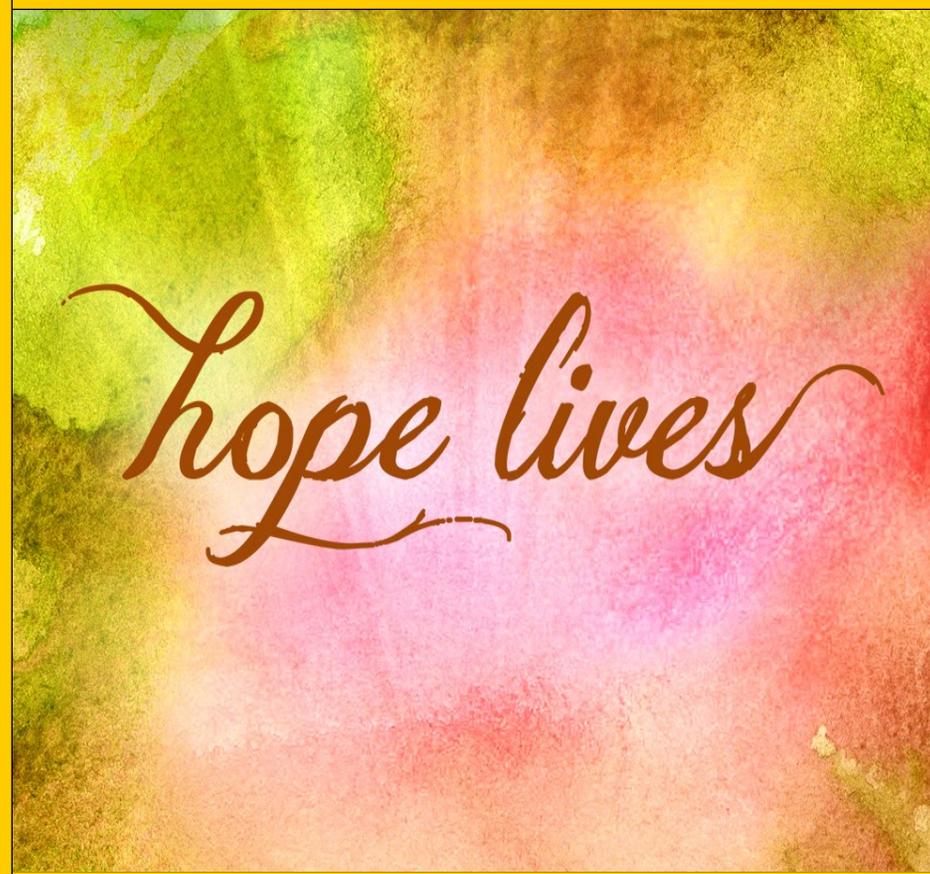
Each Easter all are welcome to bring a flower from home to add to the Easter cross before you enter church. Placing a flower on the cross with a prayer of thanksgiving acknowledging the blessings in our lives is a great way to start the Easter service. This is a wonderful tradition especially for our children. Extra flowers will be available in a container at the foot of the cross! The flower cross is also a great backdrop for those family Easter photos!

Easter Egg Hunt **Following the 10 a.m. service**

All children are invited to join in the Easter Egg Hunt. We'll gather on the courtyard immediately following the conclusion of the worship service. Parents — no need to bring anything, just the kids!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

A GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

The Sunday of the Passion: PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, April 9
8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Choral Holy Eucharist with Passion Narrative

Palm Sunday is the Church's day of paradox, of evil intruding on light, of joyous celebration and then ultimate loss. We begin by memorializing Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey, while people threw palm branches at his feet and shouted their "Hosannas." Our worship begins outside, in the courtyard near the fountain. Come prepared to march into church with the children and choir, sing "All Glory, Laud and Honor," and wave your palms. Darkness falls all too soon. The service ends with our lectors and the people of God enacting the gospel story of Jesus's Passion and death, the entry point for Holy Week. Childcare is available at both services.

The Wednesday in Holy Week

Wednesday, April 12
7 p.m.

Guided Stations of the Cross with Fr. John

For hundreds of years, pilgrims have visited Jerusalem to walk the Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa (way of sorrows) and in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, built over the traditional sites of Jesus's crucifixion and Resurrection. Most of the 14 Stations memorialize Bible events; the others are based on the Church's ancient traditions. We walk the Stations to participate in Jesus Christ's suffering and deepen our faith. Our late artist emeritus, John Castelli, carved the St. John's Stations. Fr. John will begin the walk and invite others to take turns as leaders. Music will be provided by Head of School Michael Pratt to enhance our journey along the way. Childcare is not available at this service. Young people and children are encouraged to attend.

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 13
7 p.m.

Choral Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Most authorities believe that "Maundy" comes from the Latin word for commandment. According to John 13:34, on his last night of freedom Jesus gave his disciples "a new commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you..." This solemn liturgy (the first of three days of worship called the Triduum) invokes the Last Supper and Jesus's agony and betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane. Before we leave the church, the St. John's Altar Guild strips the altar, symbolic of the light going out of the world in anticipation of Jesus's death. Childcare is available at this service by request only. Please contact the church office by Sunday, April 9.

All-Night Prayer Vigil

Thursday, April 13
Begins about 9 p.m.

[at the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday service]

Concludes noon, Good Friday, April 14

The prayer vigil begins at the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday service, continues through the night, and concludes on Good Friday at noon. Those who have signed up take turns spending an hour in quiet meditation and prayer, keeping vigil with our Lord. The inspiration for the vigil is from the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, when, in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus asks the sleeping disciples, "Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray..." (Mark 14:38). An hour may be kept by one or more persons. Sign up in the narthex. Childcare is not available during the Vigil.

Good Friday

Friday, April 14
Noon—3 p.m.

Self-Guided Stations of the Cross

Much like Wednesday's service, this is an opportunity to walk the Stations in solitude, taking as much time as you need at each Station. Enter the church, pick up one of the Stations of the Cross booklets, and begin your journey.

7 p.m.

Holy Eucharist from the Reserved Sacrament

Our Good Friday service, the second in the Triduum, is the most stark and solemn of the church year. The altar ornaments are gone. Holy Eucharist, or the mass, is not said; all that is left for the service of Holy Communion is the consecrated bread and wine from Maundy Thursday. After the reading of scripture, a homily, and the prayers, the people gather inside the altar rails as though they were witnesses to Jesus's crucifixion. Childcare is available at this service by request only. Please contact the church office by Sunday, April 9.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (similar to the Roman Catholic practice of individual confession) is offered at St. John's by appointment, during this sacred season and all times. The liturgies appear in the *Book of Common Prayer* on pages 447-452. For an appointment, please contact Fr. John, revjht@msn.com.