

**Hearing enhancement devices are available at the back of the sanctuary in the lobby.*

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude

For The Beauty of the Earth
Arr. John Purifoy

Call to worship

Call: Beloved, Christ is risen! Our Savior is risen!

Response: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Call: Steadfast Love is risen!

Response: Steadfast Love is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2024

Opening Hymn (please stand as you are comfortable)

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

UMH 302

Morning Prayer

**We will conclude this prayer by reciting “The Lord’s Prayer.” If you are unfamiliar with this prayer, you are invited to follow along up on the screens.*

First Scripture Reading

John 1: 1-18

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Great Day! The Lord is Risen!
Arr. Joseph Martin

Doxology (please stand as you are comfortable)

UMH 95

Final Scripture Reading

John 20:1-18

Message

Steadfast Love Is An Empty Tomb
Rev. Matt Bridges

Closing Hymn (please stand as you are comfortable)
He Lives

UMH 310

Benediction

Postlude

Fugue in C Major
Dietrich Buxtehude



Easter Egg Hunt After Worship!



After worship and during our Fellowship Time this morning we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for ages two through nine.

In The Life of St. John’s

The Bag ‘n Hand Needs to Restock the Shelves!

The Bag ‘n Hand Food Pantry needs your help with donations of the food items below. We are also looking for volunteers for our evening distribution. The hours of volunteering are 4:40pm to 7:00pm. Below are the most needed items.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Canned Fruit | Beans |
| Mac and Cheese | Spices |
| Any dry Pasta | Condiments |
| Rice | Baking Supplies |

Coming in May

Faithful Conversations:

An Interfaith Bible Study with Temple Beth Shalom

On the last Saturday morning in May (right now we’re thinking 11:30 will be a good time), Temple Beth Shalom and St. John’s will begin a monthly Bible Study led by Rabbi Neil Amswych and Pastor Matt Bridges that will cover a variety of sacred texts and topics. We will celebrate our traditions, our communities, and grow together in faith from perspectives that we don’t always encounter. Our first faithful conversation will be on the topic of creation from a Jewish and Christian perspective. Please let Pastor Matt know if you are interested.

Upcoming Series: *Believing Into Christ*

In the Sundays after Easter and taking us to Pentecost, we will explore themes from Revelation and the Gospel of John about what is possible when we believe. Belief is not only an intellectual endeavor and assent to the power of God to transform, but also a process that helps us use our hands and feet in ways similar to how Jesus used his hands and feet to seek out and address the hurting ones, including our planet and its most vulnerable people and beyond-human creatures.

Week 1: Embodied Believing: Our beliefs connect us to Christ, in whom we believe and into whom we grow, by embodying the assents we make.

Week 2: Circling Toward Food Justice: Food justice is a recognition that not everyone has access to the same kinds of nutritious foods that are available in some places, depending on geography, infrastructure, and economics. Unjust systems are in place. Part of our call as Christians is to interrupt those unjust systems and provide for all.

Week 3: Springs of Living Water: An old song, “Spring, up O Well!” reminds us that the river of life flows into us and out of us into the world. We celebrate the living water nourishing us and the world when we share it with those around us.

Week 4: A New World: God is creating a new world out of this one. God is making all things possible, starting here and now. God is renewing life, love, and connection for the benefit of what is and will be for this world.

Week 5: The Tree of Life: The imagery of trees is centered in this week's texts and our worship experience because trees are sources of life. They provide oxygen we breathe, food that nourishes us, and shade that protects us.

Week 6: Becoming One: On this final week in the series, we recognize how interdependent we are with creation, and we celebrate that when we benefit, we also benefit others.

This Week In The Life of St. John's

Mon. Apr. 21, 2025

***Offices Closed Today in Observance of Easter**

6:00 pm Pickleball, Fellowship Hall

Tues. Apr. 22, 2025

12:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor

6:00 pm Alcoholics' Anonymous, Men and Women Group, Parlor

6:00 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics, Bell Room

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous, Fellowship Hall

Wed. Apr. 23, 2025

12:00 Soul Break

1:00 pm Women's Book Study

6:00pm Bell Choir, Bell Room

7:00 pm Choir, Choir Room

Thurs. Apr. 24, 2025

12:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor

Fri. Apr. 25, 2025

9:00 am AA Parlor

12:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor

Sat. Apr. 26, 2025

Sun. Apr. 27, 2025

9:30 am Morning Worship:

10:30 am Morning Fellowship Time, Gathering Room

5:00 pm Youth Group: Our location Changes from week to week. To be a part of the youth group, reach out to Pastor Matt at 936-661-2843 to be added to the youth list.

April 20, 2025

Easter Sunday: *Steadfast Love Is an* *Empty tomb*

