



St. John AUGUSTA

April 5, 2026
Easter Sunday
The Reverend Jenny Anderson

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

ENTRANCE

**All who are able, standing*

GATHERING

Welcome to St. John United Methodist Church.

Communion:

All of God's children are welcome to participate in the sacrament of communion.

After the gathering, a bell will ring to signal the beginning of worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* HYMN

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

arr. Robert A. Hobby

See page 2

* GREETING

Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed!

Glory and honor, dominion and power,
be to God for ever and ever.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

* OPENING PRAYER

Resurrecting God,
you conquered death
and opened the gates of life everlasting.

In the power of the Holy Spirit,
raise us with Christ that we, too, may proclaim
healing and peace to the nations. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

William C. Dix

All: 1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! His the
All: 2. Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we
Choir: 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, Here on the
All: 4. Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, You the

scep - ter, his — the throne. Al - le - lu - ia! His the
left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is
earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! Here the
Lord of lords we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of

tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry — a - lone.
near — us: Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.
sin - ful Flee to you from day — to day.
Mar - y, Earth your foot - stool, heav'n your throne.

Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der
Though the cloud from sight re - ceived him When the
In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, Earth's re -
You with - in — the veil have en - tered, Robed in

like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out — of ev - 'ry
for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for - get — his
deem - er, plead for me, Where the songs of all — the
flesh, our great high priest; Here on earth both priest and

na - tion Has re - deemed us by his blood."
prom - ise: "I am with — you ev - er - more?"
sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

Text: William Chatterton Dix, 1837-1898, and written in 1866 (PD).

Tune: *HYFRYDOL*, Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1811-1887, and written in 1831 (PD).

Music: Used in an arrangement by Robert A. Hobby, newly composed,
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70 Glory Be to the Father

Meineke

**Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read
and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Acts 10:34-43

New Testament p. 157

PSALM

Psalms 118:14-29

Response 2

UMH p. 839

***Sung in two-part canon: This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice, let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad.***

The Lord is my strength and my power;
the Lord has become my salvation.
**There are joyous songs of victory
in the tents of the righteous:**
“The right hand of the Lord does valiantly,
the right hand of the Lord is exalted,
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!”

Sung Response

I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.
**The Lord has chastened me sorely,
but has not given me over to death.**
Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.
**This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

Sung Response

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Sung Response

ANTHEM

Easter Anthem (The Lord is Risen Indeed)

William Billings

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

* HYMN

302 Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

1 all 2 all 3 men 4 trebles 5 all 6 all

**1. *all* Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**2. *all* Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**3. *men* Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!**

**4. *trebles* Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

**5. *all* Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!**

**6. *all* King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!**

SERMON

Do Not Be Afraid of Life

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UMH p. 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.**

INVITATION

Christ, our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(Leader to people) Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

(People to leader) **In the name of Jesus Christ,
you are forgiven.**

(Leader and People) **Glory to God. Amen.**

* THE PEACE *Liturgist*

OFFERING *Clergy*

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

Most Glorious Lord of Life

John Rutter

Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day
didst make thy triumph over death and sin,
and having harrowed hell, didst bring away
captivity thence captive, us to win:

This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin,
and grant that we for whom thou didst die,
being with thy dear blood clean washed from sin,
may live for ever in felicity:

And that thy love we weighing worthily,
may likewise love thee for the same again;
and for thy sake, who dist all grace supply,
with love may one another entertain;

So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought;
love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

-Edmund Spenser 16c

* *After the singing of this text, the congregation will be invited to stand and sing:*

**The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over,
with hymns of victory.**

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH p. 17

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
 always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
 Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image
 and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away,
 and our love failed,
 your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity,
 made covenant to be our sovereign God,
 brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey,
 and set before us the way of life.

And so,
 with your people on earth
 and all the company of heaven
 we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might
 heaven and earth are full of your glory**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ
 By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
 you gave birth to your church,
 delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
 and made with us a new covenant
 by water and the Spirit.

By your great mercy we have been born anew
 to a living hope
 through the resurrection of your Son from the dead
 and to an inheritance that is imperishable,
 undefiled, and unfading.
 Once we were no people,
 but now we are your people,
 declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,
 who called us out of darkness
 into his marvelous light.

When the Lord Jesus ascended,
 he promised to be with us always,
 in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us
 he took the bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
 gave it to his disciples, and said:
 "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
 Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
 gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
 "Drink from this, all of you;
 this is my blood of the new covenant,
 poured out for you and for many
 for the forgiveness of sins.
 Do this, as often as you drink it,
 in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead
 he was recognized by his disciples
 in the breaking of the bread,
 and in the power of your Holy Spirit
 your Church has continued
 in the breaking of the bread
 and the sharing of the cup.

And so,
 in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
 as a holy and living sacrifice,
 in union with Christ's offering for us,
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered us here,
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.
 Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
 that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
 redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
 one with each other,
 and one in ministry to all the world,
 until Christ comes in final victory,
 and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
 all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father
 now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in Heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.**

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

*All are invited to receive the bread and cup.
Come forward at the direction of our ushers.
You will receive communion by intinction. Receive the bread and dip it in the juice.*

ANTHEM AT COMMUNION

Magdalen, Cease from Sobs and Sighs
Meditation on *There is a Green Hill Far Away*

Peter Hurford
Leo Sowerby

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

* HYMN

Hallelujah, from *Messiah*

Georg Frederic Handel

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallekujah!
The kingdom of this world is become
the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ,
and of His Christ;
And He shall reign for ever and ever,
King of kings, and Lord of Lords,
and He shall reign for ever and ever.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

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* POSTLUDE

Toccata in B-flat minor

Louis Vierne

Ministry of Worship

Preacher	The Reverend Jenny Anderson
Liturgist	Rebekah Bryant
Lay Reader	Carol Capers
Greeter	Alison Wright, Sherry Howard, Ulrike Arntz
Usher	Millie and Jeff Huff, Warren Spooner, Chip Matson
Acolyte	Matthew Dixon
Crucifer	Emily Scaper
Organist and Director of Music	Jamie Council Garvey
Choir	The St. John Choir
Guest Organist	Dan Hardin
Instrumentalists	James Vaughn and Nathan Erikson, trumpet Samantha Newcomb, horn Ben Rezendes, trombone Damian Green, timpani
Cantor	Jeff Gates
Soloist	Heather Daugherty
Worship Technicians	Donald Tilton, Adam Kuehl
Offering Counter	Rich Bias

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Weekly Stewardship	
2026 Budget	\$631,305
Weekly Giving	\$12,543
YTD Giving	\$99,927
YTD Other Income	\$5,293
YTD Expenses	\$171,309
Attendance 3/29	Sanctuary: 144 Online: 81

St. John United Methodist Church

St. John is a welcoming and affirming congregation.

736 Greene Street, Augusta, Georgia 30901

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