

St. John's Episcopal Church
**"Our mission is to know and to
share the love of Jesus Christ"**



Join us for Worship
Holy Week 2026

Palm Sunday, March 29th, 10:00am

The Liturgy of the Palms and Passion Reading

Palm Sunday, March 29th, 3:00pm

The Gospel of Mark, told by Alison Boden. A Memorized reciting of the whole Gospel with a discussion following.

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 1, 6:00pm

Following the 5:30pm Eucharist, we will pray the Stations of the Cross in the Bethlehem Chapel

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, 7:00pm

Liturgy of the Day with Foot and Hand Washing
Stripping of the Altar

Vigil at the Altar of repose, April 2nd, 8:00pm-11:00am

Vigil Watch in the garden in the Bethlehem Chapel.
Pray with Jesus in Gethsemane.

Good Friday, April 3rd, 12:00pm & 7:00pm

12:00pm - Solemn Collects, Veneration of the Cross, Communion from Reserved Sacrament

7:00pm - Joseph Haydn's *Seven Last Words of Christ*, performed by The Dirigo Quartet with brief homolog.

Easter Day, April 5th, 8:00 & 10:00am

10:00am service with choir and followed by Egg Hunt and visit from the Easter Bunny

Rector's Essay Invitation to Holy Week

We are entering the holiest week of worship for followers of Jesus. From Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday we walk with Jesus through his passion, death, and resurrection and receive the Good News that Jesus is victorious over all the death-dealing forces that oppose God. Set free by his victory over death, we can now follow Jesus boldly and courageously in his way, his truth, and his life. Death is defeated, eternal life in Jesus is here! Display his way without fear!

In my enthusiasm for the resurrection, I am ahead of myself. Let's review Holy Week worship in order.

To continue reading this essay, scroll down.



Easter Flower and Music Memorials

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Praise God and give thanks for the Resurrection of Jesus by making a donation to enhance our Holy Week and Easter Celebrations with beautiful flowers and guest musicians. You may give in memory of a beloved person who has died or in thanksgiving for a spouse, a child, a friend, etc. There is no minimum or set amount; whatever you offer will be received with much gratitude. Whether you choose to make a donation or not, please send your beloveds' name(s) to the Church Office by March 29th for inclusion in the Easter Bulletin. You can find the form on the last page of the bulletin or by clicking [here](#).

Easter Yard Signs

Easter signs for your front yard are available to take home. Be sure to grab the metal stand when taking a sign. They're a great way to invite your entire neighborhood to Easter Sunday Services.



Garden of Repose - Plants needed

Calling all plant owners. Please consider lending St. John's your house plants for our Garden in the Chapel during Holy Week. Plants can be dropped off to the office between 9:00am and 3:00pm during the week of March 29th or brought to the Undercroft on Sunday March 29th. We are in need of them by Maundy Thursday, April 2nd. They will be ready to pick up and take home Easter morning. Thank you for sharing your plants with St. John's.



The Gospel of Mark told by Alison Boden

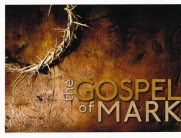
Join us on Palm Sunday, March 29th, at 3:00 pm for The Gospel of Mark told by Alison Boden: A Memorized reciting of the whole Gospel with a discussion to follow.

GOOD NEWS
ALL THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS VOL. 1

The Gospel of Mark
AS TOLD BY ALISON BODEN


A RECITATION OF
THE GOSPEL OF
JESUS CHRIST
FROM MEMORY.

DISCUSSION AND
REFRESHMENTS
TO FOLLOW.



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
225 FRENCH ST., BANGOR
MARCH 29 3 PM

THE REV. DR. ALISON BODEN IS A MINISTER IN THE UCC. PRIOR TO SERVING 33 YEARS AS A COLLEGE CHAPLAIN SHE WAS TRAINED AS AN ACTOR BEING:



STJOHNSBANGOR.ORG

Stations of the Cross

On Wednesday of Holy Week, April 1st, at 6:00pm, we will pray at the Stations of the Cross, in the Chapel, following the 5:30pm Eucharist.



Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd at 7:00 pm, join us for the Liturgy of the Day with Hand and Foot Washing and the Stripping of the Altar.

Vigil at the Altar of Repose

On the night before the Crucifixion, Jesus took his disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray with him. We re-enact the vigil in the garden after our Maundy Thursday worship with an all night Vigil in the chapel with reserved sacrament.

Members of the congregation are invited to sit and pray in the Chapel in shifts, following the Maundy Thursday service, through the night until the Good Friday service at noon the next day. You can sign up for one or more one hour shifts. You can sign up with a spouse, a friend, or another family member. In imitation of the disciples you may nap as well.

Various contemplative aids will be available in the chapel: prayer books, devotional reading, prayer beads, poetry etc.

Sign up [here](#).

The Veneration of the Cross

Good Friday, April 3rd, at noon join us for Solemn Collects, Veneration of the Cross and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament.

The 7 Last Words of Jesus Christ composed by Joseph Haydn.

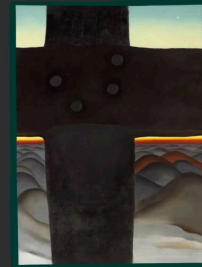
Join us on Good Friday, April 3rd, at 7:00 pm for seven movements of stirring musical reflection on the 7 Last Words of Jesus from the Cross performed by The Dirigo Quartet. As intended by Haydn, 7 brief reflections will be presented between movements.

The 7 Last Words of Jesus Christ

composed by

Joseph Haydn

Seven movements of stirring musical reflection on the 7 Last Words of Jesus from the Cross. As intended by Haydn, 7 brief reflections will be presented between movements.



April 3, Good Friday, 7 pm

St. John's Episcopal Church
225 French Street, Bangor

StJohnsbangor.org
Dirigoquartet.com



Easter Services

We are excited to be offering two Easter Services on Sunday April 5th. There will be an 8:00am and a 10:00am service. The choir will be singing at the 10:00am service. Following the 10:00am service, there will be an egg hunt and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

There will be a simple coffee hour following the 8 am service on Easter Sunday, and also following the 10 am service that day. If you want to come early to the 10 am service to enjoy refreshment, feel free! Coffee hour will go from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm on Easter.

Morrissey Scholarship

Thanks to a very generous gift made by the Estate of Effie Morrissey, St. John's is excited to be offering \$1,000 scholarships for use towards tuition and fees for continuing education beyond high school. We welcome anyone to apply. The application deadline is Wednesday, April 1st. Applications can be found at the back of the church, on our website, at the back of this week's bulletin or by [clicking here](#).

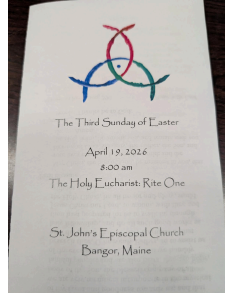
Coffee Hour Ministry

Hello to our friends at St. John's from Alison and Brian! As St. John's grows, we're graduating from our twosome getting a few snacks out for people immediately following COVID to a Coffee Hour Reserve and we need your help. We hope to find a dozen people willing to do Coffee Hour once every month or six weeks. We can train and help you. No cooking or baking required; just setup and cleanup. Please let us know how/what you are able to do to help via email at StJcoffeehour@proton.me. Thank you!



8:00am Rite Service Returns

We are so excited to announce that beginning on **April 19th**, we'll be offering a Rite I service at 8:00am and a Rite II service at 10:00am.



Celebration of New Ministry

We invite you to join us on April 19th at 4:00pm when The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown, Tenth Bishop of Maine, comes for the Installation of The Rev. Jarrett Kerbel as the Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church.



The Rector is Seeking a Focus Group

Over my thirty plus years of ministry I have helped many people make the transition from toxic versions of our faith to the healthy version that the Episcopal Church - at our best - offers. My new project is to go from one-to-one work to offering a group for folks "recovering from religion." Many have been harmed - indeed traumatized - by churches that use excessive guilt, shame, and fear, to control their church members. My long held belief is that the church needs to intentionally work at becoming a trustworthy and safe space where folks can detox from toxic faith and discover that they can have a relationship with God that is joyful, happy and free. What I need are people who can assist me in designing, offering, and leading such a group experience. If you have lived experience with recovery from toxic faith, all the better.

Announcements and Prayer Requests

Please be sure to submit all announcements and prayer requests to [the office](#) by noon on Thursday for them to be included in the weekly announcements and bulletins. Please submit photos / posters as a JPEG, and announcements in Word (not in a PDF).

Rector's Essay continued

Palm Sunday is the Frankenstein's Monster of all liturgies. Because it was assumed that most people would not attend Good Friday worship, the Passion Narrative (the betrayal, trial, torture and crucifixion of Jesus) was inserted into the Sunday before. To avoid cheating the Triumphal Entry, I have rearranged the Palm Liturgy; the Palm Gospel is now proclaimed when and where the Gospel is always proclaimed. The Passion Gospel is moved to the end of the service after the Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion. In this arrangement the service follows the chronology of Holy Week: Triumphal Entry, Maundy Thursday (Eucharist), and Good Friday (Passion Gospel). We exit in silence because Holy Week has now begun.

Palm Sunday, Part 2: Come hear the whole Gospel of Mark recited from memory by the Rev. Dr. Alison Boden. In the earliest church, scripture was received aurally. Here is that experience for you!

Holy Wednesday will include a Eucharist at 5:30 pm in the Church followed by Stations of the Cross in the Chapel. The Stations of the Cross are a form of devotional prayer that allows us to follow Jesus from his sentencing to his death and burial. Years ago, I developed a version that combines the traditional prayers with Taize chant and a slide deck of images for each station. By using slides we can gather around incredible renderings of the Stations to aid our contemplation. The congregation remains seated for this version. If you would like to walk the Stations, there is a pamphlet in the church that you can use.

Maundy Thursday is when we follow Jesus' command to remember him the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the wine. Maundy comes from "Maundatum" which is Latin for 'command.' We also wash feet (and hands) and strip the altar in preparation for the desolation of Good Friday. At the end of the service, we form a solemn procession to the chapel where the reserved sacrament is placed on the Altar of Repose. We keep watch in the chapel all night to relive Jesus' agony in the Garden of Gethsemane where he asked his disciples to pray with him. Please sign up for this powerful opportunity to pray with Jesus.

Good Friday is the most sacred day of the Christian year and noon - when Jesus hung on the cross and died - is the most sacred hour. At noon we will offer the traditional Prayer Book service with the passion from John, Solemn Collects, Veneration of the Cross, and Communion from the reserved sacrament.

Good Friday, Part 2 will be the 7 Last Words of Jesus Christ from the Cross featuring the Dirigo Quartet. Joseph Haydn's string quartet will be performed with seven reflections on the final words of Jesus in between the movements. Members of St. John's will offer the reflections.

EASTER! With great joy, wonder, and gratitude we will gather to celebrate our new life in the risen Christ with all of the usual fanfare and celebration! I am told that a Bunny Rabbit will make an appearance and an Easter Egg Hunt will follow the 10 am service. We will also have an 8 am service which will be a said service except for a final hymn.

I invite you to make a serious investment in your relationship with God through Jesus by putting aside other concerns, commitments and scheduled events so to walk with Jesus through his passion, death and resurrection. Children are welcome at all services and high school students are especially encouraged to attend all Holy Week services.

-Jarrett

Serving on Sunday March 29th:

Lectors – Nancy D., Richard W. and Shannon W.

Acolytes – Grant P., Edmund H., Isaac P., Gavin F. and Ruth G.

Chalice Bearers – Jacquie W. and Richard W.

Ushers – Ken H., John H., Roger G. and Jeff P.

Counters – Marsha C. and Rex B.

Serving on Thursday April 2nd at 7:00pm:

Lectors – Kelsie H. and Scott B.

Acolytes – Dakota M., Eric G. and Ruth G.

Chalice Bearers – Grant P. and Scott B.

Ushers – Jim B.

Serving on Friday April 3rd at 12:00pm:

Lectors – Pat S. and Cindy L.

Acolytes – Robert F.

Chalice Bearers – Jacquie W. and Richard W.

Ushers – Jeff P. and Jim B.

Serving on Friday April 3rd at 7:00pm:

Ushers – Jim B. and Mary W.

Serving on Sunday April 5th at 8:00am:

Lectors – TBD

Acolytes – Robert F., Cindy L. and Scott B.

Chalice Bearers – Robert F. and Cindy L.

Ushers – Mary W.

Serving on Sunday April 5th at 10:00am:

Lectors – Hilary G., Jacqueline C. and Michele V.

Acolytes – Grant P., Isaac P., Eric G., Ruth G. and Edmund H.

Chalice Bearers – Cassy P. and Grant P.
Ushers – Jim B., Mary W., Sheila S. and Zach W.
Counters – Mary W. and Paul J.

Thank you to all who volunteer as Lectors, Acolytes, Chalice Bearers and Ushers. If you would like to serve in one of these positions, please let the [office](#) know.

Sunday's Readings

[Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)

[Philippians 2:5-11](#)

[Matthew 21:1-11](#)

Sunday Worship:
[Worship Bulletin](#)

[YouTube](#)

Morning Prayer

Monday -

Friday:

9:00am
Morning Prayer

[Zoom](#)

[Facebook](#)

Tuesday-

Friday:

in person in the Bethlehem Chapel

Evening Prayer

Monday -

Friday:

5:15pm
live on [Zoom](#)

What's Happening This Week

Saturday, March 28th, 9:00am: Vestry Retreat.

Sunday, March 29th, Palm Sunday, 10:00am: Worship, in-person and [online](#) followed by coffee hour in the Undercroft. Nursery and Sunday School are available during the service.

Sunday, March 29th, 11:30am: Bible Discovery Group with Mary-Frances.

Sunday, March 29th, 12:30pm: Alpha

Sunday, March 29th, 3:00pm: The Gospel of Mark

Sunday, March 29th, 7:00pm: [AA](#) meeting in the Undercroft.

Wednesday, April 1th, 5:30pm: Eucharist Service

Wednesday, April 1st, 6:00pm: Stations of the Cross in the Bethlehem Chapel

Thursday, April 2nd, 7:00pm: Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 2nd - April 3rd, 9:00pm-11:00am: Vigil at the Garden of Repose in the Bethlehem Chapel.

Friday, April 3rd, 12:00pm: Good Friday Service

Friday, April 3rd, 7:00pm: The Seven Last Words of Jesus Christ

Saturday, April 4th, 7:00pm: Easter Vigil at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, located at 21 Holyoke Street in Brewer.

Saturday, April 4th, 7:00pm: Easter Vigil at St. Francis by the Sea Episcopal Church, 330 Hinckley Ridge Rd., State Route 177, Blue Hill (Where Fr. Jarrett will be going.)

Sunday, April 5th, Easter Sunday, 8:00am: Worship, in-person.

Sunday, April 5th, Easter Sunday, 10:00am: Worship, in-person and [online](#) followed by coffee hour in the Undercroft. Also following the service will be an egg hunt. Nursery and Sunday School are available during the service.

Sunday, April 5th, 7:00pm: [AA](#) meeting in the Undercroft.

For more information about these and future events, as well as ways to get involved, check out www.stjohnsbangor.org.

Nursery Care and Children's Chapel

Children should arrive between 9:45 and 10:00 am in the Undercroft on Sunday mornings for Nursery care, ages 0-3, and for Children's Chapel, ages 4-10.

In **Children's Chapel**, we celebrate the boundless curiosity and wonder of our young ones as we delve into the stories and lessons of the Bible. We aim to cultivate a nurturing and engaging environment that teaches our youngest members the stories of their faith and promotes spiritual growth and a strong

sense of community. For inquiries or to register, please contact Mary-Frances Beesorchard at children@stjohnsbangor.org.

Opportunities to pray together:

Sunday Morning Eucharist, at 10:00am in person and on [YouTube](#)

Great Wednesday, at 5:30pm in the Church

Morning Prayer, Mon-Fri, 9:00am on Facebook and on [Zoom](#)

and in person Tuesday - Friday in the Bethlehem Chapel

Evening Prayer, Mon-Fri, 5:15pm on [Zoom](#)

Volunteering is a wonderful way to give. Looking for the right Ministry Opportunity for you? Just click the link below for more information.

[OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY](#)

Parish Prayer List:

If you would like to add or reinstate a name or concern for our parish prayer list, please contact the church office or prayers@stjohnsbangor.org.

For the Sick, Injured, or Distressed, and for those who have requested prayer: Our friends at Fresh Start, Robert H., Brian M., Fred K., Judy H., Finley G., and Janet M. **Continued prayers for** – Esther R., Scott, Christopher, Marcia & Richard, Russell M., Kyra H., Persis S., Donald K., Jane Z., John N., Donald H., The Hosmer Family, Brenda D., Susan J., Elena B., Jay B., Susan S., Loretta, David B., Jane P., Kelly M., D., M., L., Katie B., The Miller Family, Mike Z., Ross M., Claude K., MarLynne M., John H., Frank S., Steve S., Kent C., and Ann C.

For our Homebound Members: Lilly P., Earlene B., and Eileen H.

For the World: for Peace and Goodwill among Nations and for peoples in places of violence or oppression, and for the many places in our world where there is danger and desperation. We continue to pray for the people in Ukraine and for the innocent people in Gaza, Sudan and Iran. For those suffering in other countries in the Middle East. For an end to war and all forms of violence. For all who suffer for conscience's sake. For our enemies and those who wish us harm. For all suffering effects of climate change and of natural disasters. For refugees, immigrants, and those who are displaced.

For our Nation: For the healing of divisions and the celebration of diversity; for the recognition that no single viewpoint on any issue, no matter how important, is without human error; and for all who struggle to change our world and its systems of oppression and exploitation.

For the Leaders of our Country, State and Community: Donald J. Trump, President; Members of Congress, especially, Susan Collins, Angus King, Chellie Pingree, Jared Golden of Maine; Janet Mills our Governor; and Susan Hawes our Mayor; for those who administer justice in the courts of this land, that they all may serve our nation and the world with wisdom, civility, and compassion.

For our Military Personnel, especially those of this Parish: Sarah M., Dillan L., and Joshua M. For all members of our military currently in harm's way. We pray for peace. We also give Thanksgiving for all veterans and their willingness to lay down their lives for our country.

With Thanksgiving for the lives of those celebrating birthdays during the coming week including: Kay S., Avril J. and Grant P.

For the Departed: Ann Lackman Miller and for our service members killed in the current conflict.



St. John's Episcopal Church

225 French Street, Bangor, Maine 04401

207-947-0156

<http://www.stjohnsbangor.org>



St. John's Episcopal Church | 225 French Street | Bangor, ME 04401 US

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