St John's Episcopal Church



Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025 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.

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
- •Paypal *PayPal.Me/stjohnsross*
- •Venmo @stjohnsross.or



Altar Flowers Given

Cathy and David Good in loving memory of their parents

To remember or celebrate a loved one with a donation for our altar flowers, please contact Nancy Strauch at 510-237-5021.

cover image

Ulyana Tomkevych (b. 1981,) Ukraine Icon "The Confession of Thomas" Tempera on gessoed wood, 29.5 x 45 cm.

Prelude

Welcome

A few moments of silence follow the welcome announcement.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Opening Hymn

A Song of Wisdom

Hymn to Joy

Sung by all, standing

- Wisdom freed a holy people, blameless, from oppressors' sword, And withstood, with signs and wonders, rulers dread, to serve the Lord. Giving them reward of labors, led the saints along her way, She was blaze of stars in darkness and a shelter through the day.
- Through the Red Sea safely brought them, led along the waters steep, But their enemies she swallowed, hurled them out from chasm deep. For salvation, Lord, the righteous praised your Name with one accord, That the tongues of new-born people uttered Wisdom's mighty word.
- Patricia B. Clark (1938-2009)

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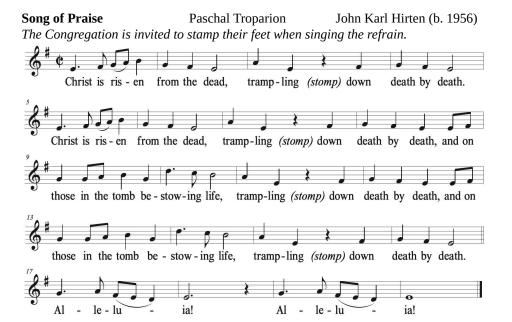
Easter Acclamation

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*.



Collect of the Day

PresiderGod be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

First Reading

Acts 5:27-32

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give

repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 150 Plainsong

Cantor sings the first verse alone, then all join in on the rest.



1 Hallelujah!

Praise God in the holy **tém**ple; * praise God in the firma/ment of **pów**er.

- 2 Praise God for every **míght**y act; * praise God's ex/cellent **gréat**ness.
- 3 Praise God with the blast of the **rám's**-horn; * praise / God with **lyré** and harp.
- 4 Praise God with timbrel and **dánce**; * praise / God with **stríngs** and pipe.
- 5 Praise God with resounding 'cymbals; * praise God with loud-/clanging 'cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has **bréath** * praise our God. / Halle**lú**jah!

Gospel Acclamation

Shepherd's Alleluia

John Karl Hirten

Please stand. All repeat refrain after the cantor each time.





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Verse: You are God, we praise and acclaim you.

You, O God, are eternal.

All creation worships you.

— Refrain

Holy Gospel John 20: 19-31

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples were closed for fear of the Judeans, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you all." And having said this, Jesus showed them his hands and his side, then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Messiah. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you all, just as the Living God has sent me, so I send you all." When Jesus had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit; if you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas, one of the twelve who was called Didymus (the Twin) was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Messiah." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

And within eight days his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, though the doors were shut, and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you all." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Bring your hand and put it in my side and do not doubt, rather believe." Thomas answered him, saying, "My Savior and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Was it because you have seen me that you believed? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

Sermon The Rev. James S. Ward

Please be seated.

A moment of silent reflection follows the sermon.

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 Hymn 203

O sons and daughters

O filii et filiae

Sung by all, seated.

Antiphon Alleluia, alleluia!

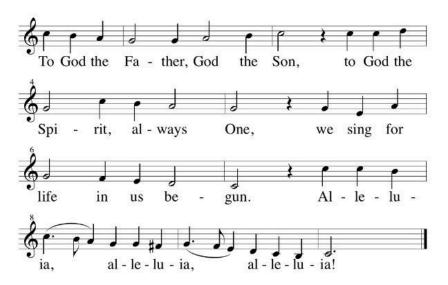
- 1. O sons and daughters, let us sing!
 The King of heaven, the glorious King,
 o'er death and hell rose triumphing. Alleluia!
- That night the apostles met in fear; amidst them came their Lord most dear, and said, "My peace be on all here." Alleluia!
- 3. When Thomas first the tidings heard, how they had seen the risen Lord, he doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia!
- "My pierced side, O Thomas, see; my hands, my feet, I show to thee; not faithless, but believing be." Alleluia!
- No longer Thomas then denied, he saw the feet, the hands, the side; "Thou art my Lord and God," he cried. Alleluia!
- 6. How blest are they who have not seen, and yet whose faith has constant been, for they eternal life shall win. Alleluia!

Antiphon Alleluia, alleluia!

Att. Jean Tisserand (15th cent.)
Tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

The Doxology Gelobt sei Gott

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



Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

PresiderThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.PresiderLift up your hearts.PeopleWe 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:



from the Rose Hill Mass by John Karl Hirten ©1987 by GIA Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-707510

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;

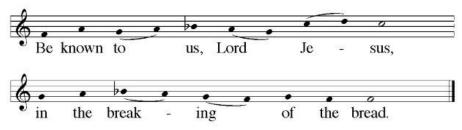
The Presider continues with the Eucharistic Prayer, and then says By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

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 Improvisation on *Puer nobis*

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.

- 1. That Easter day with joy was bright, the sun shone out with fairer light, when, to their longing eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord.
- 3. O Jesus, King of gentleness, do thou thyself our hearts posses that we may give thee all our days the willing tribute of our praise.
- 4. O Lord of all, with us abide in this, our joyful Eastertide; from every weapon death can wield thine own redeemed forever shield.
- 5. All praise, O risen Lord, we give to thee, who dead, again dost live; to God Creator equal praise, and God the Holy Ghost, we raise.

Dismissal

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

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude Fanfare Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

(1823-1881)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Vincent de Paul Bagged Meals: Today Please lend a helping hand in the parish hall during coffee hour this Sunday as we work together to prepare bagged meals for SVdP. Everything needed will be supplied.

A Note from Leslie Limpert, Head of the Altar Guild I hope that you enjoyed the beauty of the floral decorations this Easter weekend! The members of the Altar Guild experienced great joy seeing the excitement of the congregation as it walked into the church. Every year the Altar Guild lovingly prepares the church for Holy Week, including Palm Sunday, Easter Vigil and three Easter Day services. The Altar Guild is funded solely by donations and is not a part of the church's annual operating budget. Its work includes not only supplying the altar flowers but also the wine, candles, maintenance of Eucharistic implements, candelabra, clerical robes and vestments and repair of linens. Please consider making a donation to the Altar Flower fund in remembrance of a loved one or in thanksgiving or celebration of a special occasion. Donations can be made online here. Please note that altar flower donations must be received by the church office no later than the Tuesday before a specific Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

A Pastoral Note St. John's grieves the tremendous loss in last weekend's car accident involving students from Archie Williams High School. The clergy are available for pastoral counseling.

Annual Fund Update We are so grateful for all members of St. John's that made a pledge or gift during the 2025 Annual Fund - Blessed to Be Generous - campaign. We received 90% (945k, with 100k to go) of our \$1,045,000.00 goal. A heartfelt thanks to all 227 households who have made a pledge or gift. Thank you for your generous support!

Volunteers Needed for Outreach Dinner: April 29 St. John's is hosting the next Street Chaplaincy dinner on Tuesday, April 29 at 1st Presbyterian Church, San Rafael. This is an opportunity for us to serve and break bread with our Marin neighbors who are unhoused or food insecure. Food preparation begins at 3pm; dinner served in two shifts beginning at 5pm; clean-up completed by 8pm. Twenty volunteers in total needed. To participate, please contact parishioner Paul Clark at 415.454.863.

Knit and Natter: Sundays Calling all knitters and crocheters to a fun and casual gathering for the next few Sundays at the church from 10am to noon. Bring your own project, learn about the St. John's 'Hat for the Unhoused' program, or simply come to natter for a while. All are welcome. For more information, contact parishioner Jane Heath at 415.265.6223

Community Conversations with MOC: May 6 How do you organize meaningful conversations in your congregation, nonprofit organization, or union? How do you go beyond "the usual suspects" and engage new people, young families, and others you want to be in conversation with? Marin Organizing Committee is offering a Strategy Session on Tuesday, May 6, 6:30-8:30pm, at St. John's. All are invited to attend. For more information please contact Margaret Partlow, Karen Petterson, or Rev. Heather.

Women's Group Breakfast: May 10 St. John's women are invited to gather at Creekside Pizza on Saturday, May 10 from 8:30-10:30am for a hands-on cooking experience and communal meal. Free-will donations accepted with half of the proceeds donated to the Marin Humane Society. Gathering limited 20. Please RSVP to parishioner Claire Comins.

Sign-up for Men's Retreat: May 15-17 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 15 and concludes at noon on Saturday, May 17, 2025. Enjoy good discussion, good food, good fellowship and community in a tranquil environment. Rev. Skip Fotch and Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams will help guide our discussion program.

Choral Evensong Service: May 18: All are invited to the St. John's Choral Evensong service on Sunday, May 18, at 4pm. This beautiful, meditative, service is based on traditional practice dating back to the 16th Century, but will feature modern settings of the canticles by John Karl Hirten, plus a set of Preces and Responses by Maxine Thevenot as well as other pieces.

Parish BBQ on Pentecost: June 8 All are invited to a parish BBQ on the lawn after the 10am service on Sunday, June 8 to celebrate both the Feast of Pentecost and to kick-off the summer at St. John's. A complimentary lunch is provided by our Men's Group. A bounce house will be available for children, youth and adventurous adults. Bring a friend!

In Person Bible Study: Tuesday Evening 7pm & Wednesday afternoon 1pm Since the beginning of 2024, a study group, led by parishioner Ethan Dettmer has been meeting to study and discuss the Bible. We have just begun a deep dive on where the Bible came from, what's in it, and why it is so important to us today. The conversations have been moving, lively, and thought-provoking. In response to requests from those not able to attend during the day, a second weekly session on Tuesday evenings at 7pm has begun. The syllabus for both daytime and evening meetings will be the same. If you are interested in participating or learning more, please contact Ethan Dettmer.

Christian Classics Lite: Thursdays at 11am We are in the midst of our third series, focusing on the virtuous life. If you're curious about what happens in Christian Classics Lite, you are always welcome to drop in and check it out without committing to the whole series. We meet on Thursdays at 11am in the youth room. For more information, contact David Kinney or Rev. Heather.

Huge Thanks to Everyone! Our Easter Egg Hunt was a big hit—and it's all thanks to YOU! We're so grateful for all the kids and families who came out and joined the fun. A special thank you to everyone who helped behind the scenes (especially Karishma) with prepping and hiding eggs. We're truly blessed for this amazing community.

Children's Sunday School at 10AM This Sunday, we'll have two classes:

- Class Hope (Nursery–2nd Grade) will meet in the Fireside Room
- Class Faith (3rd-5th Grade) will meet in the Garden Room

Sunday Morning Youth Group We meet during the 10 am service – 6th-12th grade in the Youth Room. Please join us for good chats!

Listening and Visioning for the Future What are your hopes and dreams for the future of Youth Ministry at St. John's? What is important to you? We would love to hear from parents of youth. Please share thoughts with Rev. Heather (text or email or find her on a Sunday) or Katie McGee.

Instagram Follow the St. John's Youth Group at st. johnsrossyouth

Music Notes The Second Sunday of Easter is known in liturgical circles as "Low Sunday." The origin of the name is not known, but it could be that it is meant to distinguish today from Easter Day, "Low" Sunday being the opposite of the "highest" day of the year, Easter Day. It also has other liturgical names, such as *Domenica in albis depositis*, which roughly translates to "Sunday when white robes are cast aside," referring to the newly baptized, who traditionally would wear white robes before their baptisms after which, as full-fledged Christians, the robes are cast aside. Another name is *Pasche clausum*, which refers to the close of the Easter Octave (eight days), and *Domenica Quasimodo*, from the opening rite (or *Introit*) " "Quasi modo geniti infantes, rationabile, sine dolo lac concupiscite," which translates to (again roughly) "Like newborn babies [you should] desire the milk of reason without guile" (1 Peter 2.2). But "Low Sunday" is easily the most convenient designation!

The word "troparion" comes from the Greek *tropos* meaning a "way" or a "manner." *Tropos* is also the basis of our modern English word "trope," which could be taken to mean something that is predictable or thematic. In the Greek Orthodox tradition, a troparion is any sort of refrain or short hymn which is sung. The "Paschal Troparion" is an ancient text which is sung at Easter in the orthodox tradition. The idea of "stomping" at the Troparion is *not* a traditional practice, but is done in some contemporary communities, like St. John's.

The text "O filii et filiae" (O sons and daughters) dates from the latter part of the Middle Ages and is attributed to either a French Franciscan Friar named Jean Tisserand, or a Dominican bishop named Jehan Tisserand. The original title was "L'aleluya du jour des Pasques." It was unlikely to have been used in the liturgy at the time, as it is more of a devotional Easter carol. It became known in its English form in the mid 1700's, appearing in prayer books. The tune is of French origin, probably from the mid 1600's, and there has been some debate as to whether it was originally sung in a chant-like style or a more rhythmic folk style.

FAITH-FILLED GATHERINGS

SUNDAY

8am: Worship

9am: Family Worship

10am:

Worship (in-person & live stream)

Children's Sunday School Morning Youth Group

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

7:30am: Christian Meditation (in-person and online)

7pm: Bible Study w/Ethan Dettmer

2nd TUESDAYS of the Month

6pm: Dinner Church in the Parish Hall (returning in the fall)

WEDNESDAY

1pm: Bible Study w/Ethan Dettmer

THURSDAY

11am: Christian Classics Lite w/David Kinnev

2nd SATURDAYS of the Month

8am: Men's Group

SERVING TODAY

(Sunday Worship Prep)

Leslie Limpert Altar Guild Nancy Strauch Altar Guild Judy Valentine Altar Guild Beverly Wynn Altar Guild

Kegan Donlan Communion Bread Baker

Connie Granger Flower Angel

8:00 AM (Worship)

The Rev. Heather Erickson Clergy - Presider
The Rev. Jim Ward Clergy - Preacher

Joel Belway Usher

9:00 AM (Family Worship)

The Rev. Heather Erickson Clergy - Presider
The Rev. Heather Erickson Clergy - Preacher

10:00 AM (Children's Sunday School)

Connie Granger Sunday School - Class Hope: Teacher Lexi Kernot Sunday School - Class Faith: Teacher

Sun, Apr 27, 10:00 AM - Second Sunday of Easter (Worship)

The Rev. Skip Fotch
The Rev. Jim Ward
Clergy - Presider
Clergy - Preacher
Clergy - Assisting

Jeanette Anspacher EM
Bill Kaufman EM
Anne Doyle Lector
open A/V - Audio
John Summerlin A/V - Video

Virginia Cunningham Usher Harry Harelik Usher

PRAYER LIST

Members

Marty Daly

Mary Kay Dolejsi

Ralph Peer

Jack Burns

Joe Behrendt

Bill See

Betty Enemark

Travis Wright

The Rev. Jan West

JT Sweet

Carol Hughes

Katie Hoertkorn

Friends & Family

Leslie Gay (friend of Lauren Lamm)
Peter Hort (friend of Rev. Bart Sargeant)
Amy Davis (friend of Lexi Ford Kernot)
Leslie Gay (friend of Lauren Lamm)

Molly (friend of John Hirten's daughter)
Marcia Summers (friend of Virginia Cunningham)
Amanda McIntyre (friend of Nancy Saunders)
Martin Ash (friend of Alisa Quint)

Kayley Jones (goddaughter of Rick and Marilyn Riede)

Rob Staley (friend of Anne Doyle)
Ariel Leslie (friend of Joannie Ericson)
Joanne Aguilar Millan (sister of Martin Coyne)

Adam Nicolopoulos (friend of the Rankin-Williams)
Tanya Jaspering (daughter of Rev. Jan Heglund)

In Death

The students from Archie Williams High School who died in a car crash, for their families and friends

Pope Francis

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. Mark's, Berkeley; St. Mark's, Palo Alto; and St. Mark's, Crockett, whose feast day is Saint Mark the Evangelist (April 25)

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
Associate Priest The Rev. Heather Erickson

Assisting Priests The Rev. Skip Fotch, the Rev. Jan West,

the Rev. James Ward

Bookkeeper Henry Auriti
Dir. of Children's Ministry Sandra Pathik
Dir. of Stewardship Lee Steward

Choir Section Leaders Mitch Ashley, Betsy Bennett-Smith, Lee Steward, Jessica House Steward,

Paul Thompson, Ash Jones (Choral Scholar),

Nora Steward (Choral Scholar)

Church Administrator Virginia Kosydar Music Director John Karl Hirten Youth Minister Maggie Doyle Treasurer Susan Aley

Vestry Pres.: The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams

Senior Warden: David Kinney Junior Warden: Lexi Ford Kernot

Claire Comins, Donalyn Hellar, Alice Pidgeon,

Michael Hiscott, David Petterson,

Lauren Tucker, Ethan Dettmer, Marian Mancini,

Katie McGee, Lauren Lamm