



ST. JOHN'S GLOUCESTER
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

MAY 18, 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 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>	Gwen Kopka
<i>Acolyte</i>	Karen Kasper
<i>Ushers</i>	Doug Musco and 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, DeeDee Bedford, Kip Ellis

COFFEE HOUR TODAY is hosted by Gwen Kopka, Kim Prentice and Katharine Newhouse.

The Action Lunches were provided this weekend by Gwen Kopka

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE PRELUDE

Baroque Trumpet Tune

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

On this day, the first of days

1982 Blue Hymnal #47

GOTT SEI DANK

OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.

THE GLORIA

Blue Hymnal #S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray together.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ADVOCACY

Loving God, Your Word often talks about people in need finding safety. We pray today for people experiencing homelessness, that children and families in need with no place to call home will be guided to places of peace and security. We pray that we, as a church, will do out part to show radical love to those in need. Amen.

THE CHORAL ANTHEM

A Wreath

Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)

*A wreathed garland of deserved praise, Of praise deserved, unto Thee I give,
I give to thee, who knowest all my ways, My crooked winding ways wherein I live,
Wherein I die, not live: for life is straight, Straight as a line, and ever tends to thee,
to thee, who art more far above deceit, Than deceit seems above simplicity.
Give me simplicity, that I may live, So live and like, that I may know thy ways,
Know them and practice them: then shall I give For this poor wreath,
give thee a crown of praise.*

THE GREEK BIBLE

Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Pause to reflect on reading.

THE PSALM (*choir and congregation*)

Psalm 148

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.
Praise him, all you angels of his;
praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.
Praise him, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord;
for he commanded, and they were created.
He made them stand fast for ever and ever;
he gave them a law which shall not pass a-way.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
Wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and winged birds;

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
Young men and maidens,
old and young to-gether.

Let them praise the Name of the **Lord**,
for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and **heaven**.
He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal **servants**,
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hal-**lelujah!**

THE GREEK BIBLE

Revelation 21:1-6

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Pause to reflect on reading.

THE GOSPEL HYMN

1982 Blue Hymnal #204

Now the green blade riseth

NOEL NOUVELET

Sing stanzas 1 and 2 before the Gospel. Sing stanzas 3 and 4 after the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL

John 13:31-35

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

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

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Marya DeCarlen

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

New Zealand Book of Common Prayer 1989

You, O God are holy.

You create our world and give us life.

Your purpose overarches everything we do.

You have always been with us.

You are God.

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.**

You came to us before we came to you. (*continue*)

**You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.**

You are with us now.

You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.

You empower us to be your gospel in the world.

You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We worship you.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

written by Katherine Kussmaul

(During the prayers and confession, we invite you to stand or kneel, as you are able.)

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!

Risen Lord, hear our cry for help – for those surrounded by the shroud of death, for those covered by the mantle of dying, for those hemmed-in by illness, visible or veiled.

Risen Christ,

Hear our cry for mercy.

For those weighed down with worries, for those carrying the burden of distress, for those overwhelmed by isolation.

Risen Christ,

Hear our cry for mercy.

That we sense purpose beyond ourselves, that we perceive the needs of creation; that we stretch ourselves to respond. We offer prayers for our Presiding Bishop, Sean Rowe and for all bishops, priests, seminarians and deacons, including Julia, Marya, Malcolm and Ali. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for the Churches of the Charles River Deanery: St. John's Chapel, Groton School, Groton; St. Michael's Church, Holliston;

St. Paul's Church, Hopkinton; St. Luke's Church, Hudson; Congregational Chapters of the Episcopal Church Women.

Risen Christ,

Hear our cry for communities of faith.

For those who are wearied by addiction and recovery, for those who are tattered and worn, for those who collapse from exhaustion. Today we pray especially for those in our lives who are struggling: especially: **Jan** Goodwin, **Demetria**, **Thelma**,

Patty Rhineland, **Faith** Berry, **Gloria** Herboldsheimer, **Barbara**, **Kevin**, **Andrea**, **Kathy**, **Sheree** and **Dick**, **Moir**a, **Macrina**, **Nancy**, **Jennifer**, **Marge**, **the American Cathedral in Paris**, **Debbie** and **Jeremy**, **Laureen**, **Bobby**, **Rümeysa Öztürk**, **Lauren**, **Gregory** Holmes Singleton, **Doug** Call, **Sarah** Larson, **Lydia** and **Pete**, **Kilmar**, **Lisa**, **Sophie**, **Claudette** and **Tom** and **Chmura Family**.

Are there others?

Risen Christ,

Hear our cry for mercy.

For the ways you accompany us through deep valleys, for the ways you lead us to still meadows, for the ways you provide all we need.

Risen Christ,

Hear our cry of thanksgiving.

For blessing and breaking ordinary bread, for opening our eyes to recognize you, for transforming death in resurrection life. Today we give thanks for those who have died.

Are there any you would like to name now?

Risen Christ,

Hear our cry of thanksgiving.

That our ways be formed by Your Way, that our lives be shaped by Your Life, that our love be Your Love.

Risen Christ,

Hear our cry for communities of faith.

THE CONFESSION

posted on Reformed Church in America website. <https://www.rca.org/resources/>

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the tomb you have given us the sure sign of your power to deliver us from sin and death and to renew our whole creation.

We confess that we still fall into doubt and fear. We continue to cling to selfish ways and doubt your power to make all things new. Forgive our lack of faith.

Have mercy on our weakness. Raise us from the death of sin that we may live with Christ in the joy of his resurrection, now and forever. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **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

Lord of the dance

LORD OF THE DANCE

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

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major, 2/2 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system is marked 'Unison' and includes five verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system concludes the hymn. Chord symbols (G, Em, Bm, Am, D7) are placed above the staves to indicate the harmonic structure. The lyrics are as follows:

1. I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I
2. I danced for the scribe and the Phar-i-see, but they
3. I danced on the sab-bath when I cured the lame, the
4. I danced on a Fri-day and the sky turned black; it's
5. They cut me down and I leapt up high,

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I
would not dance and they would not fol-low me; I
ho-ly peo-ple said it was a shame; they
hard to dance with the dev-il on your back; they
I am the life that -'ll nev-er, nev-er die; I'll

came down from heav-en and I danced on the earth. At
danced for the fish-er-men, for James and John; they
whipped and they stripped and they hung me high; and they
bur-ied my bod-y and they thought I'd gone, but
live in you if you'll live in me;

Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
 came to me and the dance went on.
 left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, wher -
 I am the dance and I still go on.
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may

be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

THE DOXOLOGY

The gifts of the people are brought to the Altar.

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low: Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a-bove ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

THE MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to God.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Holy God, Holy Love, Holy Wonder, out of silence and emptiness you created the heavens and the earth. The oceans sing your praise. The rivers chant your glory. Out of Abraham and Sarah's challenges, you made promises, you granted laughter, you brought forth descendants to continue your story. Out of the deathly power of oppression and slavery you liberated your people and blessed them with water, bread, wine. Out of their lifeless wandering from your justice and mercy, you sent them prophets who sang poems that serenaded them back to you.

THE SANCTUS

1982 Blue Hymnal #S129

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._____

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

In your great compassion for every tribe and nation, you sent Jesus, to bring everyone out of the tomb of hatred and sin and into the life of your love. He fully embodied your compassion, lifting up the poor, raising up the lowly, forgiving the sinner, suffering and dying so that no one need suffer injustice and fear any more. Out of the death of his own

tomb, you raised him up so your story of love will not end.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together with one voice, we celebrate the paschal mystery of faith:

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



Send your Spirit to fill us with the joy of the resurrection. Grant us hope beyond our comprehension. Bless these gifts of bread and wine, so that the endless life and love of Jesus may dwell in us, and flow from us through acts of love for our neighbors.

Holy God, Holy Love, Holy Wonder, we give you praise as we await that great day when the feast of your love has no walls, no exceptions, no end, when we gather with Christ, by the Spirit, and know life in you: love that cannot die, love that exceeds every hope and dream, love, now and forever. *adapted from Michael Coffey, first English, Lutheran Church, Austin, Texas*

THE AMEN

Blue Hymnal #S146



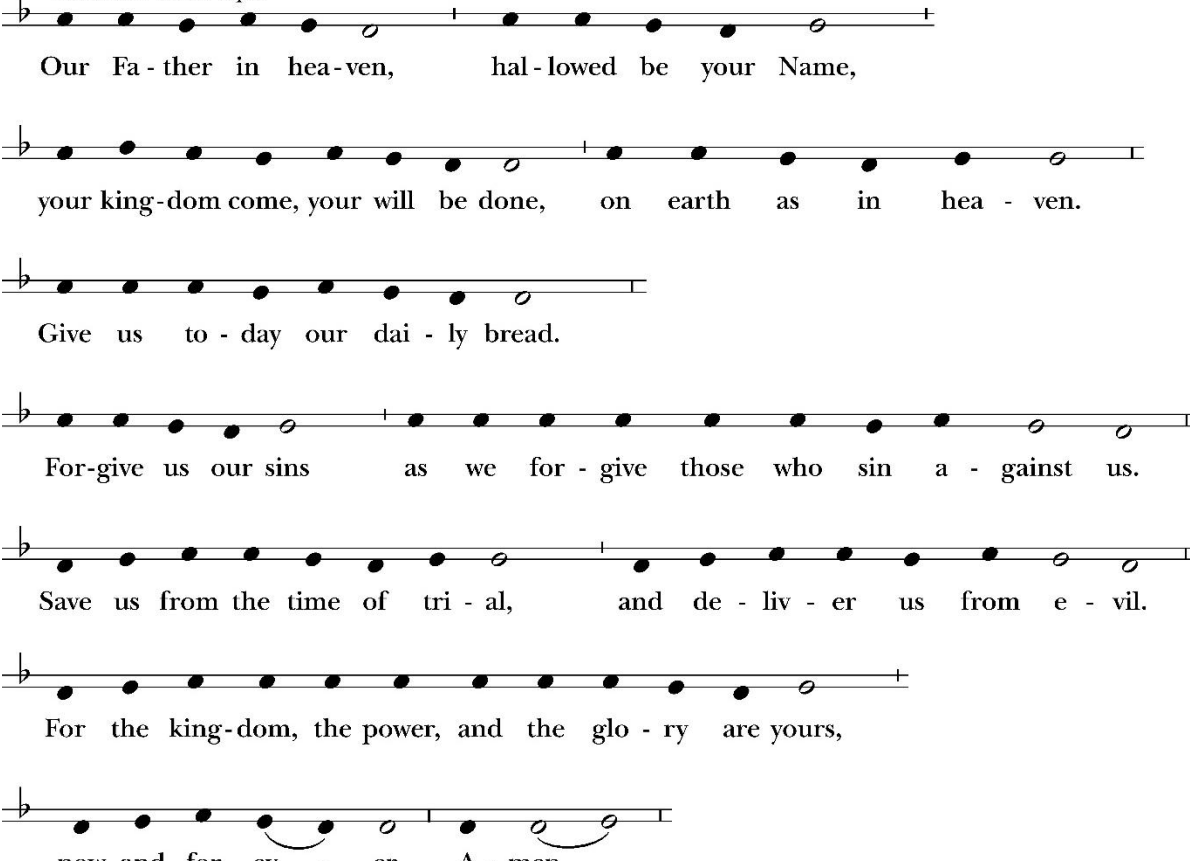
Music: McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943). Copyright © 1984 Theodore Presser Co. Used by permission.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 FRACTION ANTHEM

Blue Hymnal #S155



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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. 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

*Let us break bread together
Come down, O Love divine*

**LET US BREAK BREAD
DOWN AMPNEY**

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

unfoldinglight.net

Gracious God, we thank you for this mystery in which you have given yourself to us. By the mystery of your love you have raised Christ from the dead. Life has overcome death. Love has conquered fear and violence, and it is alive in and among us. We rejoice and give thanks. Send us out now to proclaim the good news, to live the resurrected life, to be the Body of the Risen Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God help you receive this life that rises up and soars above; grant us courage for trusting, fearless love and help us lose the lives we cling to; receiving new ones, bright with Resurrection light. **AMEN.**

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine

**1982 Blue Hymnal #477
ENGLEBERG**

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE POSTLUDE

Bachiana on an Ancient Chorale

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

DATES TO KEEP IN MIND AND HEART FOR OUR WORSHIP LIVES TOGETHER

May 25	Memorial Day Weekend and Prayers for Healing
June 1	Pride Sunday
June 7	Parish Cleanup Day (Rain date June 14)
June 8	Pentecost Sunday
June 15	Father's Day
June 22	1662 Service in honor of the 250th Re-enactment of Bunker Hill
June 28	Regional Confirmations at St. Marks Episcopal Church in Foxborough
June 29	Prayers for Healing
July 6 th	Independence Day Weekend
August 27	Niles Beach Service
August 31	Labor Day Weekend
September 14	St. John's Sunday

CARDS FOR CLAUDETTE

Our friend Claudette Chmura remains in the hospital. Her health is improving but slowly. She would love to hear from you! You can send a card for Mother's Day - or any day!

Claudette Chmura
Rm #212B
Whittier Rehabilitation Hospital
150 Flanders Rd
Westborough, MA 01581



St. John's Gloucester

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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
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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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