



ST. JOHN'S GLOUCESTER

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

MARCH 16, 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

If you're new to St. John's, or just visiting, and we missed you at the door, 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.

We hope to see you again!

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>	Sarah Larson
<i>Acolyte</i>	Geoff Pope
<i>Ushers</i>	Dani Stotzer and Ian Bedford
<i>Musicians</i>	John Churchwell, Director of Music; Choir and Congregation
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Dani Stotzer
<i>Flower Guild</i>	Rosemary Sullivan, Gwen Kopka and Ms. Fixits.
<i>Live Streaming</i>	Norm Barr

COFFEE HOUR TODAY is hosted by Connie DeSimone, Patricia Anders and Priscilla Gerrard.

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.

Celebrant Let us pray together.

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 **O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE CHORAL ANTHEM

Lord, grant thou me a quiet mind

Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)

*Lord grant Thou me a quiet mind,
in depths of Thee and thought inclined.
O gaze upon this wounded heart,
and with Thy sweet and piercing Dart
Prick this soul with Love's embrace.
And heal these wounds with saving grace.*

*Within my soul and heart reside
and drown me in Thy healing tide. Amen.*

THE HEBREW BIBLE

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 27

The Choir and Congregation will chant the Psalm using Simplified Anglican Chant.

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I **fear**? *
the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be **afraid**?

When evildoers came upon me to eat up my **flesh**, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and **fell**.

Though an army should encamp against **me**, *
yet my heart shall not be **afraid**;

And though war should rise up against **me**, *
yet will I put my trust in **him**.

One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I **seek**; *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my **life**;

To behold the fair beauty of the **Lord** *
and to seek him in his **temple**.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his **shelter**; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a **rock**.

Even now he lifts up my **head** *
above my enemies round about **me**.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great **gladness**; *
I will sing and make music to the **Lord**.

10 Harken to my voice, O Lord, when I **call**; *
have mercy on me and answer **me**.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my **face**." *
Your face, Lord, will I **seek**.

Hide not your face from **me**, *
nor turn away your servant in dis-**pleasure**.

You have been my helper; cast me not a-**way**; *
do not forsake me, O God of my sal-**vation**.

Though my father and my mother forsake **me**, *
the Lord will sustain **me**.

Show me your way, O **Lord**; *
lead me on a level path, because of my **enemies**.

Deliver me not into the hand of my ad-**versaries**, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak **malice**.

What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the **Lord** *
in the land of the **living**!

O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your **heart**; *
wait patiently for the **Lord**.

THE GREEK BIBLE

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to

himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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 13:31-35

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

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

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Marya DeCarlen

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.

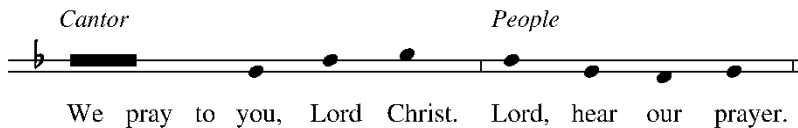
We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.

**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: St. Barnabas' Church, Falmouth; Christ Church, Harwich Port; Grace Church, Vineyard Haven; For all churches in the Diocese closed or merged. 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 **Mikey, Grayson and Tony Johnson, George Hillman, Mara, Jan Goodwin, Demetria, Thelma, Tanya, Patty Rhineland**, Faith Berry, **Gloria** Herboldsheimer. May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch, and the light of his presence fill their rooms. *Are there others to be named?*

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. 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.

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 #142

Lord, who throughout these forty days

ST. FLAVIAN

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

THE DOXOLOGY

1982 Blue Hymnal #448

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

DEO GRACIAS

The gifts of the people are brought to the Altar.

*All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad;
the Trinity whom we adore for every and forevermore.*

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.**

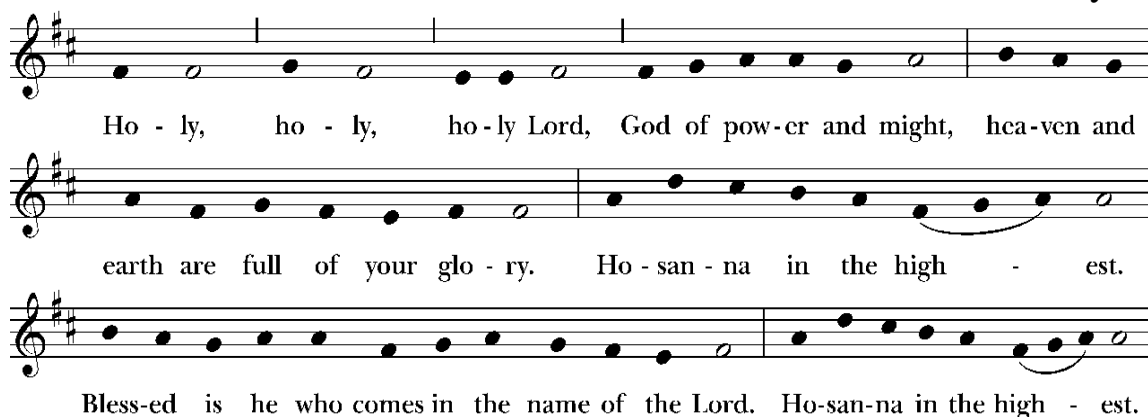
Celebrant Let us give thanks to our God.

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 blessed Mary, blessed Paul and 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

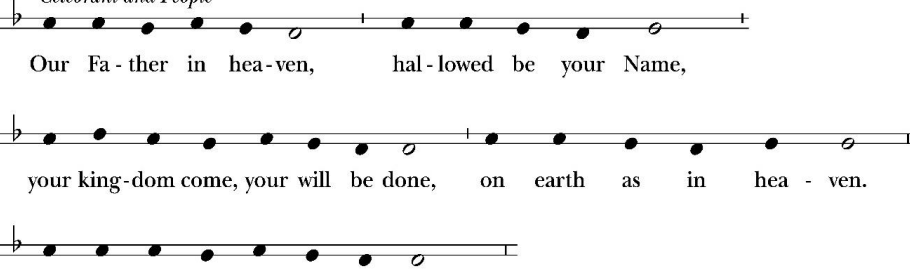
Peter Lutkin (1858-1931)

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

St. John's welcomes everyone to come to God's table, for communion, to share in Christ's sustaining life. You may participate by extending your hands and placing one hand over the other for the bread and sipping from the chalice. If you prefer not to receive wine, you may cross your hands over your chest. If you prefer gluten free wafers, let us know. You may also come to the altar simply 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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

My God, thy table is spread

Humbly I adore thee

ROCKINGHAM
ADORO DEVOTE

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

Mothering God, you have me birth

MARYTON

1. Moth-er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright
2. Moth-er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing
3. Moth-er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of

morn - ing of this world. Cre - at - or, source of
 me your food of light, grain of life, and
 pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I

ev - ery breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
 grape of love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.
 root and grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

DEPART IN SILENCE

THE SEASON OF LENT

We are living in a noisy, frantic world, the news faster than our brains can take it in, always on the go. It feels like we're in the soup, the temperature rising, and we might just boil. So, how can we listen much less understand or follow?

Lent is the chance to listen. It's a chance to choose one or two ways to clear out the static, the superfluous, so that we might listen deeply. Perhaps for this season you won't wake up and immediately reach for your phone to see what latest awful thing has happened in the news (I am speaking directly to my mother here). Perhaps you'll attend Choral Evensong, or Compline or a book study. See below for more information about all of this.

Perhaps none of these fits the bill right now. That's okay. But think of some small way you can listen more, talk less, obsess less, still your Spirit. And if you do nothing else, come to church where we listen together. *Marya+*

LENTEN COMPLINE SERVICES

Compline is a brief, luminous service that marks the close of each day and welcomes the quiet of nighttime in praising the source of light and life. We will follow the service “An Order for Compline” in the Book of Common Prayer of The Episcopal Church, ending with the Night prayer from the New Zealand Common Prayer. All participants will be asked to bring a candle. This March and April, St. John's will be offering three compline services at parishioners' homes. A meal will be served at 6:00 pm and the service will begin at 7:00 pm. You may join for one or the other or both. Please sign up in the Parish Hall or call the office at 978-283-1708, or email Marge.

March 19, Home of Connie DeSimone

March 26, Home of Rev. Marya DeCarlen

April 2, Home of Rick Britton



St. John's Gloucester

stjohnsgloucester.org
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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
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
VESTRY: 2026: Dee Dee Bedford, Rick Britton, Sarah Larson
2027: Maryann Tapiro
2028: Sue Lupo, Doug Parsons, Lindsay Smith

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