



WELCOME TO ST PJs!

If you're visiting St. PJs for the first time, or for the first time in a while, we extend a special welcome to you. Whether you are joining us in the building or via Facebook, we're so fortunate to be together. Know that whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on life's journey, and whatever questions dwell in your heart, you are welcome here. Whatever your race, class, sexuality, beliefs, or talents, we hope that you join us in the radical hospitality of God's table.

If you are worshipping with children today, welcome! And please don't worry – crying, laughter, and wandering little feet don't bother us!

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

H199

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain



1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ hath burst his pri - son,
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,



God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness:
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;
with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor - tal:



loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
but to - day a - midst thine own thou didst stand, be - stow - ing



led them with un - mois - tened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
wel - comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' re - sur - rec - tion.
that thy peace which ev - er - more pass - eth hu - man know - ing.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Leader: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

All: **Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

All: **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

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory, glory, hallelujah



1. Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
 2. I feel bet - ter, so much bet - ter,



1. — Since I laid my bur - den down.
 2. — Since I laid my bur - den down,



1. — Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
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1. — Since I laid my bur - den down.
 2. — Since I laid my bur - den down.

3. Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" etc.

Please be seated for the Lessons.

FIRST READING

Acts 3:12–19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?”

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the Lord.

Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1–7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b–48

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Please rise in body or spirit

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos
santificado sea tu Nombre
venga tu reino
hágase tu voluntad
en la tierra como en el cielo
Danos hoy el pan de este día y
Perdona nuestras deudas
como nosotros perdonamos
nuestros deudores
y no nos dejes caer en al tentación
sino que líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Holy God, your breath of new life surrounds us with new blossoms and signs of growth to come, open our eyes to appreciate all that you have given us.

Know that God does wonders for the faithful;
when we call upon God, God will hear us.

God of new hope, we marvel at all the signs of new life that surround us, but we are also aware of the devastation and despair of those in Gaza and Ukraine returning to their homes of rubble and stone. Give this hope to all who need signs of your risen life in their homeland and within their hearts.

Know that God does wonders for the faithful;
when we call upon God, God will hear us.

God of Justice, guide those who make decisions and protect those who live under those rules. May all be seen and treated as equal under the law.

Know that God does wonders for the faithful;
when we call upon God, God will hear us.

Compassionate God, we pray for those who live with illness, pain and fear, give them courage to live life as fully as they can. We pray especially for those on our prayer list and for those we now name silently or aloud...

Know that God does wonders for the faithful;
when we call upon God, God will hear us.

Loving God, we pray for the church, wherever the church is present, that they may reflect the joy and peace of the risen Christ. We pray also for St PJ's, in this time of transition, that we listen deeply to the spirit who guides us to be the church God calls us to be on Chapel and Olive St.

Know that God does wonders for the faithful;
when we call upon God, God will hear us.

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, especially Sarah, Brian, and Milton, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives.

Know that God does wonders for the faithful;
when we call upon God, God will hear us.

Leader: Holy God, help us to say “Yes” to your invitation to enter into the morning of new life, to celebrate the astonishing mystery that Christ is risen today and everyday. We ask this through Jesus, our savior and your life-giving spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Leader: La paz del Señor sea siempre con ustedes. **People: Y con tu espíritu.**

Leader: The peace of Christ be always with you. **People: And also with you.**

Please greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

1 Chronicles 29:11

Leader: Yours, O LORD, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head over all.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

CLOSING PRAYER

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

H182

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
 2 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
 3 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 2 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
 3 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 2 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 3 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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GRACE NOTES



— YOU ARE WELCOME HERE —

Sunday Worship | 10:30 a.m.

In person and livestreamed

Wednesday Noonday Prayer | 12:30 p.m.

In person in the Chapel

Thursday Zoom Compline | 8:00 p.m.

Link available on our website

Office Hours

Tue, Fri (8 a.m.–11 a.m.) | Thu, Fri (6 p.m.–8:30p.m.)

SERVING TODAY

Third Sunday in Easter

April 14, 2023

Leader:

Andrew Stump

Preacher:

Alec Pedersen

Worship Leader:

Sally Fleming

Musicians:

Will Cleary

Alec Pedersen

Dylan Rowland

OUR STAFF

The Rev. Nathan Empsall
Seasonal Supply Priest

William Cleary, Director of Music
Dylan Rowland, Assoc. Music Dir.

Monifa Atkinson
Program Assistant
office@stpaulstjames.org
203-562-2143 (office)

Samuel Rodriguez, Sexton
The Rev. Steve Crowson, Priest Associate
Andrew Stump, Seminary Intern

OUR VESTRY

Warden: Bill Evans
Treasurer: David Hill
Clerk: Maggie King

Marilyn Bergen
Roni Holcomb
Pam Sayre
Maurice Harris
George Moore

We acknowledge the Quinnipiac, Paugussett, and Wappinger people, the traditional custodians of the land on which St. PJs is located. We pay respect to their elders, past and present. We respect their people and traditions as a continued call to live out the ministry of reconciliation to which we are called.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Flowers

We have many Easter flowers in need of a good home! Please take some home on your way out of the church today. Use them to brighten your day or someone else's!

Dylan Rowland Recital – April 15

Our own Dylan Rowland has a music recital tomorrow! He will be performing at the Millard Auditorium at the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford (200 Bloomfield Avenue in West Hartford) on April 15th, at 5:00 PM. The recital is free and open to the public; just tell security at the front you're there for a show at the Hartt School.

Updating the Prayer List

We're in the process of updating the PJs prayer list. If you would like for you or your loved one(s) to stay on the new list, or if you would like to add someone to the new list, please contact the office to let us know!

Anti-Racism Workshop – April 20

We encourage you to attend this workshop with nationally known racial justice educator, Debby Irving. Her presentation shares her own journey in becoming a powerful and effective activist in the anti-racism community. The workshop takes place on April 20 from 9:00 to 1:00 at Cross Street AME Zion Church in Middletown. You can read more and register here: <https://russelllibrary.libcal.com/event/12079928>.

2024 Stewardship Campaign

Pledge cards are available for our 2024 Stewardship Campaign, in which we are invited to prayerfully consider how we will pledge our support of God's mission at St. PJs in the next year. You can place completed cards in the offering plate or send them to the office via the mail.

PRAYER LIST

Charles	Marcia
Edd	Mary Jane
Ron	Tiras
Charles	Pete
Andy	Ralph
Michael	Jean
Cynthia	Matt
Theresa	Edwina
Gary & Family	John
Herman	Alyce
Anne	Martha
Gwen	Julie
Isaiah	Andrew,
Greta	Anastasia &
Simone	Katherine
Judi	Gwen
Dwayne	Misha
Nanci	Michael
Patricia	Al
Leota	Sal & Family
Enid	Tony
Brenda & Juhani	Patty and Bill
Lwebuga-Mukasa	Janie and Family
Family	Paul and Family
Kohl Family	Laurel
John	Vanetta
Carla & Family	

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Gwen Chapin (Apr. 14)

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY

St. PJs is a "mask-friendly" environment. Please respect everyone's personal decisions whether or not to wear a mask. In addition, please be aware that by attending church, you are participating in our live stream, which means you may appear in a video which is streamed and archived on our YouTube or Facebook page.

Give to St. PJs
Online



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E-news

