



ST. JOHN'S GLOUCESTER

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

MARCH 30, 2025

10:00AM

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

For thousands of years, First Nations people walked on this land in Gloucester; their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives and spirituality. St. John's is gathered on the traditional territory of the Pawtucket, and we give thanks to them, and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

They followed the seasons, hunted, fished, raised families, grieved for their dead, nourished their living, shared the stories of their ancestors, and considered themselves the caretakers of this place.

**WE WELCOME YOU TO
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GLOUCESTER**

We know that Christ is present in each person here and we celebrate the diversity of the body of Christ. If this is your first visit, please introduce yourself today and visit again sometime. If you've been away, welcome back. If you are here every week, it's always great to see you! We worship in the Anglican tradition and are a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, which is part of the Episcopal Church USA. We honor individuals of every age, gender, ethnic heritage, sexual orientation and religious background. We respect the dignity of every human being.

NEWCOMER'S WELCOME

Please accept our warmest welcome! We hope you will experience the power of the Holy Spirit in our worship together. Please greet the Priest as you leave and complete a visitor's card found in each pew and place it in the offertory plate, give it to an usher, or give it to the Priest. Please join us for coffee hour, which is located in the Parish Hall, so our community can get to know you informally. We have two restrooms; one (handicapped accessible) is located next to the Parish Hall, the other restroom is located on the second floor up the stairs from the Parish Hall kitchen.

PARTICIPATING IN THE LITURGY

The People of God gathered in St. John's Church

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Rev. Marya DeCarlen
<i>LEM</i>	Carolyn Stewart
<i>Lector</i>	Rick Britton
<i>Acolyte</i>	Karen Kasper
<i>Ushers</i>	Doug Musco, Isabel Musco
<i>Musicians</i>	Director of Music, John Churchwell; Choir and Congregation
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Karen Kasper
<i>Flower Guild</i>	Rosemary Sullivan, Gwen Kopka

COFFEE HOUR TODAY is hosted by Karen Kasper, Geoff Grow, Dani Stotzer and Melanie Murray-Brown

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

SILENCE BEFORE THE SERVICE

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

THE SILENT PROCESSION

Our worship begins with the Acclamation and Penitential Rite.

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sin.**

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." -Mark 12:29-31

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

As we enter in to worship we ask God's forgiveness for things done and things left undone and things done on our behalf so that we may be reconciled to each other and to God.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept for a time.

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant Most holy and merciful God: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

People **We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.**

Celebrant Our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

People **We confess to you, O God.**

Celebrant Our self-indulgence, and our exploitation of other people, our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
People **We confess to you, O God.**

Celebrant For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
People **Accept our repentance, O God.**

Celebrant. For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
People **Accept our repentance, O God.**

Celebrant Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;
People **Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

THE DECLARATION OF PARDON AND FORGIVENESS

Celebrant May the Eternal God forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE KYRIE *The Congregation may kneel while the Kyrie is sung by the choir.
Setting from Deutsche Messe, Franz Schubert (1797-1828), arr Richard Proulx (b. 1932)*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The congregation may stand or kneel.

Celebrant God be with you,.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray together.

**Sung on tone.*

People **Gracious God, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE CHORAL ANTHEM

Father of all we give you thanks and praise

Richard Shepherd (1949-2021)

*Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.*

*May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light unto the world.*

*Keep us firm in the faith that you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

THE HEBREW BIBLE

Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt."
And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

People **Thanks be to God.-**

THE PSALM

Psalm 32

How blest, those whose transgressions have been forgiven

1 How blest, those whose trans - ges - sions have
2 While I kept guilt - y si - lence, my
3 So let the god - ly seek you, when

3
free - ly been for - given; whose guilt is whol - ly
strength was spent with grief. Your hand was heav - y
trou - bling times are near; no storm or flood shall

6
cov - ered be - fore the sight of heaven. Blest,
on me; my life found no re - lief. But
reach them, nor cause their hearts to fear. In

9
those to whom our Lord God will not im - pute their sin: whose
when I made con - fes - sion and hid no sin from you, when
you, O Lord, I hide me; you save me from all ill. And

13

guilt has been for - giv - en; whose hearts, made true a - gain.
 I re-vealed my fail - ings, you gave me life a - new.
 songs of your sal - va - tion my heart with rapture fill.

THE GREEK BIBLE

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE CHORAL GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Set me as a Seal upon your heart

Rene Clausen (b. 1953)

Set me as a seal upon your heart as a seal upon your arm for love is strong as death.

Many waters cannot quench love neither can the floods drown it.

The choir will sing before and after the Gospel reading.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

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

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.

We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.

We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.

We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.

We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.

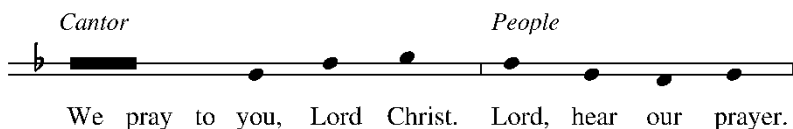
We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.

This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ.

Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LEM In the course of the silence after each bidding, please offer your own prayers either silently or aloud. After each bidding, the Cantor will lead us in our prayer response:



Celebrant We pray to the Eternal One for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves in service to Christ.

LEM Give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with herself and to give more time to your mission in the world. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Julia, our Bishop, Marya, Ali and Malcolm, our clergy and the Churches of the Cape & Islands Deanery: Church of St. Mary of the Harbor, Provincetown; St. John’s Church, Sandwich; Ministries with Older Adults. May You bring forgiveness to your people and help us to face the cost of proclaiming salvation in love.

LEM Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and to seek peace. We pray for those in authority, particularly our president and

congress. May the shoulders of the risen Jesus, once scourged by soldiers, bear the burden of political and military conflict in our world.

LEM Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy in our families, neighborhoods and communities. We pray for peace in Israel and Palestine. May the presence of the risen Jesus, his body once broken and now made whole, bring peace and direction as we live with one another.

LEM Give us the courage to give up our selfishness as we live for others, and to give time, care and comfort to the sick. We pray for **George Hillman, Mara, Jan Goodwin, Demetria, Thelma, Tanya, Patty Rhineland, Faith Berry, Gloria Herboldsheimer, Barbara, Kevin, Andrea, Kathy, Sheree and Dick, Moira, Macrina, Nancy, Jennifer, Marge, the American Cathedral in Paris, Debbie and Jeremy, Dillon and Lauren, Dee.** *Are there others to be named?* May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch, and the light of his presence fill their rooms.

LEM Give us the courage to give up our inability to appreciate and thank people for their presence in our lives. *The congregation replies with thanksgivings.*

LEM Give us the courage to give up our fear of death and to rejoice with those who have died in faith. *Are there any to be named?* May the feet of the risen Lord Jesus, once nailed to the cross, walk alongside the dying and bereaved in their agony, and walk with us and all your Church through death to the gate of glory. *(the Amen is sung)*

At the direction of the Cantor, the people chant Amen.



THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Celebrant Christ is here right now making peace among us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

1982 Blue Hymnal #469

There's a wideness in God's mercy

ST. HELENA

During the Offertory Hymn, the gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar.

THE DOXOLOGY

O love, how deep, how broad (stanza 6)

1982 Blue Hymnal #448

DEUS TUORUM MILITUM

The gifts of the people are brought to the Altar.

All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so
deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom
we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

THE MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to God.**

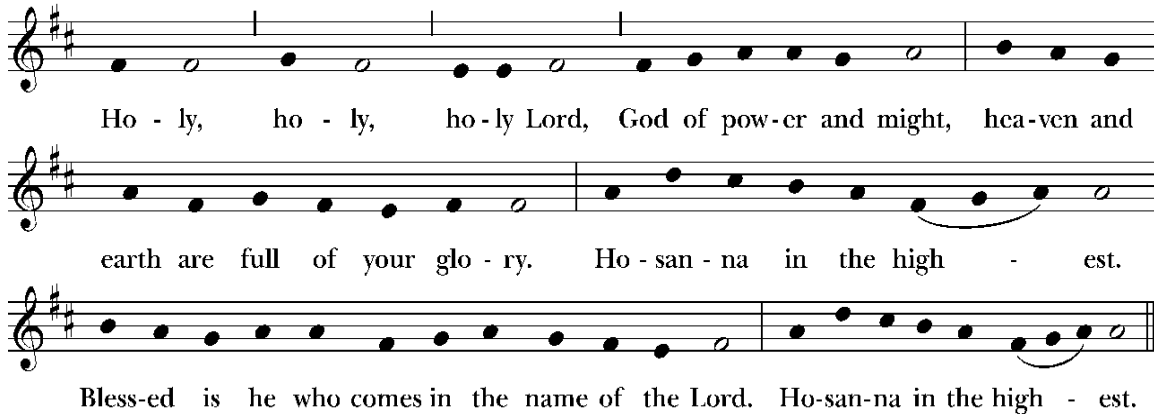
Celebrant Let us give thanks to our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, God of everlasting covenant, for your promises are steadfast and your provision is sure. Through the forty years of your people's desert wanderings you were constant in fire and cloud; with manna and mercy you sustained every step. You made Jesus' temptation of forty days a theater of truth where your Word stood strong. In every age you have shaped your people through times of wilderness and wandering, of temptation and trial, and brought them into the land of promise and the life of covenant. And so we give you humble thanks for your forgiveness and our new life, with angels and archangels and the company of heaven, singing your unending praise.

THE SANCTUS

1982 Blue Hymnal #S124



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.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

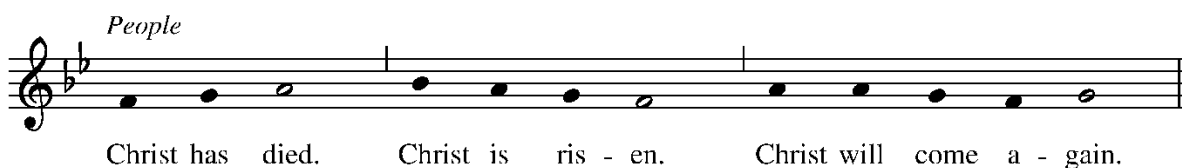
Enduring God, as you sustained Jesus in hunger and thirst, through this meal strengthen us to keep our Lenten fast. Send your Holy Spirit upon us as we remember Jesus' saving passion; transform our insatiable desires into hunger for the feast of this table. Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ; Who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine. Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

1982 Blue Hymnal #366



People
Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Forgiving God, in this season of repentance, make your mercy sufficient for every need. Come to your children who are in their own wilderness and make their wanderings holy paths of learning your truth. Strengthen all who face the threshold of temptation or the tumult of trial. Seek those whose hearts are contrite and meet them with grace. Come alongside your children who suffer under the sin of another and give them the power to live as your beloved sons and daughters. Renew your church from the depths of your heart, where justice and mercy meet. Bring us with all your saints to the day when all who watch and pray for your kingdom behold your salvation and meet you in your resurrection. Infuse your church with Spirit and truth, walk with your beloved people as they seek security, companionship and freedom in your world, and fill your saints with

the hope of eternal life, that all may come to praise your name, and every grain of sand and star in the sky be stirred with the wonders of your grace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

THE CHORAL AMEN *Sung by the choir.*
Sevenfold Amen

Peter Lutkin (1858-1931)

And now, as Jesus has taught us, we pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

1982 Blue Hymnal #S148

Celebrant and People

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,
now and for ev - er. A - men.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

THE CHORAL FRACTION ANTHEM

Create in my, O God, a pure heart

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence; And take not thy holy spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for you, the People of God!

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AND PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Today, St. John's will have Prayers for Healing, as well as Communion. Communion will take place at the low Altar without kneeling. You may participate by extending your hands and placing one hand over the other for the bread and sipping from the chalice. Please let the priest know if you need a gluten free wafer. If you prefer not to receive wine, you may cross your hands over your chest. You may also come forward for a blessing, while others come for communion.

To receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest.

The Priest will pray for God's blessing upon you.

After Communion, you may come to the Altar railing and briefly describe to the healing minister, petitions or thanksgivings for which you would like prayers. You may kneel or stand, and if you would prefer not to be touched or anointed with oil, please so indicate. The minister will then offer a prayer and blessing.

COMMUNION MUSIC

*Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness
Fairest Lord Jesus*

SCHMUCHE DICH
ST. ELIZABETH

THE GREAT SILENCE

*Once all have received communion and the Holy Table has been cleared,
the community observes a moment of silent reflection and prayer.*

The silence is begun and ended with the sound of a bell.

Celebrant Jesus said to his disciples, "Come away to a quiet place and rest for a while."
Therefore, let us now rest in Christ's presence in the silence.

A prolonged silence is kept.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

After the Silence the Presider invites the congregation to stand and pray saying:

Celebrant God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Together, let us pray.

People **Faithful God, in this holy meal you increase our faith and hope and love.
Lead us in the way of Christ who is your Word of life. We ask this in his
name. Amen.**

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND PRAYERS FOR TRAVEL

THE BLESSING

Celebrant Live without fear, for your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you fiercely. Go in peace to follow the good road, together. And the blessing of God, who creates, liberates and inspires us to justice, be with you all forever.

People **AMEN.**

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

1982 Blue Hymnal #671
NEW BRITAIN

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

DEPART IN SILENCE

SAVE THE DATE!

Compline

April 2, 2025
6:00pm Meal, 7:00pm Compline
Home of Rick Britton

Good Friday Reading of the Passion

April 18, 2025
11:00am

Choral Evensong

April 9, 2025
6:00pm

Easter Vigil

April 19, 2025
7:00pm

Palm Sunday

April 13, 2025
10:00am

Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025
10:00am

Agape Meal and Maundy Thursday Services

April 17, 2025
6:00pm Meal, 7:00pm Service

Morning Prayer

April 27, 2025
Jason Kinchen, Officiant

May The Fourth Be With You

Silent Movie Concert
May 4, 2025, John Churchwell, Organist

CHORAL EVENSONG

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025
6:00PM



ST. JOHN'S GLOUCESTER
48 MIDDLE STREET
GLOUCESTER, MA
PARKING AT 33 WASHINGTON STREET

Easter Vigil

St. John's Gloucester
St. Mary's Episcopal
St. Paul Lutheran

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 19
7 PM

Hosted by
St. John's Gloucester
48 Middle Street
Gloucester, MA
www.stjohnsgloucester.org

MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU

A SILENT MOVIE ORGAN CONCERT FEATURING MUSIC FROM STAR WARS
AND OTHER FAVORITE MOVIES ACROSS THE AGES.

JOHN CHURCHWELL, ORGANIST

MAY 4, 2025

4:00pm

FREE ADMISSION, DONATIONS ACCEPTED

ST. JOHN'S GLOUCESTER
48 MIDDLE STREET
GLOUCESTER, MA

Parking at 33 Washington Street



St. John's Gloucester

stjohnsgloucester.org
48 Middle Street, Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930
Parish Office Telephone: 978-283-1708
WiFi Password: 48MiddleSt

The Rt. Rev. Julia E. Whitworth, Bishop of Mass. & The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carol Gallagher, Assistant Bishop

The Rev. Marya DeCarlen, Priest-in-Collaboration
mdecarlen@comcast.net
Priest Associates: The Rev. Malcolm Henderson
and The Rev. Ali Lutz
Marge Bishop, Church Assistant
marge@stjohnsgloucester.org
John Churchwell, Director of Music
Elizabeth de Veer, Parish Administrator

Wardens: Patricia Anders & Katharine Newhouse
Clerk: Geoff Pope
Treasurer: Karen Kasper, Assistant Treasurer: Sue Lupo
VESTRY: 2026: Dee Dee Bedford, Rick Britton, Sarah Larson
2027: Maryann Tapiro
2028: Sue Lupo, Doug Parsons, Lindsay Smith, Barbara Soreng

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