

St John's Episcopal Church



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

10am

Come hydrate your soul at St John's:

A community of connections across generations.

Connect to God through worship, service,
real life and tradition.

14 Lagunitas Road
PO Box 217
Ross, California 94957

(415) 456-1102
info@stjohnsross.org
www.stjohnsross.org

As we worship today, you are invited to pray aloud with us, or join silently; to sing along or enjoy listening. Welcome - we are grateful for your presence!

During the service, please text your prayer request, birthday, anniversary or occasion of thanksgiving to 415.275.0115.

Give

Offerings may be given:

- in the plate
- Online at www.stjohnsross.org/give
- Venmo [@stjohnsross.org](https://venmo.com/@stjohnsross.org)



Altar Flowers Given By

Leslie Limpert

In celebration of husband Rick and daughter Alexandra's birthdays

To remember or celebrate a loved one with a donation for our altar flowers, please contact Leslie Limpert, 415.419.4529 or leslielimpert@yahoo.com.

cover image

Title: Peasant Wedding. Oil on wood. 1566-1569

Creator: Pieter Bruegel the Elder. (ca. 1526/30 - 1569) Flemish

Welcome

A few moments of silence follow the welcome announcement.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Opening Hymn 423

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

St. Denio

Sung by all, standing.

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but nought changeth Thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory, pure Father of Light
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render, O help us to see:
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

— Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)

Easter Acclamation

Presider Alleluia, Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

Presider and People

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Song of Praise

Paschal Troparion

John Karl Hirten (b. 1956)

The Congregation is invited to stamp their feet when singing the refrain.

Christ is ris - en from the dead, tramp - ling (*stomp*) down death by death.

5
Christ is ris - en from the dead, tramp - ling (*stomp*) down death by death, and on

9
those in the tomb be - stow - ing life, tramp - ling (*stomp*) down death by death, and on

13
those in the tomb be - stow - ing life, tramp - ling (*stomp*) down death by death.

17
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

First Reading

Acts 3:18-26

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In this way [through Jesus] what God had foretold through all the prophets, women and men alike, that God's Messiah would suffer, God has fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn around that your sins may be wiped out, so that seasons of refreshing may come from the presence of the Most High, and that God may send the Messiah appointed for you all, Jesus, whom it is necessary that heaven receive until the time of the restoration of all things that God announced long ago through women and men, God's holy prophets. Indeed, Moses said, 'The Holy One your God will raise up for you all from your own kin a prophet like me. Heed the whole of whatever the prophet speaks to you all. And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out of the

Creed

1 I be-lieve in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all things that
2 I be-lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci -
3 I be-lieve in God's own Spir - it, bond - ing all the saints with -
4
be, Mak - er of the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er
fied; tak - en from the cross, was bur - ied— True life
in one church, cath - o - lic and ho - ly, where for -
7
of the sky and sea. I be-lieve in God's son, Je - sus, now for
there had tru - ly died. I be-lieve that on the third day Christ was
give - ness frees from sin; in the bod - y's res - ur - rec - tion, for the
11
us both Lord and Christ, of the Spir - it and of
raised up from the grave, then as - cend - ed to God's
break - ing of death's chain gives the life that's ev - er -
14
Mar - y born to bring a - bun - dant life.
right - hand. He will come to judge and save.
last - ing. This the faith that I have claimed.

Words by Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993)

Music: *Beach Spring*, Traditional American

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Prayers of the People

With trust and love, we pray to you, Lord God.

By your glorious resurrection and ascension,
Good Lord, renew us.

By your commission to the Apostles,
Good Lord, send us forth.

By the coming of the Holy Spirit, who unites all things in heaven and earth,
Good Lord, make us one.

Strengthen and encourage all who do your work in lonely and dangerous places.
Hear us, Good Lord.

Open the hearts and hands of many for the support of your Church and the work of justice in every place.
Hear us, Good Lord.

Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the wonderful works of God.
Hear us, Good Lord.

Touch our lips that our words may reflect your truth and your love.
Hear us, Good Lord.

Touch our hands, that we may serve others with compassion.
Hear us, Good Lord.

Touch our feet, that we may walk in the paths of peace.
Hear us, Good Lord.

I invite your petitions, intercessions, and thanksgivings.
(Please add your own prayers)

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself, making the way of humility and service into the way of life and peace. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together to love and to serve, and that in every place your people call upon your Name, for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours for ever. Amen.

Peace

You are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory & Collection

The ushers take a collection during the offertory anthem. We rely on the financial contributions of members and visitors and ask for your generous support. Ways of giving to St. John's are listed on page 2 of the bulletin.

Offertory
Sung by the choir

See the Land, Her Easter Keeping

Alice Jordan (1916-2012)

See the land, her Easter keeping,
Rises as her Maker rose;
Seeds so long in darkness sleeping,
Burst at last from winter's snows.

Earth with heav'n above rejoices;
Fields and gardens hail the spring;
Hills and woodlands ring with voices.
All creatures sing, all creatures sing: Alleluia.
See the land, her Easter keeping.

—Charles Kingsley (1819-1875)

The Doxology

Gelobt sei Gott

The people stand to sing the Doxology while the collection is presented at the altar.

To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the
Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for
life in us be - gun. Al - le - lu -
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer, and then says

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

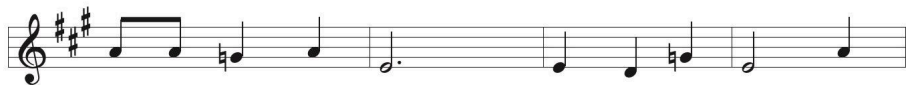
Norfolk Mass

John Karl Hirten

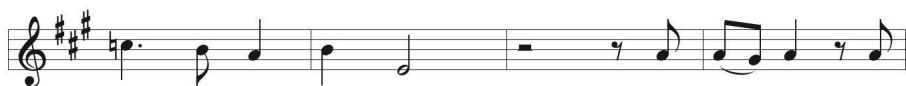
Sung by all.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might, Heav-en and earth are



full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -



san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san - na, ho -



san-na in the high - est. Blessed is the one who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na, ho -



san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -



san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

The presider continues with the Eucharistic prayer, and then says:
Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer, and then says

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

Lord's Prayer

You are invited to raise your hands in prayer and blessing as we pray.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Presider and People

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.

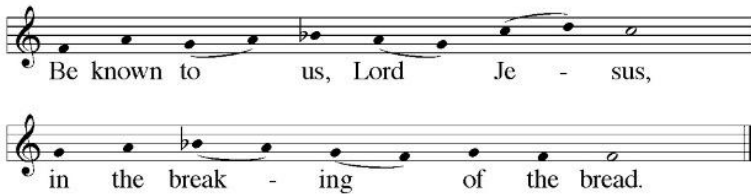
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Plainchant, adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)

Please repeat refrain the first time after the cantor.



1. The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.
—*Refrain*
2. One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.
— *Refrain*

Administration of Communion

To receive communion please come forward and receive a piece of the consecrated bread from the priest. If you need a gluten free wafer please indicate that to the minister. If you would like to receive the common cup, please help guide the chalice so you may drink from it. If you prefer not to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing, indicating your preference by crossing your arms over your chest.

Communion Music

How Firm a Foundation

John Karl Hirten (b. 1956)

Sung by the choir

1 How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 "When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of woe shall not you overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you, your deepest distress.

4 "The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

— K. in John Rippon's *Selection*, 1787.

Go down, Moses

Sung by the St. John's Choristers

Traditional

Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

God of abundance,

you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;

you have united us with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,

that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world

and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

The presider offers God's blessing.

Birthdays, Anniversaries and Occasions of Thanksgiving

All those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and occasions of thanksgiving are invited to come forward.

Today, tomorrow and always we rejoice in the hands of God.

May God's powerful hands support you.

May God's guiding hands lead you.

May God's loving hands enfold you.

We rejoice in the hands of God. Amen.

Hymn 376

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

Hymn to Joy

Sung by all

- 1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
field and forest, vale and mountain,
blooming meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

— Henry van Dyke (1852-1933)

Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Toccatina on *Hymn to Joy*

J. K. Hirten

**** Members of the congregation are always welcome to watch the organist play the postlude. Walk up the ramp behind the organ console. Parents with children are especially welcome, but please wait until the end to converse! ****

Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the parish hall following the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SVdP Bagged Lunches: Today During coffee hour (after the 10am) on Sunday, May 17, we are preparing 50 bagged lunches for St. Vincent de Paul's Free Dining Room, which will be distributed to those in need of a meal. We appreciate the help making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and sorting the other items into the bags. Many hands make light work!

Men's Group Retreat: May 28-30 The St. John's Men's Group meets for its annual retreat at St. Dorothy's Rest, the Episcopal camp and retreat center deep in the redwoods near Occidental, California. The retreat begins in the afternoon on Thursday, May 28 and concludes at noon on Saturday, May 30, 2026. Rev. Skip Fotch and Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams will help guide our discussion program. The fee includes two nights lodging, food and soft drinks. \$275: double occupancy; \$335: private room (limited availability.) To register, go to www.stjohnsross.org.

Summer Kick-off BBQ: June 7 All are invited to a parish BBQ on the lawn after the 10am service on Sunday, June 7. A complimentary lunch is provided by our Men's Group. A bounce house will be available for children, youth and adventurous adults.

Parish Weekend Away: September 11-13 Hiking trails, swimming pool, simple but well-appointed rooms, and amazing food! Join us at The Bishop's Ranch in Sonoma for our annual Parish Weekend Away 2026. This year we'll gather from Friday, 9/11 to Sunday, 9/13 for two days and two nights of fellowship, fun, rest, and spiritual development. Families, singles, and seniors welcome. To register, go to www.stjohnsross.org.

Sunday School at 10 AM. We will have combined Sunday School classes in the month of May. We will meet in the Fireside Room. Kids from preschool through 5th grade are welcomed. After class, all children will proceed to the church to join their parents for Communion.

Sunday Morning Youth Group On most Sundays, all youth (grades 6th-12th) are invited to meet in the Youth Room at 10am. This Sunday, all are welcome to join Robert for a conversation about the question of the week. For more information, please contact Rev. Heather.

Women's Bible Discussion: Mondays On Monday evenings, 7:30-8:30pm, a group of women gather on Zoom to read and discuss books of the bible and sometimes other ancient texts. We are currently exploring the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. Please contact Rev. Heather for more information.

Bible Study: Wednesdays All are welcome to participate in this in-person class on Wednesdays at 1pm in the Youth Room. We are currently exploring Redemption in the Bible. Please email facilitator Ethan Dettmer for more information and to receive the syllabus.

Music Notes Alice (Yost) Jordan (1916–2012) was born in Davenport, Iowa, but her family moved to Des Moines shortly after her birth, and she would spend the rest of her life there. She was educated at Drake University in music composition, studying primarily with Francis J. Pyle. Further education was pursued at Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary. Jordan was active throughout her life as a composer and arranger, publishing more than 250 choral and organ works with a number of publishers. One of her best-known works is a choral arrangement of "America the Beautiful," which is sung frequently throughout the country. Sherrill Milnes of Metropolitan Opera fame, and Jon Spong, his accompanist, commissioned her art song "Take Joy Home," and used it as a closing work on many of their world-wide concert tours, including a performance at a White House State Dinner in 1983. With her husband, organist Frank B. Jordan, dean of the College of Fine Arts at Drake University, Alice Jordan was an active contributor to the cultural and musical life of Des Moines and served on the boards of numerous civic and musical organizations. She received honorary doctoral degrees from Grand View University (1986) and Drake University (2006).

The text of the hymn “How firm a foundation” made its first appearance in the second edition of *A Selection of Hymns from the Best Authors, Intended as an Appendix to Dr. Watts’s Psalms and Hymns* (London, 1787), edited by John Rippon. This book was quite popular both in England and in America, the earliest U.S. imprint dating from 1792, becoming part of the hymnal of the Episcopal Church in 1826. In the original edition of Rippon’s book, the hymn had seven stanzas, and was entitled “Exceeding great and precious Promises. 2 Pet(er) 3:4,” and was signed “K.” It’s thought that “K” represents the name of Richard Keen, who may have been the author, and who was the precentor of the Baptist congregation in London where Rippon was minister. The version in the *Hymnal 1982* presents the original stanzas 1, 3 – 5 and 7 with only slight updates.

The tune *Foundation* is American in origin and is surely one of the most widely sung of any of this country’s folk hymns. It was first printed in a shape note tunebook, *Genuine Church Music* (Winchester, VA, 1832), compiled by Joseph Funk and associated with the text from Rippon, although the name of the tune was *Protection*. Many versions of this popular tune were printed with differing texts throughout the 19th Century. However, it did not appear with this tune in the Episcopal hymnal until *Hymnal 1982*, and even so it was also paired with another tune, *Lyon*, which had been its accompanying tune in the 1940 Hymnal.

FAITH-FILLED GATHERINGS

Sunday

8am: Worship

9am: Intergenerational Family Worship

10am:

Worship (in-person & live stream)

Children's Sunday School

Morning Youth Group

Monday

7:30pm: Women's Bible Discussion (Zoom)

2nd Tuesdays

7:30am: Christian Meditation

6pm: Dinner Church (resumes in September)

Wednesday

1pm: Bible Study (no class on May 20)

2nd Saturdays of the Month

8am: Men's Group

SERVING TODAY

(Worship Prep)

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Anne Doyle | Altar Guild |
| Holly Kaufman* | Altar Guild |
| Susan Mackenzie | Altar Guild |
| Shelley Wilson | Altar Guild |
| Kegan Donlan | Communion Bread Baker |
| Holly Posner | Flower Angel |

8:00 AM (Worship)

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams | Clergy - Presider |
| The Rev. Jim Ward | Clergy - Preacher |
| Leslie Limpert | Usher |

9:00 AM (Family Worship)

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| The Rev. Heather Erickson | Clergy - Presider |
| The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams | Clergy - Preacher |

10:00 AM (Sunday School)

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Sandra Pathik | Sunday School - Teacher |
|---------------|-------------------------|

10:00 AM (Worship w/Choir)

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Euie Hill | A/V - Audio |
| Brian Wittenkeller | A/V - Video |
| The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams | Clergy - Presider |
| The Rev. Jim Ward | Clergy - Preacher |
| The Rev. Heather Erickson | Clergy - Assisting |
| John Falcone | Eucharistic Minister |
| Natalie Posner | Eucharistic Minister |
| Michael Hiscott | Lector |
| Virginia Cunningham | Usher |
| John Vance | Usher |

11:00 AM (Coffee Hour)

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Donalyn Hellar | Goodies Supplier |
|----------------|------------------|

PRAYER LIST

Members

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Rosemary Morgan | Melinda Booth | Ted Anspacher |
| Betty Enemark | Travis Wright | The Rev. Jan West |
| JT Sweet | Carol Hughes | Katie Hoertkorn |
| Signe Lando | Arlene Henry | |

Friends & Family

| | |
|---|---|
| Susan | (friend of Peter English) |
| William Wright | (father of Josh Wright) |
| Jezebel Wilkinson | (friend of Barry Druschel) |
| Maria Isabel, Jimmy, & Katherine O'Malley | (extended family of Lyn Taylor) |
| Michael Satzow | (friend of Alisa Quint) |
| Barbara Servos | (sister of Sue Talmage) |
| Naomi Talmage | (granddaughter of Sue Talmage) |
| Cindy Chase | (friend of Holly Posner) |
| Maria Bonilla | (friend of the Posner family) |
| Patrick Dowd | (friend of Jamie and Joe Behrendt) |
| Will Kerslake | (son-in-law of Eleanor Prugh) |
| Cindy Sohl | (friend of Shari and David Kinney) |
| Sarah | (daughter of Paula) |
| Michael Daly | (son of Marty Daly) |
| Cathy | (friend of Marian Mancini) |
| Noelle Mullen | (former parishioner) |
| Ellie, baby of Aarti & Rick | (friend of Marian Mancini) |
| Kathy Behrendt | (daughter-in-law of Jamie and Joe Behrendt) |
| Mary Goff | (Sister of Betsy Bennett Smith) |
| Liz Colborn | (relative of Danielle Colborn Wright) |
| Melissa Mikesell | (friend of Danielle Colborn Wright) |
| Joy Burghardt | (friend of Anne Doyle) |
| Vera Grigorian | (former parishioner) |
| Leslie Gay | (friend of Lauren Lamm) |
| Marcia Summers | (former parishioner) |
| Martin Ash | (friend of Alisa Quint) |
| Kayley Jones | (goddaughter of Rick and Marilyn Riede) |

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Episcopal Impact Fund, which works to break the cycle of poverty for families, youth and young adults by creating pathways out of poverty

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Our Vision St. John's is a spiritual home that welcomes all, loves and respects all, and serves all in Christ's name

Our Mission We pray, worship and celebrate the Gospel
Responding to the needs of our communities
While building relationships to support us on our journey of faith

Clergy, Staff & Vestry

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Bishop of California | The Rt. Rev. Austin K. Rios |
| Rector | The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams (<i>crw@stjohnsross.org</i>) |
| Associate Priest | The Rev. Heather Erickson (<i>heather@stjohnsross.org</i>) |
| Assisting Priests | The Rev. Skip Fotch (<i>sfotch@gmail.com</i>) The Rev. James Ward (<i>jimward2@mac.com</i>) |
| Bookkeeper | Henry Auriti (<i>bookkeeper@stjohnsross.org</i>) |
| Children's Ministry | Sandra Pathik (<i>sandra@stjohnsross.org</i>) |
| Stewardship | Lee Steward (<i>stewardship@stjohnsross.org</i>) |
| Choir Section Leaders | Mitch Ashley, Betsy Bennett-Smith, Lee Steward, Jessica House Steward, Paul Thompson |
| Choral Scholar | Ash Jones |
| Church Administrator | Virginia Kosydar (<i>virginia@stjohnsross.org</i>) |
| Music Director | John Karl Hirten (<i>john@stjohnsross.org</i>) |
| Treasurer | Susan Aley (<i>susankaley@gmail.com</i>) |
| Youth Ministry | Mike Lessin |
| Vestry | President: The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams Senior Warden: Lexi Ford Kernot (<i>alexis.ford@gmail.com</i>) Junior Warden: Ethan Dettmer (<i>ethan.dettmer@icloud.com</i>) Michael Hiscott, David Petterson, Donalyn Hellarr, Marian Mancini, Katie McGee, Lauren Lamm, Paul Castro, Gene Cheston, Julie Flynn Siler, Katie Hindman |

MAY

SUN

Worship
8am, 9am, 10am

MON

Women's Bible Discussion
7:30pm (online)

WED

Bible Study
1pm

**2ND
TUES**

Christian Meditation
7:30am

Dinner Church
6pm

**2ND
SAT**

Men's Group Breakfast
8am

**5/3
SUN**

Newcomer Coffee
11:30am

**5/10
SUN**

Youth Confirmands' Sunday
10am

**MAY
28-30**

Men's Group Retreat
@St. Dorothy's Rest

**6/7
SUN**

Summer Kick-off BBQ