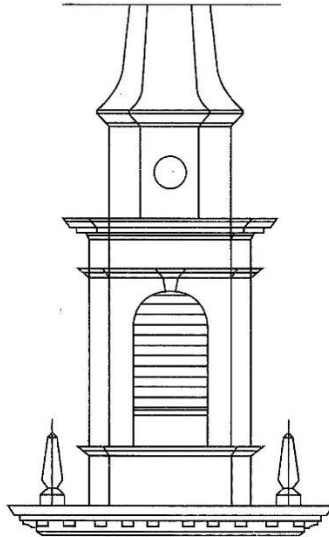


St. John's
Lutheran Church

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STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT



SERVICE OF THE WORD
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 12, 2026 | 8:30 & 10:30AM

**ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

**ALL ARE
WELCOME!**



Parish Office:
parishoffice@sjlcstamford.com
Pastor Martha:
MMcCreight@sjlcstamford.com
Cantor Nathan:
NLivelyGreyling@sjlcstamford.com
Finance:
finance@sjlcstamford.com

☎ 203.322.0066
 🌐 www.stjohnelca.org
 📍 884 Newfield Ave., Stamford, CT

We are delighted to have you with us today! To help us keep track of our cherished visitors, we kindly ask that you sign the visitor book located in the Narthex. This small gesture allows us to connect with you and offer any assistance you may need. Additionally, our ushers are more than happy to provide guidance and answer any questions you might have during worship. Whether you're here for the first time or returning, we hope you feel welcomed.



Busy bags are in the Narthex for your little ones to enjoy. These bags are thoughtfully prepared to keep children engaged during the service. Additionally, we invite you to explore and make use of the Godly Play area at the back of the Nave, designed to provide a welcoming and enriching environment for our young attendees. We hope these resources help create a meaningful and enjoyable experience for your family.

MISSION STATEMENT

All are welcome! We share Christ's love, grow in faith, and serve others.

Welcome to St. John's. We invite you to join us as an active participant in the worship of God.

PRELUDE

We stand.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

Christ the Lord is risen today

HYMN 369

OPENING DIALOG

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,
for in your wisdom you have formed us.

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You set free those who are bound.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You raise up those whose courage falters.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You provide for our every need.

Accept our grateful praises.

You have called us from all peoples.

We rejoice and bless your name forever.

You bless your people with peace.

We bless you and praise your loving grace.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,
for in your wisdom you have formed us.

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

*Or, He descended to the dead.

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE

My soul proclaims

HYMN 251

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

We sit.

WORD

FIRST READING

ACTS 2:14, 22-32

A reading from Acts.

BUT Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, ^{22c}“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— ²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or

let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ ²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL PSALM

PSALM 16

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord,
my good above all other.”
- ² **All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.**
- ³ But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- ⁴ **Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**
- ⁵ O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.
- ⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**
- ⁷ I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- ⁸ **I have set the Lord always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**
- ⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.
- ¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.**
- ¹¹ You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

SECOND READING

I PETER 1:3-9

A reading from I Peter.

BLESSED t be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials,⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL

JOHN 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

WHEN it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands.

Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

SERMON

MR. NATHAN PEACE

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O sons and daughters, let us sing

HYMN 386

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us
and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.



We sit.

OFFERTORY HYMN

We walk by faith

HYMN 635 SONG TO ST ANNE

We stand.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We kneel or sit for the prayers.

THE PRAYERS

Almighty and everlasting God, you are worthy to be held in reverence by all the mortal race. We give you thanks for the innumerable blessings which, despite our unworthiness, you have showered upon us.

We praise you especially that you have preserved for us in their purity your saving Word and the sacred ordinances of your house. Grant and preserve to your Church throughout the world purity of doctrine and faithful pastors who shall preach your Word with power, and help all who hear rightly to understand and firmly to believe your Word of truth.

Protect and defend your people in time of tribulation and danger, that we, in communion with your Church and in unity with all Christian people, may fight the good fight of faith and in the end receive the fullness of salvation.

Upon all the nations of the earth bestow your grace. Especially we ask you to bless our land and all its inhabitants and all who are in authority. Cause your glory to dwell among us, and let mercy and truth, justice and peace everywhere prevail. We commend to your care all our schools, that virtue and useful knowledge may be nourished and the wholesome fruits of life may abound.

In your mercy defend us from all calamities by fire and water, from war and pestilence, from scarcity and famine. Protect and prosper all who labor, and cause all useful arts to flourish among us. Show yourself to be the helper of the sick and needy, the comforter of the forsaken and distressed.

Accept, we pray, our bodies and souls, our hearts and minds, our talents and powers, together with these gifts, as our offering of praise.

And as we are strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us to prepare for the world to come, doing the work which you have given us to do while it is day, before that night comes when no one can work. And, when our last hour shall come, support us by your power and receive us into your everlasting kingdom, where, with your Son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.



Our Fa - ther who art in__ hea - ven, Ha - llow'd be thy Name;



Thy king - dom come; thy will be__ done, on earth as it is in hea - ven.



Give us this day our__ dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pass - es as



we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst__ us. And lead us



not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - li - ver us from e - vil. For thine is the



king - dom, the po - wer and the glo - ry, for e - ver and e - ver.



A - men. For e - ver and e - ver. A - men.

We stand.

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE *Sung to* DIADEMATA

1 You are the God we praise,
The Lord whom we acclaim,
Eternal Father, all the world
Bows down at your great Name;
To you angelic hosts
And all the powers of heaven,
The Cherubim and Seraphim,
Sing praises without end.

2 Holy, thrice-holy Lord,
The God of praise and might,
The heavens above and earth beneath
Are filled with glorious light;
The apostolic band,
Prophets and martyrs praise,
Throughout the world the holy Church
Acclaims you Lord always;

3 Father, of majesty,
Your only Son and true,
And Holy Spirit, Advocate,
To you all praise is due;
Lord Christ, the Father's Son,
In glory, King above,
You did not shun the Virgin's womb
To set us free in love.

4 You overcame death's sting
And opened heaven's door
To all the faithful where you reign
In glory evermore;
Come, then, and help all those
For whom your blood was spent
And bring us with your holy saints
To glory without end.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless us and keep us.
The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.
The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.
Amen.

POSTLUDE

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Lord's Prayer, Traditional Afrikaan's, arr. Marnus Lively-Greyling

This week we welcome Nathan Peace as our guest preacher while Pr Martha is away. Pr Martha will return this week.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 14

7:00 pm Sneak Peek Bible Study

Wednesday, April 15

12:00 pm Weekly Eucharist - Chapel

4:30 pm Confirmation Class

6:00 pm Handbells

7:00 pm Choir

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 19

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30am Baptism of Rosie Mae Mahler

4:00 pm Baptism of Inge Hanssen at

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Oxford

- AROUND THE PARISH-

APRIL

26 4:00 pm Evensong for Good Shepherd Sunday (Live-streamed & in-person)

MAY

3 9:30am Sunday School

10 10:30am Mothers' Day - Children Sing in Church
Last Day of Sunday School

17 10:30am Confirmation Sunday and parish picnic

24 9:30am Summer Worship begins and Pentecost Sunday

31 9:30am Holy Trinity Sunday

JUNE

4-6 Synod Assembly - Worcester, MA

6 5pm Pride Eucharist (Live-streamed and in-person worship)

7 9:30 Mass on the Grass

20 Swedish Midsummer Day

ACOLYTE SIGN-UP



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, READERS, USHERS, COFFEE HOUR, AND LFP SIGN-UP



PRAYER LIST

Beryl, Charlotte, Diane, Robert, Valerie, Dom and family and friends of Pr Nick, unspoken, Gary, Br. Ian, Pr Harv Weitzel, Trish, Pam, Robert, Charlotte, Paul, Becky, Margaret, Jack

If you have someone to add to the prayer list, please email the parish office.
Contact Pr Martha for pastoral needs at 406-565-3592.

Choral EVENSONG

SUNDAY, APRIL 26 | 4 PM

My Master from a Garden Rose | Eleanor Daley
Canticles in B-flat | Stanford
Responses | Sarah MacDonald
Psalm 30 | Sarah MacDonald & Margaret Burk
The Lord is my shepherd | Diane Bish



SCAN & SUPPORT
Music @
St John's



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