

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY**  
**THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS &**  
**HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II**



MARCH 24, 2024 AT 10:15 A.M.

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## **WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

St. John's is an Open and Affirming congregation. In faithfulness to Jesus and His commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves, we invite everyone to celebrate with us in the full life and ministry of the Church. We believe strongly in our mission statement to Grow in God, Act in Service, and Witness in Love.

### **TO THOSE WHO MAY BE NEW OR ARE VISITING**

We are so glad you are here! Ushers are stationed at the back of the church and can answer any questions you may have or please ask a neighbor in the next pew. Restrooms can be found on the other side of the Parish Hall. In addition to worship, opportunities for fellowship exist after the service in the Parish Hall. A nursery is available every Sunday for our littlest members next to the restrooms. Thank you for being here!

### **A NOTE ABOUT OUR WORSHIP**

Our Rite II service comes from the Book of Common Prayer and is filled with vibrant music, sacred scripture, and the breaking of bread. This service is filled with the joyful sound of children rustling in the pews, anthems sung to the glory of God, and the heartfelt prayers of those gathered. With acolytes and processions, communal singing, and a mission to love and serve our neighbors, this service invites one to participate in the coming of the Kingdom. At St. John's everyone is welcome to the Lord's table.

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## THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

*(Our Liturgy will begin in the courtyard)*

*Celebrant* Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord:  
*People* *Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.*  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### MARK 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

### THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* *And also with you.*  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way.

Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*Celebrant* Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*People* *Hosanna in the highest.*

### THE PROCESSION TO THE CHURCH

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in peace.  
*People* *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

### PALM PROCESSION

*Hosanna in excelsis*

Jacques Berthier



### THE WORD OF GOD

### TRANSITIONAL PRAYER FOR OPENING HYMN

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### OPENING HYMN

*All glory, laud, and honor*

**HYMN 154 (vs. 1-3)**

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

**BCP 355**

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;  
*People* *His mercy endures for ever.*

## THE COLLECT

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

*People*         *And also with you.*

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 50:4-9A *(please be seated for the readings)*

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens--wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The Word of the Lord.

*People*         *Thanks be to God.*

## PSALM 31:9-16 *(spoken)*

9 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; \*  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
and also my throat and my belly.

10 For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction,  
and my bones are consumed.

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*  
I am as useless as a broken pot.

- 13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
fear is all around; \*  
they put their heads together against me;  
they plot to take my life.
- 14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. \*  
I have said, "You are my God.
- 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."

### **THE SECOND LESSON: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*People*            The Word of the Lord.  
                      *Thanks be to God.*

### **THE PASSION** (*Please be seated for the reading of the passion.*)

*Celebrant*        The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

*The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.  
The congregation may remain seated until Jesus arrives at Golgotha.*

### **THE SERMON**

THE REV. JEN TRENARY

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** (*please kneel as you are able*)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, especially St. Paul's, Wellsboro and the Church of the Province of West Africa, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Michael our Presiding Bishop; for Audrey our own Bishop; for Amanda, Jen, and Stacey our clergy; and Emma, our seminarian, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For those in positions of public trust especially Joe, our President; Josh, our Governor; and Danene, our Mayor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For this congregation, for those who are present and those who are absent, especially Ellen Keller, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaxa, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney, Al Kuser, Mary Sue Farmer, Ellen Sellers, Edith Kane, Merle Schnee, Carol Greenfield, Sandy Grove, Carole Humphrey, Darlene Bentley, and Peggy Zuke, that we may show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; especially Pat Pankey, Jeannie Zeller, Kent Strickler, Glenda Broad, Don Doolittle, Nancy Strasburg, Justin & Lisa, Ella, Matt Patterson, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Ann Marie, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Rich Hartley, Justice Deleo and family, Richard Anderson, Doug Smith, Ruth and George, Rich and Karen, Shirley Parmer, Kelley Paulsen, Bart, John Gouveia, that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*To you, O Lord our God.*

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*            *And also with you.*

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

### THE OFFERTORY

*Be Still My Soul*

Molly Ijames

**THE PRESENTATION HYMN**    *To the Name of our salvation*

**HYMNAL 249, st. 1**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A**

**BCP 361**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*            *And also with you.*

*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.

*People*            *We lift them to the Lord.*

*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high up on the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**THE SANCTUS**      *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*      **HYMN S-129**

*(During Holy Week, it is customary to kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer)*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me. "

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.*

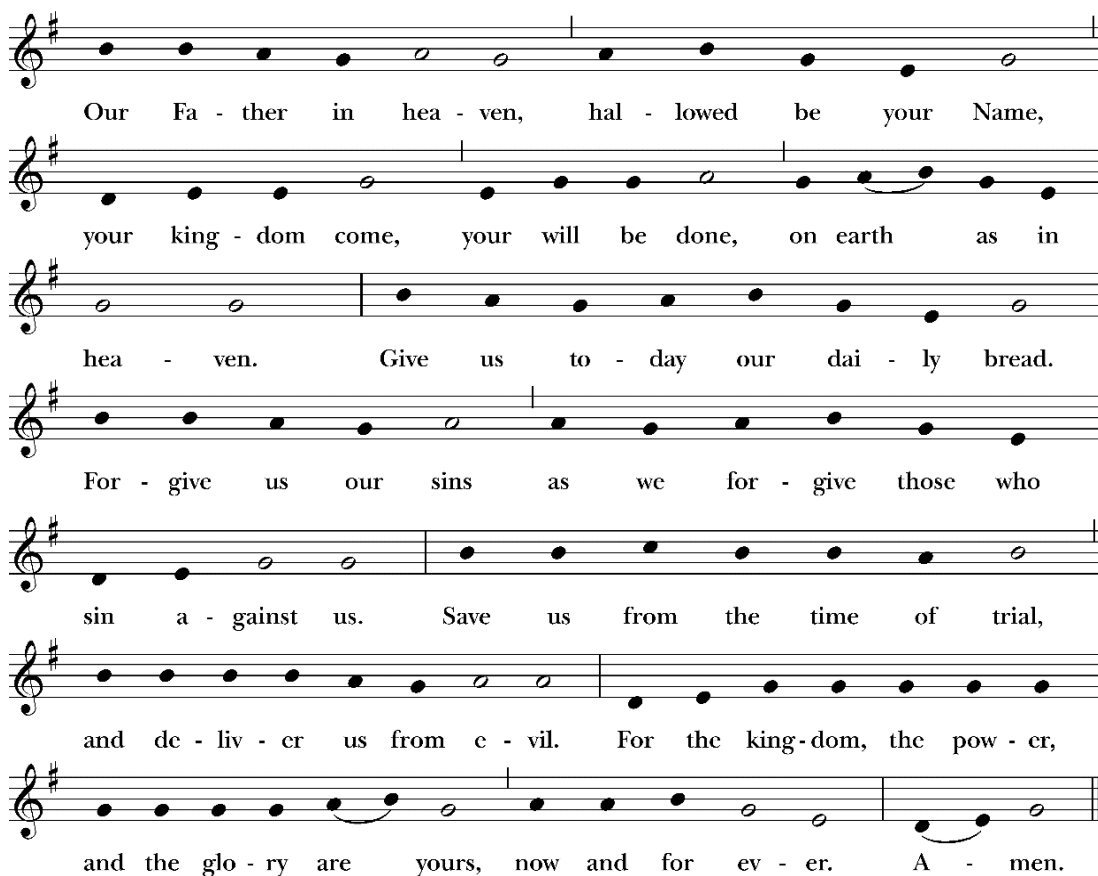
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

S-149

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,



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 trial,  
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er,  
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

## THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

*The Episcopal Church invites all who seek God to our Lord's table. If you wish to receive, please come forward to the altar rail when the usher indicates. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. For the wine, you can receive by guiding the chalice to your lips or by dipping your wafer into the separate intinction cup. If you desire a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest. When finished, please exit to your right. Gluten free wafers are also available.*

**COMMUNION MUSIC**      *O Jesus, crowned with all renown*      **HYMNAL 292**  
*How bright appears the Morning Star*      **HYMNAL 497**

## SENDING FORTH OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

*Celebrant* In the name of God and on behalf of this parish, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.  
*People* We, who are many, are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**      **BCP 365**

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



### **St. John's Traveler Letter:**

Did you know St. John's has a team of pilgrims who travel every week to the very places we pray for in the Anglican communion? Follow John as he shares a little bit about the church and the places he visits:

Dear Pastor Amanda,

Hello from the small West African country of the Gambia! This Palm Sunday of the most holy week on the church calendar feels just a little more real when there are actual palm trees everywhere you look. I imagined Jesus returning to Jerusalem two thousand years ago, palms waving in the early spring heat, and felt a little closer to God in the moment.

If you check out the Gambia on a map, it looks like just a little squiggle that follows the River Gambia as it twists and turns before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean. In fact, the Gambia is the smallest country on the African continent – you could drive across the country in about six hours, or about the time it takes to drive across Pennsylvania.

Around 300 years ago, more than 5,000 Gambians per year were sold and shipped to America as slaves – some to even to Pennsylvania. They were treated horribly, and many were separated from their family with no way to return back to the Gambia. Walking around the Gambian capital of Banjul, it's hard to believe what it was like hundreds of years ago, knowing that you or a loved one could be kidnapped and sent thousands of miles away to work on a cotton plantation against your will.

The effects of slavery can still be felt– who knows how many families would still be living together today in the Gambia if they weren't ripped apart 300 years ago? I was talking to James Allen Yaw Odico, the bishop here, about how people try to keep moving forward despite the scars of the past. He pointed to St. Mary's Cathedral in front of me, a simple but beautiful church with a soaring belltower surrounded by palms. "Faith," he said. "Whether it's found in a Christian church, or a Muslim mosque, or even in a quiet small space outside wherever you are."

I'm wishing you all the same faith to guide you through the ups and downs in your life as we head into Holy Week ahead of Jesus' resurrection on Easter. Christ is coming – wave your palms high!

Blessings always,  
John Traveler

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S:

### TODAY

*Coffee Hour to follow each service*

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:15 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite II

### MONDAY, MARCH 25

5:00 PM Stewardship Meeting

### TUESDAY, MARCH 26

1:30 PM Martha's Ministry  
2:30 PM Food Pantry  
4:00 PM Finance Committee

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

12:00 PM HEII with Healing  
5:30 PM Lenten Program  
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, MARCH 28

*Maundy Thursday*

9:00 AM Ministers' Meeting  
2:30 PM Food Pantry  
7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service  
9:00 PM Garden of Repose Vigil

### FRIDAY, MARCH 29

*Good Friday*

12:00 PM Stations of the Cross  
7:00 PM Good Friday Service

### SUNDAY, MARCH 17

*Easter Day!*

6:30 AM Sunrise Service  
8:30 AM Easter Service with Handbells  
9:30 AM Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt  
11:00 AM Easter Service with Brass

**TLC GAME NIGHT!** - TLC Trans Loving Community group will be carpooling to Rivertown Pride Center in Columbia for Game Night TODAY from 6-8pm. All are invited! To join us see Dani Myers or Maria Weaver or email [MariaWeaverH@gmail.com](mailto:MariaWeaverH@gmail.com).

**EASTER FLOWERS** - If you would like to donate Easter flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for someone, please fill out a card in the pew and place it in the offertory plate or email the church office at [office@stjohns-lancaster.org](mailto:office@stjohns-lancaster.org). The deadline is TODAY!

**SOLES4SOULS** - Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Soles4Souls Collection this year! We will be filling the truck on Friday at 10:00 A.M. If you have some free time, please join us as we tally the shoes and celebrate another year of this ministry!

**NAME TAGS!** - A great way to welcome and connect with others is through our nametags. Please don't forget to grab yours and wear it to services and coffee hour. In addition, pronoun pins are available in a small bowl to the right of our nametags. Feel free to add one to welcome people of all genders. If you need a nametag, let us know by adding your name to the sheet on the table.

# The MARCH to Easter

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## **PALM SUNDAY**

March 24th

8:00 AM - Liturgy of the Palms with Holy Eucharist (spoken)  
10:15 AM - Festive Palm Procession with Holy Eucharist and Choir

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

March 28th

7:00 PM - Foot Washing, Holy Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar  
8:30 PM till morning - Maundy Thursday Vigil in the Garden of Repose

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

March 29th

12:00 PM - Stations of the Cross  
7:00 PM - The Passion, Prayers, and Holy Eucharist  
from the Reserved Sacrament

## **EASTER SUNDAY**

March 31st

6:30 AM - Easter Sunrise Service at the  
Betty Finney AIDS Memorial Garden  
8:30 AM - Festive Eucharist with  
the Renewal of Baptismal Vows and Handbells  
9:30 AM - Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch  
11:00 AM - Festive Choral Eucharist and Brass with  
the Renewal of Baptismal Vows

## WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church! We are glad you are here. Please tell us a little bit about yourself by filling out a pew card and placing it in the offertory plate.

## OUR MINISTERS

All Baptized Members

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Audrey C. Scanlan, Diocesan Bishop

The Rev. Amanda Knouse, Rector  
amanda@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Jen Trenary, Assistant Rector  
jen@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Stacey Catigano, Deacon  
scatigano@gmail.com

## VESTRY & OFFICERS

Drew Dorgan (*Sr. Warden*), John Modene (*Jr. Warden*), Charles Wear (*Treasurer*),  
Molly Moyer (*Secretary*), Nick DiPace, Andy Welaish, Liz West, Ted Loose,  
Kathy Kyper, Gretchen Walden, Penn Glazier

## DELEGATES REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Pam Loose, Webb Cook, Emma Di Pace,  
David Rutledge, Maggie Knox-Lee

## STAFF

Douglas Beach, Minister of Music & Communications  
Dana Sanborn, Bookkeeper  
John Knouse, Property Manager  
Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian  
Amelia Aycock, Nursery Care

**GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE**  
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