# St John's Episcopal Church



## Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 28

November 15, 2026, 10am

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Come hydrate your soul at St John's:
A community of connections across generations.
Connect to God through worship, service,
real life and tradition.

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14 Lagunitas Road
PO Box 217
Ross, California 94957

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

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

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

## ALTAR FLOWERS GIVEN

To the Glory of God

## FAITH-FILLED GATHERINGS

**Sunday**
8am: Worship
9am: Intergenerational Family Worship
10am:
Worship (in-person & live stream)
Children's Sunday School
Morning Youth Group

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

**Tuesday *(once a month)***
7:30am: Christian meditation (12/8)
6pm: Dinner Church

**Wednesday**
1pm: Bible Study

**Thursday**
11am: Christian Classics Lite
6:30pm: Bible Study

**Saturday *(once a month)***
8am: Men's Group

INFORMATION ALTAR FLOWERS GIVE

**cover image**
‘He Hid His Lord's Money.’ Creation Date ca. 1860-1900. Stained glass. Church of St. Edward, King and Martyr, Corfe Castle, United Kingdom

**Prelude**

**Welcome**
*A few moments of silence follow the welcome announcement.*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**Processional Hymn 655** O Jesus, I have promised *Nyland*
*Sung by all, standing*

1 O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end:
be thou for ever near me,
my Teacher and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

2 O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

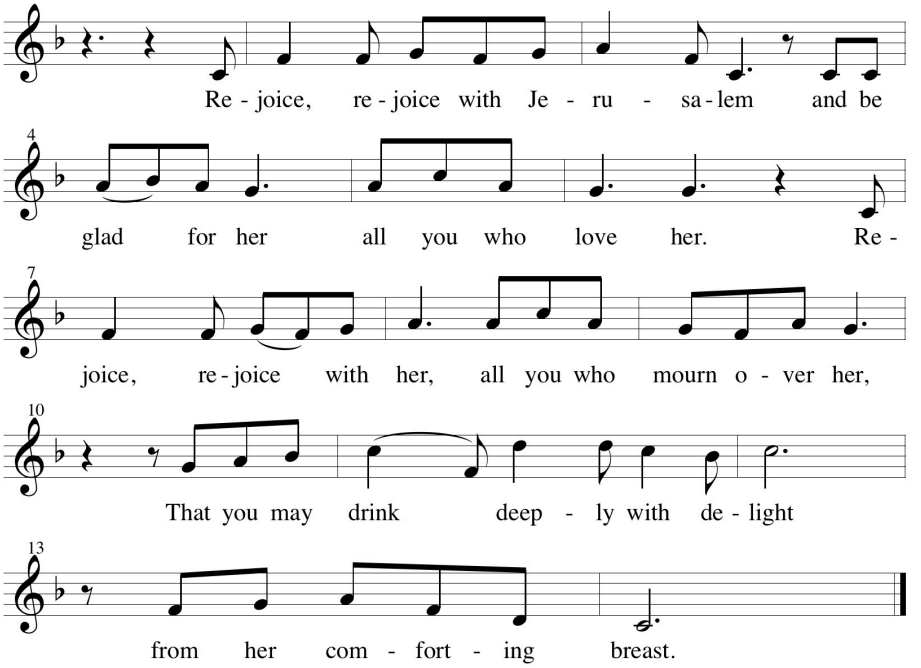
3 O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Teacher and my friend.

— John Ernest Bode (1816-1874)

**Opening Acclamation**
*Presider* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
*People* **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** A Song of Jerusalem Our Mother John Karl Hirten (b. 1956)
*Repeat refrain after the choir the first time.*




*Choir:*
1. "I will extend peace like a river, the wealth of nations like an overflowing stream. You shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and you shall nestle in her lap." — *Refrain*

2. "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.
You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice, you shall flourish like the grass of the fields." — *Refrain*

**Collect of the Day**
*Presider* God be with you.
*People* **And also with you.**
*Presider* Let us pray.
Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading** *Please be seated.* **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

**Psalm 90 (Hymn 680)** O God, our help in ages past *St. Anne*
*Sung by all. Please remain seated.*

1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

2 Under the shadow of thy throne,
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

3 Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

4 A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly, forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

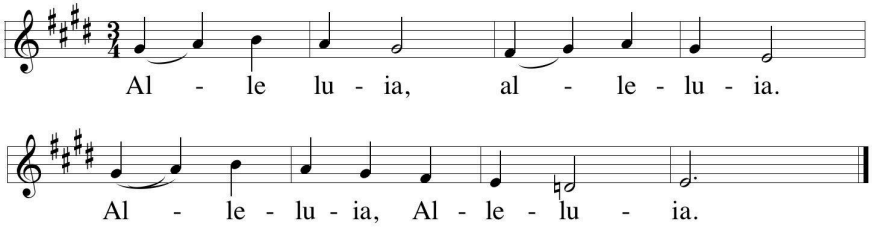
6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

—Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

*Please stand.*

**Gospel Acclamation** Shepherds' Alleluia John Karl Hirten

*All repeat refrain after the choir each time.*




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*The choir sings a verse, then all sing refrain.*

**Holy Gospel** **Matthew 25:14-30**

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"
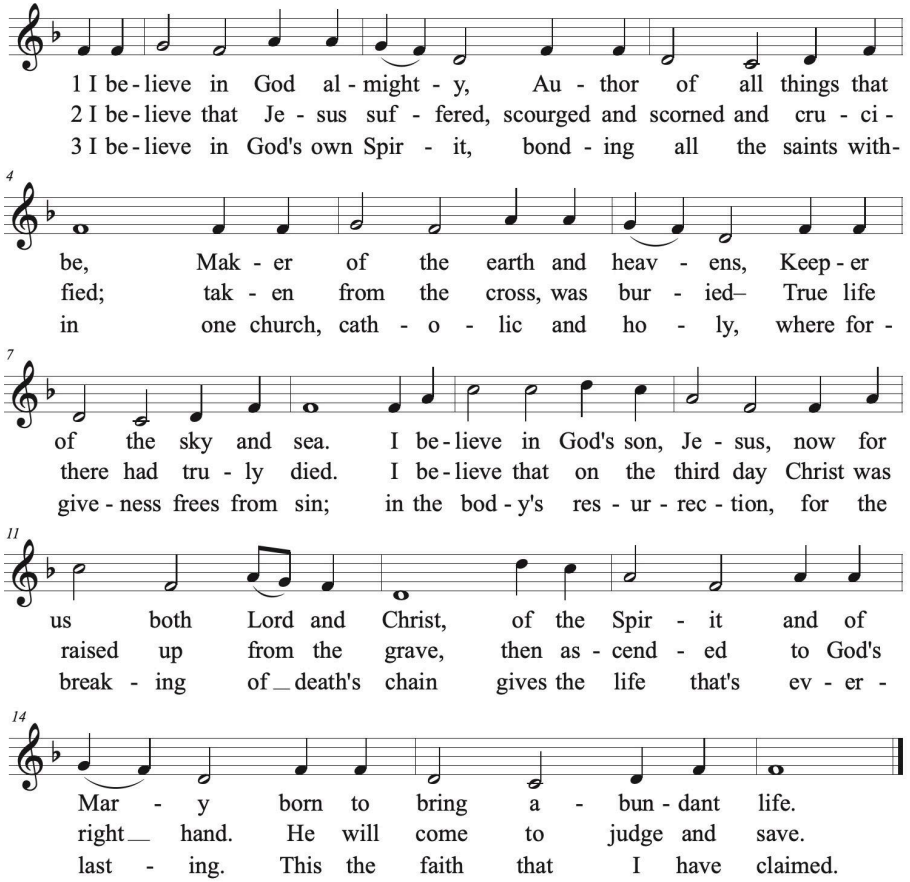
*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon** The Rev. Jane Soyster Gould

*A moment of silent reflection follows the Sermon.*

**Creed** *Sung by all, standing*




Words by Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993)
Music: *Beach Spring,* Traditional American
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**The Prayers of the People**

Grant, All Loving God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. God of mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. God of love: **Hear our prayer**.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. God of mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as Christ loves us. God of love: **Hear our prayer**.

Let us offer our thanksgivings for God's goodness in our lives and in the world. God of mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially...; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We offer the prayers sent by text…; God of love: **Hear our prayer**.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. God of mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

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**
*The Ministers and the People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**Announcements**

## HOLY COMMUNION

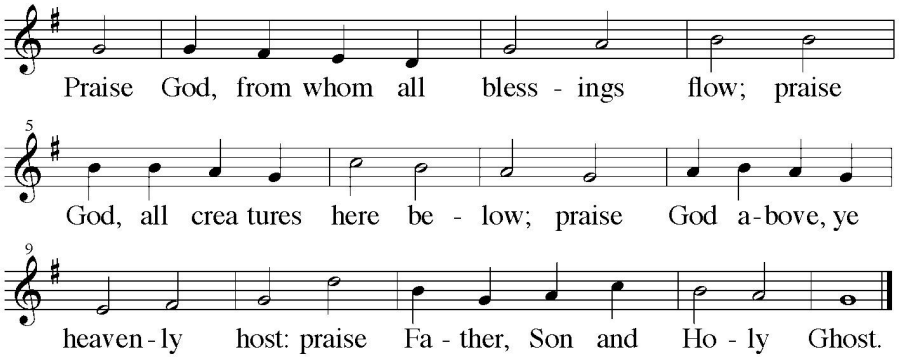
**Offertory & Collection**
*The ushers take a collection during the offertory anthem. We rely on the financial contributions of members and visitors and ask for your generous support. Ways of giving to St. John's are listed on page 2 of the bulletin.*

**Offertory Music** O How Amiable Ralph Vaughan Williams
*Sung by the Choir* (1872-1958)

O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and a longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even the altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be always praising thee.
The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handywork, O prosper thou our handywork.
O God our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

— Psalm 84 and Psalm 90

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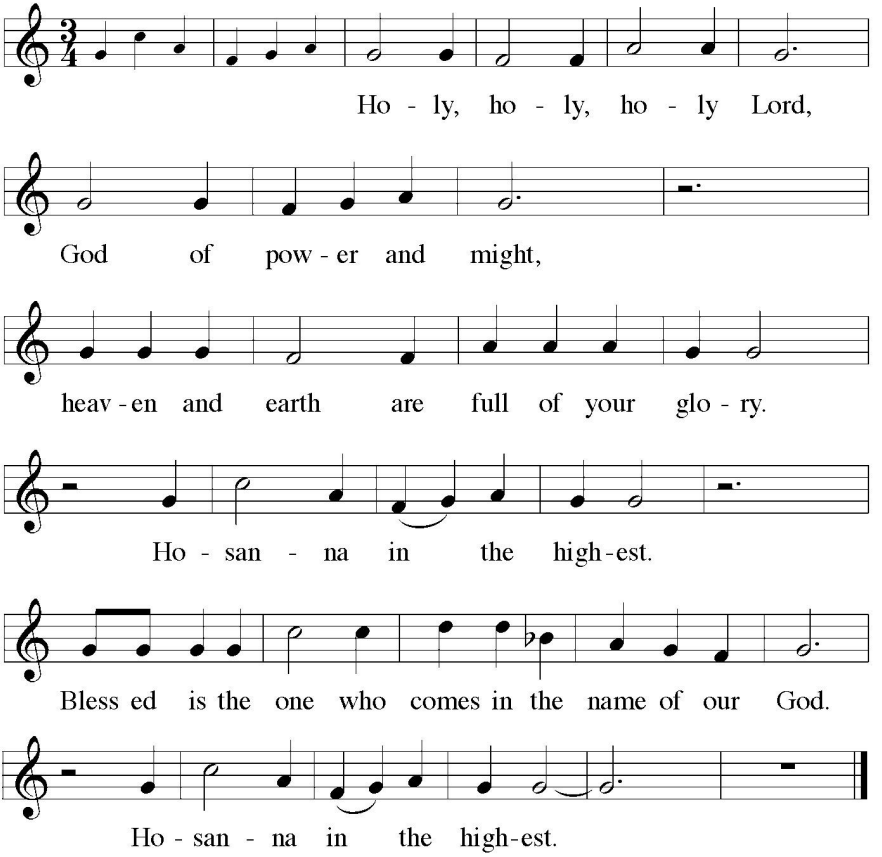



**Great Thanksgiving**
*The people remain standing.*
*Presider* God be with you.
*People* **And also with you.**
*Presider* Lift up your hearts.
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*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.*
It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

**Sanctus** Missa Simplex John Karl Hirten (b. 1956)
*Sung by all*




*from* MISSA SIMPLEX by John Karl Hirten.
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*The Presider continues with the prayer.*
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:
*People* **Christ has died.**
**Christ is risen.**
**Christ will come again.**

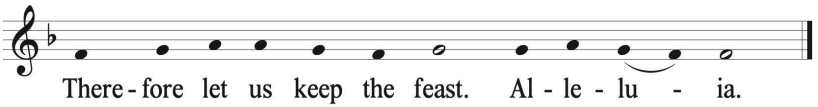
Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Most Holy Mary, the Godbearer, Blessed John and 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.
*People* **AMEN**.

**Lord's Prayer**
*Presider*
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)** Ambrosian Chant, adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)

*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 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** Ave Verum Corpus Sarah MacDonald
*Sung by the choir* *(b. 1968)*

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, having truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for humankind, from whose pierced side water and blood flowed: Be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet] in the trial of death!

**Postcommunion Prayer**
*Please stand.*
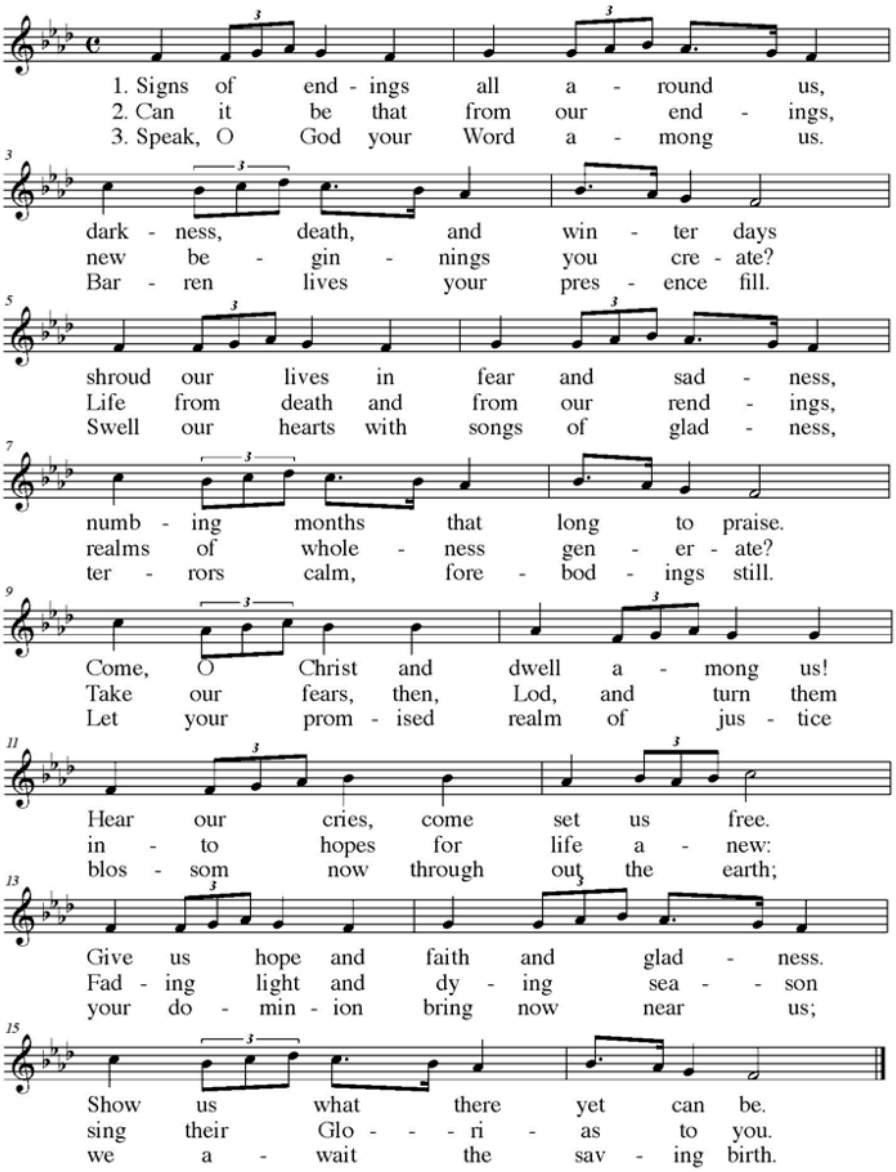
*Presider* Let us pray.
*Presider and People*
**God of abundance,**
**you have fed us**
**with the bread of life and cup of salvation;**
**you have united us**
**with Christ and one another;**
**and you have made us one**
**with all your people in heaven and on earth.**
**Now send us forth**
**in the 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. Afterwards, all say:*

**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 721** Signs of endings all around us *Ton-y-Botel*
*Sung by all*




**Dismissal**

*Leader* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia! Alleluia!
*People* **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Postlude**

**Please join us for coffee and treats in the parish hall.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Youth Confirmation Class: November 15** Youth Confirmation Class begins this month. We meet a couple of times a month on Sundays at 11:30am to explore together what it means to live a life of faith in the Episcopal Church, culminating in Diocesan Confirmations at Grace Cathedral on June 5. Youth of all ages are invited (many choose to take the class while in 8th grade). For more information or to sign up, please contact Rev. Heather.

**Annual Hat Drive Deadline: November 22** The San Rafael Street Chaplaincy will distribute the hats at their Thanksgiving event. You're welcome to include small gifts, toiletries, or cards along with your donation. If you'd like to participate or need more details, please contact Leslie Limpert via email . Please drop off to the church office lobby. You can help by purchasing hats to donate, donating gloves or socks, or knitting or crocheting hats.

**Advent Quiet Day: December 5** Take a spiritual break from the hectic holidays with a day of quiet on Saturday, December 5, 9am-2pm at St. Columba's, Inverness. Please email parishioner Anne Doyle to sign-up.

**Giving Tree: Coming Soon** One of St. John's community engagement programs supports the residents of Pine Ridge Care Center (a skilled nursing home in San Raphael) and Gilead House (a home in Novato that supports mothers and children affected by domestic violence, helping them to rebuild). There will be gift tags on the tree with specific requests from the residents of Pine Ridge and Gilead House.

**Christian Meditation: December 8** All are invited to gather in the chapel on Tuesday, December 8 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.

**Christmas Pageant: December 13th.** All children are invited to participate in our Christmas Pageant! Every child will have a special role. The first rehearsal is Saturday, December 5th at 10:30 AM in the church. To sign up and receive more information, please email the Children's Ministry Director.

**Women's Bible Discussion: Mondays** All are invited to join us as we explore Paul's Letter to the Galatians. No preparation required. We meet weekly on zoom, 7:30-8:30pm. Please contact Rev. Heather for more information.

**Bible Study: Wednesdays AND Thursdays** In November and December, we will be exploring what the Bible says about how we welcome new Christians into our community through baptism, and the Biblical roots of the promises we make as individuals and as a church when we make and reaffirm our baptismal vows. We will be meeting at our usual Wednesday 1pm time in the Youth Room, and if that time does

not work for you, please join us instead at 6:30pm on Thursday in the Youth Room. The material will be the same for the two classes each week. Please email Ethan Dettmer if you want to receive the materials.

**Christian Classics Lite: Thursdays** All are invited to participate in the second season of our weekly reading and discussion program facilitated by parishioner David Kinney and Rev. Heather. This session's focus is the spiritual disciplines. The group meets in the Youth Room on Thursdays,11am-noon. On November 12 we will explore "Confession" and on November 19, "Worship." Email Rev. Heather or David Kinney for more information.

**This Sunday at 10:00 AM.** Sunday School will be combined in the Garden Room, next to the Youth Room. Children from preschool through 5th grade are welcome! They will join their parents in the church for Holy Communion.

**Sunday School Volunteers Needed**! We're looking for volunteers to help nurture and support our children as they grow in faith. Whether you can teach regularly or simply lend a hand from time to time, your help would be greatly appreciated. If you're interested in volunteering, please email the Children's Ministry Director.

**Sunday Morning Youth Group** On most Sundays, all youth (grades 6th-12th) are invited to meet in the Youth Room at 10am. (Youth are always welcome in church, too!) For more information, please contact Rev. Heather.

**Music Notes** *Nyland* is a Finnish tune of unknown origin. It was first published as part of the appendix of a church chorale book for Finland's Evangelical Lutheran Church. A later issue of this book stated that it was a "folk tune" sung near Kuatane, a village in Etalapohjanmaa which is in South Ostrobothnia. Fortunately, the tune is easier to sing than it is to pronounce the town of its origin.

Ralph Vaughan Williams wrote "O How Amiable" in 1934 for the Pageant of Abinger, an English country festival that would have been unremarkable except for the presence of several notable locals, including Vaughan Williams and E. M. Forster, who contributed extensively to the production. Vaughan Williams' contribution to the Pageant included several folk song arrangements for wind ensemble, as well as this anthem, which was also originally accompanied by winds (which is discernible in the arrangement for organ). The seemingly odd appendage of "O God our help in ages past" at the end of this setting of Psalm 84 makes sense upon learning that the hymn was traditionally sung as an opening to the original festivities.

Sarah Elizabeth Arwen MacDonald is a Canadian-born organist, conductor, and composer, living in the United Kingdom, and currently holds the positions of Fellow and Director of Music at Selwyn College, Cambridge, and Director of the girl choristers at Ely Cathedral.

The music for “Signs of ending all around us” was composed by the Welshman Thomas John Williams in 1896 according to the story printed in the last years of his life. The name (Welsh for “The Bottle Tune”) is the result of a sensation-seeking story circulated in 1902 after its appearance in a new hymnbook. It was said that the tune had been discovered washed up in a bottle on the North Wales coast. Its original name, *Ebenezer,* was taken from the chapel in Rhos, Pontardwe, of which T. J. Williams was a member from 1890 to 1903.

## SERVING TODAY

**Sun, Nov 15 (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, Nov 15, 8:00 AM (Worship)**

| | |
|---|---|
| The Rev. Jane Gould | Clergy - Presider |
| The Rev. Jane Gould | Clergy - Preacher |
| Charlie Hoeveler | Usher |

**Sun, Nov 15, 9:00 AM (Family Worship)**

| | |
|---|---|
| The Rev. Jane Gould | Clergy - Presider |
| The Rev. Heather Erickson | Clergy - Preacher |

**Sun, Nov 15, 10:00 AM (Sunday School)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Connie Granger | Sunday School - Teacher |
| Sandra Pathik | Sunday School - Teacher |

**Sun, Nov 15, 10:00 AM (Worship w/Choir)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Vance Frost | A/V - Audio |
| John Summerlin | A/V - Video |
| The Rev. Heather Erickson | Clergy - Presider |
| The Rev. Jane Gould | Clergy - Preacher |
| Anne Doyle | Eucharistic Minister |
| Bill Kaufman | Eucharistic Minister |
| John Gulick | Lector |
| Marian Mancini | Usher |
| Jon Price | Usher |

**Sun, Nov 15, 11:00 AM (Coffee Hour)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Holly Kaufman* | Goodies Supplier |
| *open* | Goodies Supplier |

## PRAYER LIST

**Members**
Melinda Booth
Cheryl Ziedrich
Susan MacKenzie
George Harris
Travis Wright
JT Sweet
Carol Hughes
Signe Lando

**Friends & Family**

| | |
|---|---|
| Virginia Wells | (Jamie Behrendt's mother) |
| Nathan Vale | (Rosemary Morgan's cousin) |
| Diana Sandeman | (Helen Sandeman's mom) |
| Marney | (friend of Catherine Rehm) |
| Maggie Bock | (friend of Anne Doyle) |
| Marlene Anderson | (friend of LaTonya Sumners) |
| Kathy Behrendt | (daughter-in-law of Jamie and Joe Behrendt) |
| 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**
Sandy Morgan Bertelsen

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - November 15**
St. Edmund’s, Pacifica

## 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 |
| Interim Rector | The Rev. Jane Gould *(jane@stjohnsross.org)* |
| Associate Priest | The Rev. Heather Erickson *(heather@stjohnsross.org)* |
| Assisting Priests | The Rev. Skip Fotch |
| | The Rev. James Ward |
| Bookkeeper | Henry Auriti *(bookkeeper@stjohnsross.org)* |
| Children's Ministry | Sandra Pathik *(sandra@stjohnsross.org)* |
| Stewardship | Lee Steward *(stewardship@stjohnsross.org)* |
| Choir Section Leaders | Mitch Ashley, Betsy Bennett-Smith, Lee Steward, Jessica House Steward, Paul Thompson |
| Choral Scholar | Ash Jones |
| Church Administrator | Virginia Kosydar *(virginia@stjohnsross.org)* |
| Music Director | John Karl Hirten *(john@stjohnsross.org)* |
| Treasurer | Susan Aley |
| Youth Ministry | Mike Lessin, Robert McGee |
| Vestry | Senior Warden: Lexi Ford Kernot<br>Junior Warden: Paul Castro<br>Michael Hiscott, David Petterson, Donalyn Hellar, Marian Mancini, Katie McGee, Lauren Lamm, Gene Cheston, Julie Flynn Siler, Katie Hindman<br>*(vestry@stjohnsross.org)* |

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2026

**1st Sunday in Advent: November 29**
**8am:** Worship Service
**9am:** Intergenerational Family Service
**10am:** Worship Service
**11:15am:** Advent Wreath making

**Advent Quiet Day: December 5**
9am-2pm: Held at St. Columba's Inverness

**2nd Sunday in Advent: December 6**
**8am:** Worship Service
**9am:** Intergenerational Family Service
**10am:** Worship Service
**4pm:** Advent Lessons & Carols w/Choir

**3rd Sunday in Advent: December 13***
**8am:** Worship Service
**10am:** Christmas Pageant
*No 9am Service

**4th Sunday in Advent: December 20**
**8am:** Worship Service
**9am:** Intergenerational Family Service
**10am:** Worship Service

**Christmas Eve: December 24**
**3pm Intergenerational Family Service:** This all-ages service is designed so that everyone can participate, and includes congregational singing for young and old, prayers, the story of Jesus' birth, and Holy Eucharist.
**5pm Festival Eucharist with the Choral School:** All ages are welcome at this Christmas liturgy, which includes familiar hymns and carols, a sermon, and Holy Eucharist.
**8:30pm Festival Eucharist with Choral Prelude:** This service begins with a short Choral prelude featuring the St. John's Choir. The liturgy continues with hymns and carols with the congregation, anthems for the choir, a sermon, and Holy Eucharist.

**Christmas Day: December 25**
**10am:** This service includes hymns and carols sung by the congregation, a sermon and Holy Eucharist.

**1st Sunday after Christmas: December 27**
**10am:** Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist