

Everyone is welcome to join us via Zoom.us  
06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
Zoom meeting opens at 6:00 PM.

The link to join the meeting is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/231599312?pwd=bHJMT1NZOEtERE1oOTQwdS84NU45Zz09>

For those joining by phone or through an app, you will need meeting ID and password:

**Meeting ID: 231 599 312      Password: 333 333**

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,231599312# US (New York)

+13126266799,,231599312# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 231 599 312      **Password: 333 333**

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abm1zHjEP>

### ***Additional Instructions and Preparation***

- When signing into Zoom liturgy, kindly type your name and where you're joining us from in your caption.
- Please be prepared to share Eucharist with us.
- We invite everyone to have bread and wine / grape juice present if you are able to and feel comfortable doing so. We are called to share in the priesthood of all believers in this Eucharistic celebration.
- Bread recipes are available on our [website Liturgy page](#).
- Mute mic and chat functions help to optimize your experience during the liturgy.

Dignity/New York gathers proudly as a faith community of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Straight Catholics and our friends. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We welcome all to our liturgies regardless of their faith tradition, and all are invited to share in the Body and Blood of Christ at Communion. Our community has both ordained and lay presiders whom we have called forth to lead us during our liturgies.

As a progressive and inclusive Catholic community, we use gender-inclusive language. For example, you will notice that we use "All-loving God" instead of "Our Father" when reciting the Greatest Prayer. We make our best efforts to change our hymnals and printed materials as necessary, but they do not always reflect our use of gender-inclusive language. Please feel free to change any non-inclusive language as you prefer.

Also in the interest of inclusivity, our community has intentionally chosen to use the language of the Mass prior to the revision of the Roman Missal in 2011.

**Gathering Hymn: Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley**

GC 393

1. Jesus walked this lonesome valley;  
He had to walk it by himself.  
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him;  
He had to walk it by himself.
2. We must walk this lonesome valley;  
We have to walk it by ourselves.  
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us;  
We have to walk it by ourselves.
3. You must go and stand your trial;  
You have to stand it by yourself.  
Oh, nobody else can stand it for you;  
You have to stand it by yourself.

Text: American Folk Hymn

**Sign of The Cross & Greeting****Penitential Rite****Opening Prayer**

Word

**Reading I**

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

**Responsory Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God**

GC 31

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

1. God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Shepherd me, O God...

2. Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,  
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,  
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

Shepherd me, O God...

3. Though I should wander the valley of death,  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,

your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

Shepherd me, O God...

4. You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.

Shepherd me, O God...

5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;  
I will dwell in the house of my God for evermore.

Shepherd me, O God...

Text: Psalm 23; Marty Haugen, b.1950, 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

**Reading II**

**Ephesians 5:8-14**

**Acclamation (sung) Return to God**

**GC 389**

Return to God with all your heart, the source of grace and mercy;  
come seek the tender faithfulness of God.

**Gospel**

**John 9:1-41**

Robby Mathis

**Homily**

Robby Mathis

**General Intercessions** Please respond, "God of mercy, hear our prayer."

**Eucharist**

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**Preparation of the Altar & the Gifts**

**Hymn:**

***Lead Me, Guide Me***

**GC 574**

Lead, me, guide me, along the way,  
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r  
to help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
2. Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,  
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

3. I am lost if you take your hand from me,  
I am blind without thy Light to see.  
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris M. Akers, 1922-1995

Tune: Doris M. Akers, 1922-1995; harm. By Richard Smallwood, b. 1948

© 1953, (renewed), arr. © 2011, Doris M. Akers, admin. by Chappell & Co., Inc.

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

*Adapted from Marianne Duddy-Burke's Prayer for Mary of Magdala, 2002*

*Introductory Dialogue as in the standard Order of Liturgy.*

**Presider:** It is right that we give you thanks and praise, loving God. You created this world, that you called good, and invited us to become its stewards. Even when we betrayed your trust, you chose to call us back to yourself, over and over again.

**ALL:** Your Word has been spoken throughout human history through those you called as prophets---some whom we would disregard, but whom you empowered with your passion for our salvation. As we gather around this table, we once again recall your breaking into our world, for our redemption, and your calling forth unlikely prophets to reveal your truth.

**Presider:** In joyful thanksgiving for your constant, faithful love, we join our voices in an unending hymn of praise:

ALL: HOLY, HOLY (GC 291)

**Presider:** In one of your peoples' darkest times, you raised up a light for all to see. While they were persecuted and enslaved by conquerors, you fulfilled a nation's longing for a Messiah who would defeat the powers of oppression. You gave us Jesus, who walked among us, trying to teach us to see as you see, to love as you love, to be as you are.

**ALL:** Jesus listened to the cries of the people, aching for freedom. He healed those bound by cruel disease. He answered those who were burdened with questions. He challenged those enslaved by the Law to understand its true teaching. He fed those who hungered, and awakened deeper thirsts.

**Presider:** He gathered a community around him, close friends with whom he shared all that God made known to him. It was with these closest friends and followers that Jesus shared a final meal.

**ALL:** As we come together in memory of that meal, we pray that God's Spirit will come upon these gifts, that they may become the Body and Blood of Christ. We remember how, on the night before he died, Jesus was at table with those he loved. He took bread and blessed you, God of all creation. He broke the bread, shared it with his friends and said, "Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my Body, which will be given up for you." **(PAUSE)**

**Presider:** When supper was ended

**ALL:** Jesus took a cup of wine, and gave thanks to you, God of all creation. He passed the cup among his friends and said, "Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me." **(PAUSE)**

**Presider:** Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: *(sung)* **Memorial acclamation** **(GC 294)**

**Presider:** We celebrate this feast in memory of Jesus, our brother and Savior. We honor the memory of those who shared his earthly ministry, and became the first bearers of the sacred Christian tradition, which has been passed through the ages and is now entrusted to us. We treasure our faith in the resurrection, and the new life birthed in us.

**ALL:** God Most Holy, keep us faithful to your dreams for us, faithful to your Word alive in us. Help us to hear your voice calling each of us to discipleship and to service in your name. Strengthen us to follow your call, despite sanction, ridicule, and rules that may seem to limit the possibilities before us.

**Presider:** We pray in thanksgiving, O God, that you have brought us into loving community. We are thankful for those who have worked throughout the years to create this community, for those who gather with us today, and for those who will join the circle in days to come. We recall those whom we love who are no longer with us, and pray for the peace of their souls. We pray for all who seek the fullness of your vision here on earth, and for everyone who works for fuller justice in our world and our Church.

**ALL:** May the vision of unity that Jesus put forth to his disciples be fulfilled in our day. Let this meal nourish us to go into the world to heal and serve one another in the service of your Word. All of this we ask through Christ, our Savior

ALL: *(Sung by all)* **(GC 168)**  
Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, for ever and ever. Amen

**The Greatest Prayer** Plainchant  
*(please begin "Our Ever-loving God, who art in Heaven...")*

**The Peace**  
Exchanging a sign of peace, "Peace be with you."

**The Breaking of Bread** **LAMB OF GOD** **GC 308**

**Communion** *Everyone is welcome to receive the Body of Christ.*

**Communion Hymn: Behold the Lamb** **GC 823**

1. Those who were in the dark are thankful for the sunlight;  
We who live, we who die are grateful for this gift, thankful for God's love.  
Behold, behold the Lamb of God. All who eat, all who drink shall live;  
and all, all who dwell in God, shall come to know God's glory!
2. Peaceful now, those whose hearts are blessed with understanding  
Of the wheat, of the wine united with God's word and the love we share.  
Behold, behold the Lamb...
3. Gentle one, Child of God, join with us at this table.  
Bless our lives; nourish all who hunger for this feast; shelter them with peace.  
Behold, behold the Lamb...
4. Lord of all, give us light. Deliver us from evil.  
Make us one; be our shield. Make still the winds that blow; cradle us with love.  
Behold, behold the Lamb...

Text: Martin Willett, 1984, OCP Publications

**Post Communion Meditation** by Toni Colandreo

**Prayer after Communion**

Sending

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**Blessing & Dismissal**

**Hymn:                    *Awake, O Sleeper***

**GC 803**

Awake, O sleeper, arise from death, abandon the shadows of night;  
the wind of the spirit shall be your breath, and Christ will fill you with light.

1. Once you were darkness, once you were lost in the shadows.  
Once you were darkness, now you are children of light.

Awake, O sleeper...

2. Live as God's people, live as God's justice and mercy,  
filled with compassion, filled with the power of love.

Awake, O sleeper...

3. Shine out with the splendor of love, shine with justice and righteousness.  
Sing the music your spirit has heard, the songs of glory and light.

Awake, O sleeper...

Text: Ephesians 5; Marty Haugen, b.1950, 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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## Announcements and Acknowledgement

We encourage those who are Zoom to stay on after the closing song to chat. Those at St. John's, please exit through the common room if you are staying for the social.

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The current Dateline dated February 21, 2023 is [Dateline: Board Nominations | Philly 50th | Jason Steidl Jack Book Chat and more](#)

**Jason Steidl Jack Book Chat.** Jason Steidl Jack has spoken with countless Catholics who are passionate about LGBTQIA+ ministry but feel stymied by a lack of resources. What does community and pastoral care look like in the real world? How do ministers navigate the complexities of church teaching and institutions?

The history of these relationships is hard to recount. The church's mistreatment of LGBTQIA+ Catholics is heartbreaking. Nevertheless, this painful history opens up to hope for the future. Jason's book "LGBTQ Catholic Ministry: Past and Present" amplifies their stories to inspire LGBTQIA+ people and allies today.

[Purchase the book at Paulist Press](#) and join us March 28 at 8:00pm - 9:15pm ET / 7:00pm - 8:15pm CT / 6:00pm - 7:15pm MT / 5:00pm - 6:15pm PT for a discussion and Q&A with Jason about his new book. Registration is free but required by going to [www.dignityusa.org](http://www.dignityusa.org).

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Support Transgender and nonbinary people by going to [DignityUSA.org](http://DignityUSA.org) to sign the beloved by God Declaration.

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Easter is coming.. If you are interested in the Little White Book for Easter, email ([dignitynewyork@gmail.com](mailto:dignitynewyork@gmail.com)) this week by Thursday so we can order the number of books needed.

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Join Team DignityNY (014) at AIDS Walk NY. Help support our team by walking and/or making a contribution We walk from Central Park on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 10 am.

Team page: <https://gmhc.aidswalkny.org/team/489836>

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The Little Black Book for Lent is available either at the back of the church when you enter or by mail. We want everyone in the community to have a book. If you are not able to pick one up at church, we will gladly ship one to you- email [dignitynewyork@gmail.com](mailto:dignitynewyork@gmail.com) with your mailing address and one will be shipped.

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### Lenten Reflection Series

Join us each Wednesday night in Lent starting on February 22, Ash Wednesday, through April 5 at 8pm-9pm ET (7pm-8pm CT/ 6pm-7pm MT/ 5pm-6pm PT) to discuss the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday. Register once to get a reminder each week, and join us for a single session or the entire series! **This series is free but registration is required on [www.dignityusa.org](http://www.dignityusa.org).**

**Each Wednesday from February 22, 2023 to April 5, 2023 8:00pm**

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The 2023 Dignity/New York calendars have arrived. They are available at the welcome table at church. They are courtesy of Provenzano Lanza Funeral Home and Hector Gonzalez.

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Donation letters were sent out. If you did not get a letter and you need it for income tax purposes, see Chris Alberti or email him [treasurer@dignityny.org](mailto:treasurer@dignityny.org).

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**We continue to take measures to keep our community as safe as possible from Covid.** Full vaccination is required for attendance at St. John's, and masks are now optional in the church.

If you test positive for Covid after attending one of our liturgies, you may want to consider notifying the people you were in close contact with, so they may take measures to protect their own health. If you would like assistance in doing this on a confidential basis, please contact any member of the Steering Committee.

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**Steering Committee** meets on the second Tuesday of the month (no meeting in August) at 7:30 pm on Zoom. All are welcome. Meeting ID: 857 2315 4226 Passcode: 697371

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**Liturgy Committee** will meet the second Monday (no July meeting) at 7:30 pm on Zoom. All are welcome. The Liturgy Committee is looking for more committee members. Meeting ID: 952 513 812 Passcode: 998088

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**Come to the Table: Catholic Worship for All - 3rd Sunday** of the month • **10:30 am to 12 Noon.** For more information, email **Patricia Russell** at [ComeToTheTable@DignityNY.org](mailto:ComeToTheTable@DignityNY.org)

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**Defenders caucus** (leather/kink) will have its monthly meeting on Zoom the **third Tuesday** of each month at 8 pm ET. Please let Lewis know if you are interested and you will get the link.

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Please check the **DignityNY YouTube** page or at the bottom of our website for Sunday Gospel and Homilies.

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### **Volunteering at Liturgies**

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer for our liturgy: help open and close the church, reader, coordinator, sacristan or tech person, we are always looking for volunteers. Please let Larry Caputo or Lewis Speaks-Tanner know you are interested. [Volunteer@dignityny.org](mailto:Volunteer@dignityny.org)

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### **Protocols for in-person liturgy**

Face covering and being vaccinated are required for ALL in the church at St. John's. They are optional outside, such as in the courtyard. Reservations are not necessary. In addition, you are invited to exchange a Sign of Peace as you are comfortable doing, but please remain near your seat in order to maintain social distancing, and please respect everyone's comfort level.

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**THE CHOIR** is seeking new members. Speak to our Choir Director, **Norine**, if interested. • Auditions and Choir Practice will be in the choir loft at St. John's ½ hour before liturgy.

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### **The Trevor Project**

*Crisis intervention and mental health services for those ages 13-24*

<http://www.thetrevorproject.org/>

Crisis hotline: 866-488-7386 (for those ages 13-24)

**Trans Lifeline (US) 877 565-8860** [www.translifeline.org](http://www.translifeline.org)

### **National Suicide Prevention Hotline**

*24/7 hotline, staffed by trained individuals, for those in suicidal crisis or emotional distress*

<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

Crisis hotline: 800-273-TALK (8255); 888-628-9454 (en español)



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**The Dignity/New York community enjoys and values your company** in the celebration of our liturgy each week. Donations to Dignity/New York can be made by using the “Donate Now” located on our website or use the link below:

<https://www.dignityusa.org/civicrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=31&chNum=709>

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**We encourage to become a member of DignityUSA (and Dignity/New York).** By joining, you increase DignityUSA’s voice. <https://www.dignityusa.org/join>

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For more information about DignityNY or to view our **calendar**, visit our website **home page** at <http://www.dignityny.org/>

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**To join our electronic announcements (e-Bulletin) list**, send an e mail [DignityNY@dignityny.org](mailto:DignityNY@dignityny.org), or use the link on our home page.

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**To submit items for consideration for distribution** via our electronic announcements postings, send them to [Announcements@DignityNY.org](mailto:Announcements@DignityNY.org)

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**Steering Committee members:** Chris Alberti, Danny Larkin, Tom McLoughlin, James Osbourn, Lewis Speaks-Tanner, Jeff Stone and Daniel Velaquez

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Friend us on **Facebook:** [Dignity New York](#)

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**DIGNITY/NEW YORK IS A SAFE SPACE.** Feel free to greet those around you and to social, remembering to respect every person’s comfort level. If anyone breaches your comfort level, please let a member of the Steering Committee know. (The members of the Steering Committee can be identified by the rainbow-colored name tags they wear).

**PHOTOS AND VIDEOS AT LITURGY.** In keeping with our Safe Space policy, Dignity/New York is a place where privacy is respected. Our policy of many years is that the taking of photos or videos during liturgy or the social is not allowed without permission being given in advance by the Steering Committee. In these cases, the community will be notified in advance, and will be told where and when cameras will and will not be allowed to shoot. Personal or small group photos should be taken or posted to social media only with the permission of each person involved.