



Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2026
10:00 a.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church, where faithful people and seekers have gathered for worship since 1884.

Using this bulletin, you will be able to participate as fully as you feel comfortable. In the Episcopal tradition, we do a lot of moving – standing, bowing, kneeling, sitting. If you are unsure of what to do, just follow the moves of others around you. There's no one way of getting it “right!”

Newcomers and visitors: An accessible bathroom is located through the side door just beyond the Nursery, and there is also one downstairs, which can be reached by the elevator in the same hallway.

Please know that all are invited to Christ's table. If you would prefer not to receive, simply cross your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. Our Eucharistic bread is gluten free.

We believe what is written on the wall of the church on the Isle of Iona:

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.

It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;

you who have been here often

and you who have not been here for a long time or ever before;

you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.

Come, not because the Church invites you;

it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.

Again, welcome. We are glad you are here.

The Rev. Sr. Diane Stier, Rector
and The People of St. John's

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN *We know that Christ is raised and dies no more* (Engelberg) (H 296)



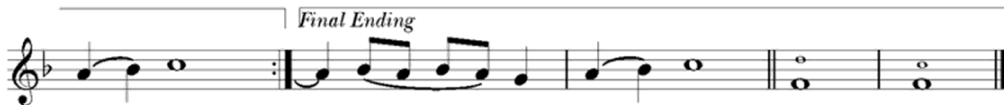
We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. _____
We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. _____
The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. _____
A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows. _____



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; _____
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life. _____
The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. _____
as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. _____



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. _____
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. _____ Al - le -
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. _____
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: _____



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Celebrant
People

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 S 202 *Glory be to God (Canticle 6) (Willan) (S 202)*



1. Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace,
good will towards men. 2. We praise thee, we bless thee,
we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give
thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly
King, God the Fa - ther Al - might - y.
4. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ;
5. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. 6. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the

world, re - ceive our prayer. 7. Thou that sit - test at the
right hand of God the Fa - ther, have mer - cy up - on us.
8. For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord; 9. thou
on - ly, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most
high in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. —
A - - - - - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

The people sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd],

³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.”

⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

PSALM TONE *EASTER SIMPLIFIED ANGLICAN CHANT BY MOONYEEN ALBRECHT*

Easter Simplified Anglican Chant

Moonyeen Albrecht
Arr. E. Vinciguerra



PSALM: Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

¹ I love you, O God, because you have heard the voice of my supplication, * because you have inclined your ear to me whenever I **called** upon you.

² The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took **hold** of me; * I came to grief and **sorrow**.

³ Then I called upon your holy **Name**: *
“O God, I pray you, save my **life**.”

¹⁰ How shall I repay **God** *
for all the good things done for **me**?
¹¹ I will lift up the cup of **salvation** *
and call upon the Name of **God**.
¹² I will fulfill my vows to **God** *
in the presence of all **people**.
¹³ Precious in your sight, O **God**, *
is the death of your **servants**.
¹⁴ O God, I am your **servant**; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my **bonds**.
¹⁵ I will offer you the sacrifice of **thanksgiving** *
and call upon your holy **Name**.
¹⁶ I will fulfill my vows to **you** *
in the presence of all your **people**,
¹⁷ In the courts of God's **house**, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. **Alleluia!**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

A Reading from the First letter of Peter.

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE CREED

All stand.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. *Amen.***

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEACE

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

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Let us with glad hearts offer the fruits of our life and labor to God.

ANTHEM *The Disciples Knew the Lord Jesus* by Mark Schweizer

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.
The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.
One body are we, for though we are many, we share one bread.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Emmaus-bound on Easter day* (Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)



1. Em - ma - us - bound on Ea - ster Day, Two tra - velers
2. When you ap - peared be - side the two, They could not
3. For as you spoke to them God's word, Ex - plain - ing
4. They shared their home; you broke the bread. They saw you,
5. In scrip - ture and at ta - ble, too, O Ris - en



walked a - long the way. They'd once had hope, but hope had
see that it was you; but as they talked and shared their
all they'd seen and heard, They un - der - stood what God had
ris - en from the dead! That mo - ment's grace helped them to
Lord, may we know you. And may your pres - ence give us



died When you, O Lord, were cru - ci - fied.
pain, You gave them hope and joy a - gain.
done And that a new day had be - gun.
see The gift of God's e - ter - ni - ty.
grace To share God's love in ev - ery place.

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

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

SANCTUS S 114 Holy, holy, holy (Willan) (S 114)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
 Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
 - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.
Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.
Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:
“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.


Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.
By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

**Grant that we who share these gifts
may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ’s Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage
of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints,
past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.**

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN*

THE LORD'S PRAYER *S 119 The Lord's Prayer (Traditional) (Plainsong/Douglas)*



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM *S* 167 *The disciples knew the Lord Jesus (Plainsong/Martens)*

This setting is not used in Lent.

Antiphon

Cantor; then All



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep us in everlasting life. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

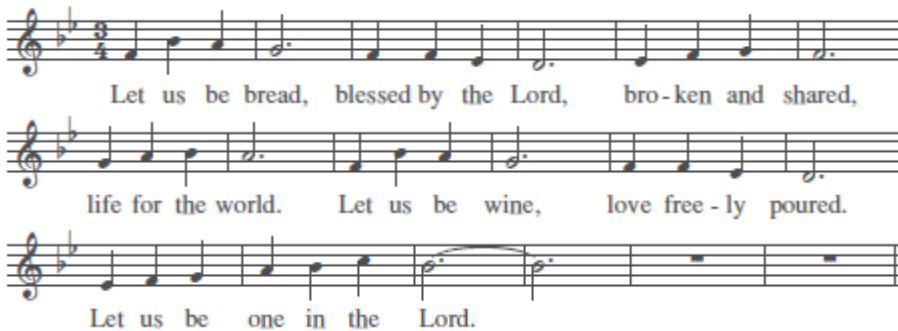
For those remaining at home, a Spiritual Communion is offered. This is a personal devotion that anyone can pray (at any time) to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances prevent them from receiving the elements.

For those worshipping with us from home, we pray together with you:

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your grace and be renewed for your service. *Amen.*

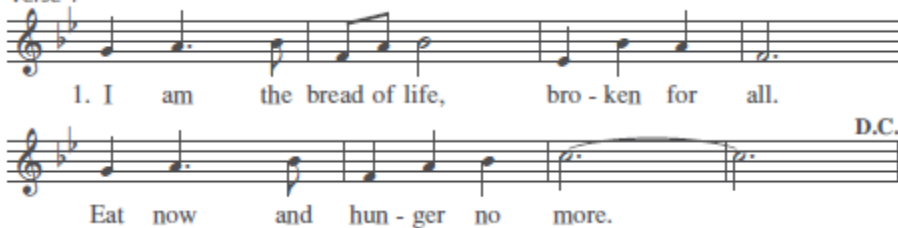
COMMUNION HYMN *Let us be bread (Porter)*

Refrain



Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, bro-ken and shared,
life for the world. Let us be wine, love free - ly poured.
Let us be one in the Lord.

Verse 1



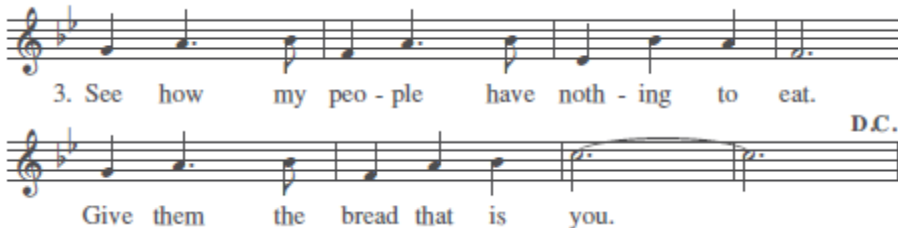
1. I am the bread of life, bro - ken for all. **D.C.**
Eat now and hun - ger no more.

Verse 2



2. You are my friends if you keep my com-mands, **D.C.**
no long - er ser - vants but friends.

Verse 3



3. See how my peo - ple have noth - ing to eat. **D.C.**
Give them the bread that is you.

Verse 4



4. As God has loved me so I have loved you. **D.C.**
Go and live on in my love.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**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

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. *Amen.*

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who creates, redeems, and sanctifies us, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN *He is risen, he is risen (Unser Herrscher)*

1 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with
 2 Come, ye sad and fear - ful - heart - ed, with glad smile and
 *3 Come, with high and ho - ly hymn - ing, hail our Lord's tri -
 4 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened

joy - ful voice: he has burst his three days' pris - on;
 ra - dian brow! Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed;
 um - phant day; not one dark - some cloud is dim - ming
 hea - ven's gate: we are free from sin's dark pris - on,

let the whole wide earth re - joice: death is con - quered,
 Je - sus' woes are o - ver now, and the pas - sion
 yon - der glo - rious morn - ing ray, break - ing o'er the
 ris - en to a ho - lier state; and a bright - er

we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.
 that he bore - sin and pain can vex no more.
 pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.
 Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

DISMISSAL

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

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Altar Flowers: In loving memory of Olivia Geisthardt

Serving today:

Ministers of Music: Choirmaster Eric Vinciguerra, Choir; Organist Ethan Kindle; Nancy Hartshorne, flute; Jim Thurston, native flute

Lector: Brenda Rau **Prayers:** Derek Rivard

Presider: Sr. Diane Stier **Director:** Jim Thurston

Greeters: Laura Cochrane and Sharon Bolton **Acolyte:** Adam Baker

Coffee Hour Hosts: The Davidson Family

St. John's Episcopal Church

206 West Maple Street

Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

989.773.7448

E-mail: saintjohnsmp@gmail.com

Website: www.stjohnsmtpleasantmi.com

The Rev. Sr. Diane Stier, ec, Rector

The Rev. Jessica A Hart, Assistant Priest

Dan Eichinger, Senior Warden

Clancy DeLong, Treasurer

St. John's Episcopal Church is a parish of the
Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes

The Episcopal Church

The Most Rev. Dr. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop

The Worldwide Anglican Communion

The Most Rev. Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury

From riteplanning.com.

Copyright © 2026 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

All music is reprinted with permission. Print and Streaming: OneLicense.net license # A-727547, CCLI #3146185 Prayers are taken or adapted from the Book of Common Prayer, Enriching our Worship, the Book of Occasional Services 2018, and the New Zealand Prayer Book

We pray this week...

For Sean, Presiding Bishop; for Anne, our Assisting Bishop, our diocese and its Standing Committee; for Bonnie, Bishop of Michigan; and for Rayford, Bishop of Northern Michigan.

For Moisés, Bishop of the Dominican Republic

For Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Anglican communion

For Yehiel, Bishop of ELCA.

For The Anglican Church of Melanesia

For Donald, our President; Gretchen, our Governor; and all national leaders

For Diane, our Rector; Jess, our Assistant Priest; Eric, our Choirmaster; Ethan, our Organist

For all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, especially Christi

For our lay ministers, lectors, choir, acolytes, greeters, and hospitality hosts

For all non-parochial clergy and Lutheran pastors serving in our congregations

For all the staff in our parishes

For St. John's Saginaw – Pam Renna, Assistant Priest

For St. James, Albion – Dick Porter, Senior Warden

For the members of St. John's, especially: Sondra, John, Denise, and Mary Stewart

For those on the Prayer Group's list, especially: Lois, Candi T., Patricia, Pamela, and Gary

For all who have died.

St. John's is currently seeking volunteers to help keep our Sunday services welcoming, organized, and running smoothly. Many aspects of our worship each week are made possible only through the generous gift of time and service from members of our parish community. We are deeply grateful for those who already serve and would love to welcome additional volunteers to share in this important ministry.

At this time, we are especially looking for individuals who would be willing to serve in a few key roles during our Sunday services. These include Acolytes, who assist with the progression of the service, Lectors, who read the Scripture lessons, volunteers to lead the Prayers of the People, Greeters, who warmly welcome parishioners and visitors as they arrive, and Coffee Hour Hosts, who help set up and host the fellowship time following the service.

If you would like to learn more about any of these volunteer opportunities or would like to add your name to the volunteer list, please feel free to email saintjohnsmp@gmail.com and/or djdingman@charter.net. Thank you for your willingness to serve and for helping make St. John's such a vibrant and welcoming community!

Join us for a fun afternoon of fellowship and baseball as we head to a Great Lakes Loons game on Sunday, July 12, 2026 at 1:05 PM at Dow Diamond in Midland, MI! This is a wonderful opportunity for members of our church family to spend time together enjoying America's pastime.

We will again be seated in the Northern Lights Pavilion, where tickets are \$27.50 per person. Each ticket includes entrance to the game and a picnic-style meal with your choice of hot dog, hamburger, or pulled pork sandwich, along with unlimited picnic sides such as potato salad and soft drinks. A cash bar will also be available in the pavilion for those who wish to purchase additional beverages.

Whether you're a big baseball fan or simply looking forward to a relaxed afternoon with friends from church, we hope you'll join us for this enjoyable outing. If you would like tickets please

email saintjohnsmp@gmail.com and/or djdingman@charter.net. Final headcount is due by Monday June 15th so please reserve your spot now!



The first satellite meeting of PFLAG GLB will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church on Sunday April 19, 2026 from 2PM - 3:30 PM. We will be in the parish hall on 516 S. Washington Ave. next to the church. PFLAG: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays is an inclusive Ally to the LGBTQ+ community.

Everyone is invited to this advocacy, educational, and supportive safe space gathering. Refreshments will be served while we tune into a Zoom meeting transmitted from the PFLAG GLB location in Saginaw to listen to a featured speaker. Afterwards we will break into groups to discuss the presentation, support each other and explore our concerns.

Please come!

Things to Come

- April 23, 6PM-8PM: *Did you Guys Eat*
Documentary screening
- Mount Pleasant Pride Center Rummage Sale
Donation Drop-off
- May 1, 9AM-4PM: *Menopause on the
Margins Experience*

Detailed information for all items is available in the THIS
WEEK email.

Choral Evensong

Please join us April 19th at 4pm for
the Choral Evensong. Refreshments
will follow!

