

The Fourth Sunday of Easter



April 21, 2024

St. Mark's and St. John's Episcopal Church

Earth Day Liturgy

Welcome to St. Mark's and St. John's!

Name tags are available. We'd love to make one for you if you do not have one already.

Help yourself to coffee in the "cafe," and feel free to bring it to your pew. We're casual.

We invite children to make themselves at home at our children's table, where there are weekly activity bulletins and crayons.

Our live YouTube broadcast begins at 9:15 am. The link to our YouTube channel is available on our website, stmarksandstjohns.org.

We do not pass an offering plate during the service. If you would like to make a financial gift, you can place it in the plate (by the sign-in binder) or contribute online.

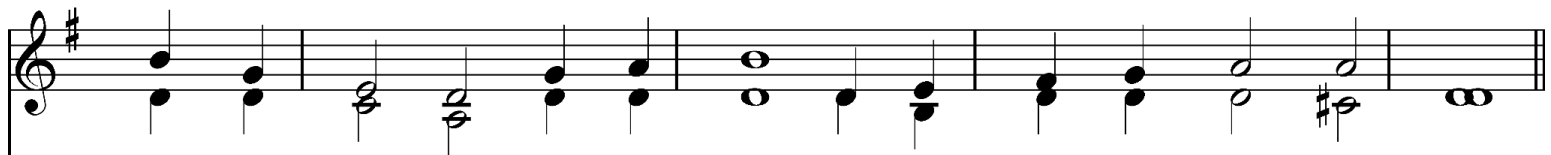
PRELUDE

OPENING MUSIC

“For the Beauty of the Earth”



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,



1 for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
2 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
3 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight,



Christ our God, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ has risen.

Christ has risen indeed. Alleluia!

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: 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.**

Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

COLLECT FOR THE EARTH

Gracious God, you open wide your hand and give of your goodness to all things living: Renew the face of the earth and increase the sustainable harvests of the world, that the land may bring forth enough for all, and your people may share justly and give honor to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:5-12

A reading from the book of Acts, the fourth chapter...

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is `the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**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.**

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.

**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.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 5:12-17

A reading from the book of Romans, the fifth chapter...

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned — for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Christ is Alive"

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.

GOSPEL

Matthew 12: 38-40

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth.

Celebrant: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Community of Iona Abbey

**We believe in God
in whom is power and compassion.
We believe in the Creator who gave birth to the universe,
set solar systems dancing into space,
shaped molecules and mountains,
and conceived beauty beyond our imagining.
God's power topples tyrants,
and brings down walls of separation;
God's love embodies the tenderness of a mother and father,
encouraging and caring for each of us.**

**We believe in Jesus, born in poverty in an occupied land;
a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution and grief.
He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil,
spoke truth with courage and clarity,
forgave his enemies and changed lives.
In his living, dying and rising again he showed
love strong enough to save the world.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
who sustains, comforts and empowers us,
opens the scriptures, opens our minds,
and illuminates earth's darkness.
Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION *Please be seated*
You're invited to light a candle at our prayer table and write your prayer intentions on one of the Prayer Boards during the music.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - HONORING GOD IN CREATION
Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, 78th General Convention

Blessed God, whose love calls the whole creation into covenant with you, and who puts in our hands responsibility for the care of the earth and its creatures: we pray for all to whom you have given life and being, saying, "Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace."

For the well-being of the earth; for its resources of water, air, light, and soil, that they may be tended for the good of all creatures, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the waters of the earth; for their careful use and conservation, that we may have the will and the ability to keep them clean and pure, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the mineral and energy resources of the planet, that we may learn sustainable consumption and sound care of the environment from which they come, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the animals of the earth, wild and domestic, large and very small, that they may know the harmony of relationship that sustains all life,

we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the creatures of the earth who do us harm and those whose place in your creation we do not understand or welcome, that we may see them as beloved creatures of God, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For all who shape public policies affecting the planet and its creatures, that they may consider wisely the well-being of all who come after us, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the creatures and the human beings of your world who are ill, or in danger, pain, or special need, especially today....and for all who suffer from the unjust, violent, or wasteful use of the earth's resources or their devastation by war, that all may one day live in communities of justice and peace, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

Celebrant: Grant that your people may have in them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and guide us into harmony of relationship through loving-kindness and the wise use of all that you have given; for you are drawing all things into communion with you and with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AGAINST GOD'S CREATION

Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant: I appeal to you, brothers and sisters in Christ, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

DOXOLOGY

"Let there be Peace on Earth"

Let there be peace on earth and let it be -
Let peace be - gin with me, let this be the
gin with me; _____ Let there be peace on
mo - ment now. _____ With ev' - ry step I
earth, the peace that was meant to be, _____ With
take, let this be my sol - emn vow: _____ To
God as cre - a - tor, _____ bro - thers and sis - ters are
we, _____ Let us walk with each o - ther _____
— in per - fect har - mo - ny. _____

to Coda ♩

MUSIC

"Crowded Table"

*Brandi Carlile, Natalie Hemby, and Lori McKenna
Text adapted for worship*

Refrain

I want a church with a crowded table
And a place at the altar for everyone
Let us take on the world while we're fed and able
And bring us back together when the day is done.

If we want a garden we're gonna have to sow the seed
Plant a little happiness - let the roots run deep
If it's love that we give - then it's love that we reap
If we want a garden we're gonna have to sow the seed **(+ Refrain)**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the

foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo -

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -
 est, ho - san - na in the high - est

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Hosanna in the highest'. It consists of two staves of music in a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: 'Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est'. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also some rests and longer note values. The score ends with a double bar line.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:

Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you; do this to remember me.

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

We pray together,

**Loving God, through the Spirit's revelation,
may Your true nature be honored everywhere.**

May Your reign of love come.

**May desire of Your heart for the world be done,
in us, by us and through us in the power of the Spirit**

Give us the bread we need for each day.

Forgive us.

Enable us to forgive others.

Keep us from all anxiety and fear.

For You reign in the power

**that comes from love which is Your glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

All who thirst, all who hunger, come and be filled with God's goodness.

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

ALL are welcome to receive communion. Please be seated.

An usher will direct you to the center aisle. Gluten-free wafers are available. We offer both the common cup/ individual glasses (grape juice is also available). We ask that you refrain from intinction (dipping your wafer into the common cup). If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion just let Pastor Cindy know.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Circle the Table"



1 Cir-cle the ta - ble, hands now ex - tend. Wel-come a stran - ger,
2 See on the ta - ble, set in Christ's name, signs of the suf - fering
3 Eat and be thank - ful, lift up your praise. God has for-giv - en



greet a new friend. O - pen your cir - cle, let it ex - pand.
love ov - er - came: cup of sweet wine and loaf of fine bread.
your self-ish ways. Go from the ta - ble, go forth to share



Wel-come God's child - ren from far a - way lands.
All things are rea - dy so come and be fed.
with your new neigh-bors the love you found there.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

“THE BLESSING” (Aotearoa)

adapted for SMSJ liturgy - original music and words by
Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, Steven Furtick

The Lord bless you and keep you,
make Her face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn Her face toward you and give you peace. (2x)

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.

May Her favor be upon you and a thousand generations
And your family and your children and their children,
and their children. (2x)

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.

FINAL BLESSING

The Rev'd Lynne A. Grifo

May the Wisdom of God lead you in her marvelous way, Be your shelter
by day and a blaze of stars by night. May she stir your innocent being
always to seek her, And the Wisdom, Love, and Grace of God be upon
you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Worship Leaders for April & May

Date	First Lesson and Psalm	Second Lesson & Usher	Prayers of the People & Greeter
4/21	Joe C.	Michele H.	Tom F.
4/28	Theresa H.	Steve F.	Sharon K.
5/5	Mike F.	Heather G.	Terri C.
5/12	Deb S.	Joe C.	Michele H.
5/19	Tom F.	Theresa H.	Steve F.
5/26	Sharon K.	Mike F.	Mary E.

Date	Common Cup	Single Cup Tray	Collect Cups
4/21	Deb S.	Terri C.	Heather G.
4/28	Bob C.	Dave E.	Mary E.
5/5	Mary E.	Mike F.	Sharon K.
5/12	Theresa H.	Tom F.	Michele H.
5/19	Joe C.	Deb S.	Terri C.
5/26	Heather G.	Bob C.	Dave E.

Weekly Opportunities for Worship & Service

Worship with Eucharist - Sundays at 9:15 am

Food Shelf Distribution - Wednesdays at 10:30 am

Volunteers needed to sign guests in and distribute food. Sign up on our website at stmarksandstjohns.org/volunteer.

Announcements

Vestry Meeting today after Worship in the Board Room!

Tuesday @ 10am **E.D.E.N. Garden Bible Study** begins Tuesday, May 14th. If you would like to be part of the leadership team contact Pastor Cindy.

Last year we postponed **Confirmation/Affirmation/Reception** classes due to Bishop Lane canceling his visit. We have been assured that Bishop Kara will be scheduled for the Fall. If you are interested in participating in these classes please let Pastor Cindy know.

Tickets for the Beer Tasting are on sale now! Get yours at bit.ly/SMSJBeer2024. The event will be Friday, May 10th at 6:30 pm.

Our next **Community Garden Work Day** will be held Saturday, May 25th at 10 am. Stay tuned for where we will be working!

Help is needed to set-up and staff Farm Stand this summer! We will be open for the season on Saturdays, July 6-August 31. Please let Maria know if you can lend a hand to this important mission program.

A wonderful seminarian and Postulant for ordination in the diocese is looking for some summer housing during her CPE unit from the end of May through mid-August. If you have a spare room or are looking for a house sitter this summer and are willing to host her, please let Pastor Cindy or Maria know.

Upcoming Events @ SMSJ

EDEN Garden Volunteer Day - Sat. April 20 @ 10 am

Earth Day Liturgy & Neighborhood Clean-Up - Sun. April 21 @ 9:15 am

Beer Tasting Fundraiser - Fri. May 10 @ 6:30 pm

EDEN Garden Volunteer Day - Sat. May 25 @ 10 am

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Are we missing your information? Send us an email at admin@stmarksandstjohns.org so we can add it and celebrate your special day with you!

Birthdays	Anniversaries
Heather G. - April 15	<i>Celebrating an anniversary in February? Let us know so we can celebrate you!</i>

BEER TASTING

**Join us for a night
of craft beer tasting for a
good cause!**

*Support the SMSJ E.D.E.N. Gardens
with an evening of craft beer paired
with delicious food, raffles, and live
music!*

*\$30 ticket includes 5 tastings with
paired dishes.*



**MAY
10TH**

6:30 PM

**1245 CULVER
ROAD**

**Get your tickets online:
bit.ly/SMSJBeer2024**





St. Mark's & St. John's Staff

Rector: *The Rev'd Cynthia Rasmussen*

crasmussen@stmarksandstjohns.org

Operations and Missions Director: *Maria Hartz*

mhartz@stmarksandstjohns.org

Musician: *Andy Lacey*

Audio and Video Producer: *Robert Thornton*

Deacon Emeritus: *The Rev'd Mike Finn*

wetlandnomad88@gmail.com

St. Mark's & St. John's Vestry

Co-Wardens: Walt Snyder & Sharon Kowalski

Vestry Members: Bob Caruso (Clerk), Heather Gilfoy, Ella Gruel,
Theresa Harte, Nancy Ramsay, Ginnie Schindler, and Nancy Willer

Diocesan Delegates: Nancy Ramsay, Ella Gruel, and Deb Snyder

Alternate Diocesan Delegate: Terri Censak

Treasurer: Michele Holmes

Beechwood Neighborhood Coalition Representative

Terri Censak