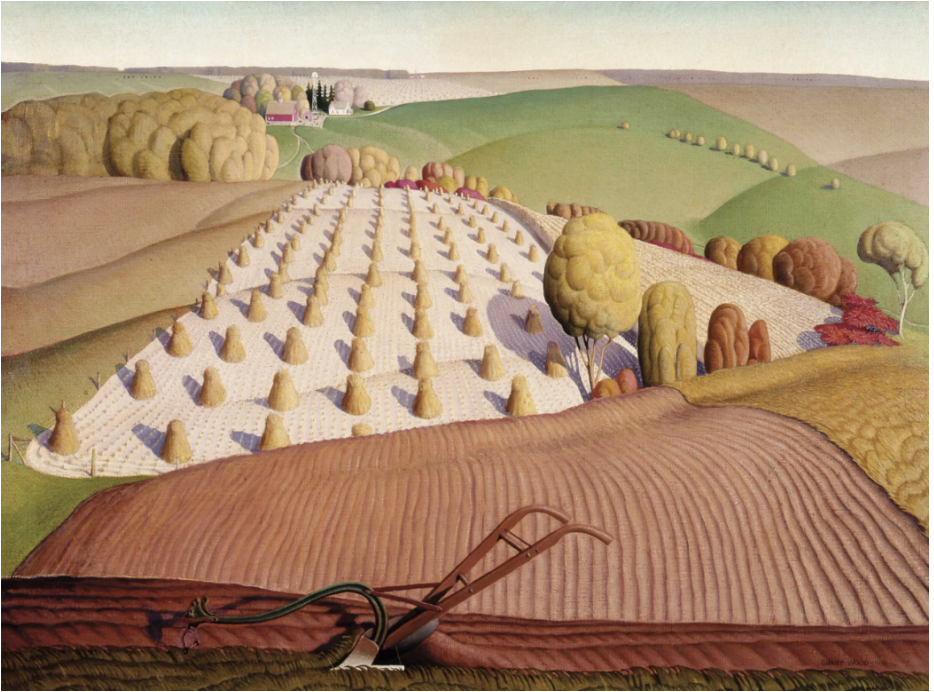


St John's Episcopal Church



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 11

July 19, 2026, 10am

Come hydrate your soul at St John's:

A community of connections across generations.

Connect to God through worship, service,
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14 Lagunitas Road
PO Box 217
Ross, California 94957

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

Welcome - we are grateful for your presence! If this is your first time here, or your first time back in a while, we invite you to fill out a Welcome Card found in the pews (or use the qr code) and give it to an usher or priest. As we worship today, you are invited to pray aloud with us, or join silently; to sing along, or enjoy listening.

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

Altar Flowers Given By

Jo Burnett

In memory of her mother, Mildred Wood

FAITH-FILLED GATHERINGS

Sunday

8am: Worship (resumes September 20)

9am: Intergenerational Family Worship

10am:

Worship w/choir (in-person & livestream)

Sunday School for children & youth

Monday

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



INFORMATION



ALTAR FLOWERS



GIVE

Cover Image

‘Fall Plowing’

Painting by Grant Wood, American (1891-1942),

Painted in 1931,

Prelude

Welcome

A few moments of silence follow the welcome announcement.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Hymn 372

Praise to the living God

Leoni

Sung by all, standing

- 1 Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name
who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.
The one eternal God ere aught that now appears:
the first, the last, beyond all thought his timeless years!
- 2 Formless, all lovely forms declare his loveliness;
holy, no holiness of earth can his express.
Lo, he is Lord of all. Creation speaks his praise,
and everywhere above, below, his will obeys.
- 3 His Spirit floweth free, high surging where it will:
in prophet's word he spake of old: he speaketh still.
Established is his law, and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart, on sea, on land.
- 4 Eternal life hath he implanted in the soul;
his love shall be our strength and stay while ages roll.
Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name
who was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same.

— Medieval Jewish Liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928)
and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926)

Opening Acclamation

<i>Presider</i>	Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
<i>People</i>	Glory to God for ever and ever.

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

Jubilate Deo

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

Sung by all. May be sung as a round.**Collect of the Day***Presider* God be with you.*People* And also with you.*Presider* Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking; Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading**Isaiah 44:6-8***Please be seated.*

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

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

Congregation sings the EVEN verses with the choir



11 Teach me your way, O God, and I will walk in your **trúth**; *
knit my heart to you that / I may **féar** your Name.

12 I will thank you, my God, with **áll** my heart, *
and glorify your / Name for **évermore**.

13 For great is your love **towárd** me; *
you have delivered me from the / nether**mó**st Pit.

14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of the violent **séeks** my life; *
they have not set / you **befóre** their eyes.

15 But you, O God, are gracious and full of **compá**ssion, *
slow to anger, and full of / kindness **ánd** truth.

16 Turn to me and have mercy up**ón** me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child / of your **hánd**maid.

All sing

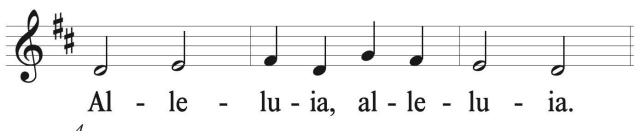
17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and **bé** ashamed; *
because you, O God, have helped me and / gave me **cóm**fort.

Gospel Acclamation

Ross Alleluia No. 2

John Karl Hirten

Sung by all. Cantor will sing the first line, then all continue singing or repeat the first line, ad libitum.



Cantor will sing a verse, after which all repeat the Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Heather Erickson

A moment of silent reflection follows the Sermon.

Creed Sung by all, standing

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
5 fied; tak-en from the cross, was bur-ied— True life
6 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
8 there had tru-ly died. I be-lieve that on the third day Christ was
9 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
12 raised up from the grave, then as-cend-ed to God's
13 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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The Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek Truth.

For all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay ministers;
For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation...and for the prayers sent in by text...Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
We will exalt you, O God our Ruler;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
A moment of silence is kept.

Minister and People
God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution

The presider offers God's absolution.
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Peace

Announcements

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

Thou visitest the earth

Maurice Greene (1696-1755)

Ash Jones, *solo*

Thou visitest the earth and blessest it, and crownest the year with thy goodness.

The Doxology

Old Hundredth

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

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

God, all crea tures here be - low; praise God a-bove, ye

heaven-ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

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 (S-129 in the Hymnal)

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Sung by all.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blest is the One who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It includes lyrics for the Sanctus. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Blest is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, as well as rests and bar lines. There are also some decorative elements like a small '4' above the second staff and a small '6' above the third staff.

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 (S-152)
 (1933-1991)

Ambrosian Chant, adapt. Mason Martens

Choir Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All



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 wish to receive from the chalice please sip directly from the cup and do not dip the bread into the wine, as all evidence suggests that this creates a greater risk of transmitting infection. 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

Creator of the stars of night

Sarum Plainsong

Sung by the Drop-in Choir

- 1 Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,
 O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.
- 2 In sorrow that the ancient curse should doom to death a universe,
 you came, O Savior, to set free your own in glorious liberty.
- 3 When this old world drew on toward night, you came, but not in splendor bright,
 not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blameless mother mild.
- 4 At your great name, O Jesus now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
 all things on earth with one accord, like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

— Latin, 9th C.

Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

Loving God,

we give you thanks

for restoring us in your image

and nourishing us with spiritual food

in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Now send us forth

a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;

that we may proclaim your love to the world

and continue 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 365

Come thou, Almighty King

Moscow

Sung by all.

- 1 Come, thou almighty King,
 help us thy Name to sing,
 help us to praise.
 Father whose love unknown
 all things created own,
 build in our hearts thy throne,
 Ancient of Days.
- 2 Come, thou incarnate Word,
 by heaven and earth adored;
 our prayer attend:
 come, and thy people bless;
 come, give thy word success;
 stablish thy righteousness,

- Savior and friend.
- 3 Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour:
thou, who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.
- 4 To Thee, great One in Three,
the highest praises be,
hence evermore;
thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.

— Anon., ca. 1757, alt.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

**** 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 treats in the parish hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Many hands make light work. Volunteers needed for Rev. Chris' farewell dinner party. August 28. There are many opportunities on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to support Rev. Chris' final weekend as rector of St. John's. Rest assured, there will be plenty of time to properly enjoy the festivities. Go to stjohnsross.org to sign up.

Do you have a favorite photo of you and Rev. Chris? Ahead of the retirement of our rector, the Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams, a commemorative photo album of Rev. Chris' twenty-three year ministry at St. John's is being prepared. If you have a favorite photo or two (or three) of you or your family with Rev. Chris, or a photo of a very special event you attended with Rev. Chris, please take a moment to send them to the church office for inclusion in the album. Please include in your email the approximate date, subject or event, and names of people featured in the photo. You may also include a very brief best wishes message to Rev. Chris to be put under the photo. Note: Some of these photos (not messages) may be included in a slide show presented at Rev. Chris' farewell dinner. If you would prefer to have your photos be kept private just for Rev. Chris, please indicate. The photos are needed ASAP since Rev. Chris' last day will be here before you know it. Email photos to Virginia Kosydar, Church Administrator, info@stjohnsross.org

Christian Meditation: July 28 All are invited to gather in the chapel on Tuesday, July 28 at 7:30am for prayer and Christian meditation. Also known as contemplative prayer, meditation seeks God in the stillness and silence, beyond word and thought. The group meets in-person and via Zoom. For more information, please email parishioner Melinda Ching.

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.

Women Dining for Agape Farmhands: August 12 Please join us on Wednesday, August 12 from 6-8pm for an evening of fun and fellowship in the parish hall, as we gather to support our programs at Agape Farm in Malawi, Africa. Bring a casserole, or salad, to share (pot-luck style). We will provide the beverages. There will be plenty of food so feel free to bring a woman friend(s). There will be a brief presentation sharing exciting updates on all the progress being made at Agape. To support these programs, we ask that you consider a donation equivalent to what you might spend going out for dinner. RSVP by August 7.

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. Online signup here.

Grief Ritual: November 1 All are invited to attend a Grief Ritual at St. John's on Sunday, November 1 on All Saints Day. The hours are 12:30pm - 3:30pm. Parishioner Dave Calhoun will facilitate this opportunity to remember that which and those whom we have lost. Early registrations are welcome – please email Dave to reserve a spot or to find out more.

St. John's Women's Retreat: April 29-May 1, 2027 Please save the date for our 2027 Women's Retreat at St. Dorothy's Rest. More information and sign-ups will be coming soon.

Summer Sunday School. We invite all children from preschool to 5th grade to join us for a summer of discovering who God is, exploring His world, and growing in faith through hands-on experiences. We meet in the Fireside Room at 10AM. After the class, the kids will join their parents for holy communion in the church.

Volunteers Needed. Extra hands are needed this summer to help our kids learn, explore, and grow in faith. Interested? You can email the Children's Ministry Director for more information.

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 and Mike for a conversation about the question of the week. For more information, please contact Rev. Heather.

Music Notes Maurice Greene started out as a choirboy at St. Paul's Cathedral singing for Jeremiah Clarke. He also studied organ there and took over the post of organist there in 1718. With the death of William Croft in 1727, Greene became organist at the Chapel Royal, and in 1730 he became Professor of Music at Cambridge University. In 1735 he was appointed Master of the King's Musick. At his death, Greene was working on the compilation Cathedral Music, which his student and successor as Master of the King's Musick, William Boyce, was to complete. Many items from that collection are still used in Anglican services today.

It's no accident that Greene's style owes a lot to Henry Purcell, as he knew two of Purcell's brothers who were accomplished musicians, and to Georg Friderick Handel. Greene was such an admirer of Handel's talents as an organist that, according to historian Charles Burney, he had "condescended to become [Handel's] bellows-blower when he went to St. Paul's to play on the organ ... Handel, after three o'clock prayers, used frequently to get himself and young Greene locked up in the church together, and in summer often stript unto his shirt, and played till eight or nine o'clock at night."

It may be a surprise to some that the music and texts found in hymnals are heavily influenced by editorial committees, as shown in our music for the Offering this week. The ancient Latin hymn *Conditor alme siderum* is the source for the music and text which is thought to date from the 9th century. An English version first appeared in a

translation 1940 Episcopal Hymnal by the great hymn writer John Mason Neale. The fourth stanza is a reference to Paul's Letter to the Phillipians, chapter 2, vs. 10-11 and is not part of the original Latin text but was inserted by Neale. However the version heard this week is the most contemporary one and was taken from *Hymnal 1982*. Neale's text was substantially altered by the editors for literary reasons, although some of it remains, which is why there is no acknowledgement of Neale below the entry in the hymnal.

SERVING TODAY

(Worship Prep)

Jo Burnett	Altar Guild
Susan Edwards	Altar Guild
Patty Griffith*	Altar Guild
Leslie Ross	Altar Guild
Jennifer Bedford	Communion Bread Baker
Connie Granger	Flower Angel

Sun, 9:00 AM (Family Worship)

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

Sun, 10:00 AM (Sunday School)

Sandra Pathik	Sunday School - Teacher
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Sun, 10:00 AM (Worship w/Choir)

Brian Wittenkeller	A/V - Audio
John Summerlin	A/V - Video
The Rev. Skip Fotch	Clergy - Presider
The Rev. Heather Erickson	Clergy - Preacher
Connie Granger	Eucharistic Minister
Marian Mancini	Eucharistic Minister
Margaret Partlow	Lector
Steve Allen	Usher
Tim McClean	Usher

Sun, 11:00 AM (Coffee Hour)

Holly Kaufman*	Goodies Supplier
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PRAYER LIST

Members

Rosemary Morgan
Melinda Booth
Ted Anspacher
Travis Wright
The Rev. Jan West
JT Sweet
Carol Hughes
Signe Lando

Friends & Family

Joel Hurwitz	(neighbor of John Hirten)
Ralph Gresham	(friend of Marian & Jay Mancini)
Anne Cain	(neighbor of Shari and David Kinney)
Cindy Chase	(friend of Holly Posner)
Maria Bonilla	(friend of the Posners)
Marlene Anderson	(friend of LaTonya Sumners)
Susan	(friend of Peter English)
Patrick Dowd	(friend of Jamie and Joe Behrendt)
Michael Daly	(son of Marty Daly)
Kathy Behrendt	(daughter-in-law of Jamie and Joe Behrendt)
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)

In Death

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Those working in prison ministries across the diocese - in county jails, federal prisons,
and with those on death row

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 The Rev. James Ward
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
Youth Ministry	Mike Lessin, Robert McGee
Vestry	President: The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams Senior Warden: Lexi Ford Kernot Junior Warden: Paul Castro Michael Hiscott, David Petterson, Donalyn Hellar, Marian Mancini, Katie McGee, Lauren Lamm, Gene Cheston, Julie Flynn Siler, Katie Hindman (<i>vestry@stjohnsross.org</i>)



Rev. Chris Farewell Party: August 29 The Wardens and Vestry invite you to a farewell dinner party to celebrate the more than twenty-three year ministry of our rector and his wife, the Rev. Chris and Amy Rankin-Williams. Rev. Chris and Amy, along with their family have made a lasting impact on the faith community of St. John's, Ross. The evening will be filled with toasts and remembrances, laughter and tears, AND a delicious buffet dinner.

What: Farewell Dinner Party

When: Saturday, August 29 beginning with cocktails at 5:30pm (Cocktail attire)

RSVP by August 8: Go to stjohnsross.org

Purse for the Rector It has been an Episcopal Church tradition for a congregation to offer a retiring rector a "purse." This is a financial acknowledgement of their leadership and contributions to the church community. So with Rev. Chris' retirement soon upon us, the Vestry invites you to join many of us in offering him this gift of thanks for his long tenure of caring ministry. Please note that contributions to the purse are not tax deductible. It is preferred that your contribution be made directly to Rev. Chris rather than through St. John's so that your gift does not constitute part of Rev. Chris' compensation which is subject to taxation and pension benefits. This coming Sunday, Junior Warden, Paul Castro, will be attending the 9am and 10am services to share this invitation and will be available to answer your questions.

If you would like to contribute to "Rev. Chris' purse" you can do so in one of the following ways:

- **(Preferred)** Make a check out to Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams. Give it directly to Rev. Chris or send it to the church office.
- Make a check out to St. John's Church with a memo "Rev. Chris' Purse." Put the check in the Sunday plate or send it to the church office.
- Make a gift online through St. John's, stjohnsross.org/give by August 10. Go to "other online giving" and select "Give to Purse: Rector" from the pull-down menu.