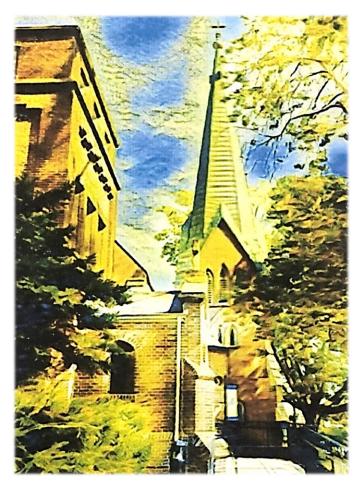
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II APRIL 28^{TH} at 10:15 a.m.

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 – just look for the red signs. In addition to worship, opportunities for fellowship exist between and after each service in the Parish Hall. For those with small children, a nursery is available every Sunday, however our youngest members are always welcome in worship. 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.

The hymns we sing in worship are from one of two books found in your pews: 1982 Hymnal (the red book, the S stands for Service Music and is found in the front of the hymnal), or Wonder, Love, and Praise (WLP, which is the green book).

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: THE POWER OF WARMTH AND LIGHT

During the 50 great days of Easter, we are embarking on the public phase of our Capital Campaign! To date, we have received \$770,661 in pledges and gifts towards our \$1.2 million dollar goal. The Capital Campaign Steering Committee and Vestry are thrilled at the progress we've made thus far as we seek to be faithful stewards of this sacred space. A brand-new HVAC system, new lighting in our sanctuary, and the restoration of our windows is vital to our mission and ministry. Please consider joining us in this worthy endeavor. Our hope is to have all pledge cards in by Pentecost on May 19. More information can be found in the brochures in your pew, along with pledge cards. To learn more, check out our website at <u>https://stjohns-lancaster.org/cc24/</u>.

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement, you would like the clergy to share, please fill out the form on our website or let the office know no later than Thursday.

PRELUDE	I'll Tell It Wherever I Go	The Gaither Vocal Band Brothers in Arms Quartet
PROCESSION	All people that on earth do dwell	Hymnal 377
OPENING ACC	CLAMATION (please remain standing as you are a	able)
Celebrant	Alleluia! Christ is risen!	

Celebruni	Anerula: Chilist is fisch:
People	The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.*

A SONG OF PRAISE

Glory to you

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us pray.

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*.

BCP 355

HYMNAL S-236

BCP 222

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 8:26-40 (please be seated for the readings)

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,

and like a lamb silent before its shearer,

so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

PSALM 22:24-30

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; * he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMNO Christ, the Word Incarnate**HYMNAL 632**st. 1-2 before the Gospel reading; st. 3 after the Gospel reading

THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 15:1-8 (please remain standing as you are able)

CelebrantThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

	The Gospel of the Lord.
People	Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (please rise in body or spirit)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. *(pause)* THE REV. AMANDA KNOUSE

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (written by the Capital Campaign Prayer Team)

Gracious Lord, guide us as we strive to add our unique light to the radiant glory of the body of Christ. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey, our own Bishop; Amanda, Jen, and Stacey, our clergy; and Emma, our seminarian. We give thanks for the light that radiates through our diocesan and Anglican siblings especially St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, York; and The Church of Bangladesh.

Help us to inspire local, national, and world leaders toward enlightened policies. We pray for the light and warmth of your love to inspire the hearts and minds of Joe, our President; Josh, our Governor; and Danene, our Mayor.

Enliven our efforts to be good stewards of the facilities entrusted to us by our forebears, and of the environment in which we live, so that future generations may continue to serve and worship in a place of light and beauty.

Lead our work in offering our members, neighbors, visitors, and all seekers a spiritual home filled with warmth and light. We pray for our friends at home 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. Support us in determining how best to offer a warm embrace to all who are homeless, needy, hurting, lonely, or facing any other difficulties. We pray especially for Pat Pankey, Jeannie Zeller, Kent Strickler, Glenda Broad, Don Doolittle, Nancy Strasburg, Justin & Lisa, Ella, Matt Patterson, Kevin, Judy Modene, Andrew Gilpin, Cheryl & Rhoda, Ted Griswold, Rich Hartley, Justice Deleo and family, Richard Anderson, Twari, Jen, Caroline, Mary, Karyna, and Darya.

Kindle in us the fire of your love as we remember the departed and offer a place of comfort and solace to all who are bereaved.

Celebrant Generous God, thank you for always hearing our prayers. We give you thanks for the inspiration this sacred space offers and for the community that gathers here. We remember those who came before us and pray that we may be good stewards of all entrusted to our care. Through the enhancement of our sacred space, we pray that strangers may become friends and the light and warmth of your love may be experienced by all. We ask this in the name of the One who makes all things new. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE OFFERT	CORY All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name	Hal Hopson
THE DOXOL	OGY Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.	HYMNAL 380 v.3
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER D		BCP 372
Celebrant People Celebrant People Celebrant People	The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.	

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

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. HYMNAL S-129

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

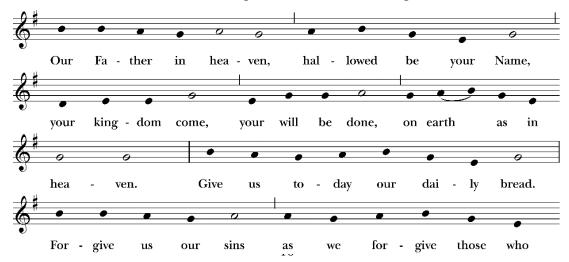
Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

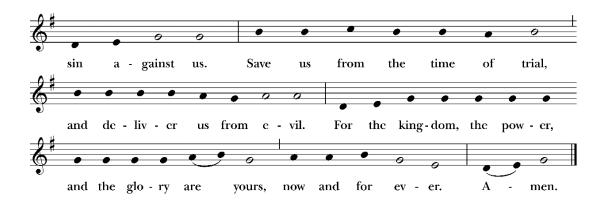
And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMNAL S-149



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



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

CelebrantAlleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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 do not wish to receive the wine, cross your arms over your chest when the wine passes. 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	It Is Well	Phillip Bliss
Words by Horatio Spafford		Arr. David Harrington

SENDING FORTH OUR 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.

BCP 365

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (please rise in body or spirit)

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.

A BENEDICTION	God be in my head	Henry Walford Davies
THE BLESSING		
2	of defeat brings new hope and a new future of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and you always. <i>Amen</i> .	
CLOSING HYMN	When in our music God is glorified	Hymnal 420
THE DISMISSAL		BCP 366

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia! People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. alleluia!

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,

Greetings from the country of Bangladesh! Since I last wrote to you, I have traveled 6,000 miles from Sydney to Dhaka, the capital of this lush, green south Asian country. Bangladesh shares a border with India and Myanmar, while the Himalayan mountains lie to the north and the Bay of Bengal to the south. Bangladesh, which was formerly East Pakistan, became independent in 1971.

Bangladesh is a developing nation, and it is a land of contrasts. The unifying features of this country are the warmth and hospitality of its people, their love of football, which is soccer to you and me, the sport of cricket, and a rich history and culture. During my time in Dhaka, I visited the Bangladeshi National Museum, lively and bustling street markets, and marveled at the lush greenery all around me. Bangladesh is home to more than 167 million people, and the country is approximately the size of the state of Iowa. It is the most densely populated country in the world, which puts a huge strain on the nation's economic, natural, and social resources. Many people here live on \$5 per day or leave their families to find work outside the country. Bangladesh is also home to more than 1 million refugees fleeing violence and persecution from neighboring Myanmar. Cox's Bazar, which is near the port city of Chittagong on the Bay of Bengal, is home to largest refugee camp in the world.

I have also been able to travel outside of the capital and see more of Bangladesh's natural beauty and wildlife. The sunsets on the Bay of Bengal are breathtaking, and I enjoyed exploring tea gardens and learning about the art of making tea in Sylhet, a city in northeastern Bangladesh. I also visited Sundarbans, a UNESCO World Heritage Site hosted by both India & Bangladesh, which has the largest mangrove forest in the world.

On Sunday, I worshipped at St. Thomas Cathedral Church in Dhaka, which celebrated its 200th anniversary in March. It is home to a small, yet vibrant community and a theological college. The cathedral is known for its square clock tower and arch windows. Please keep this nation and its people in your prayers. Bangladesh is struggling with rising sea levels, floods, and disastrous storms, and poverty is widespread. Diseases such as malaria and dengue fever are not uncommon. As I reflect on my time here, I am grateful for every person I met and new friend that I made. My travels continually remind me that we are all connected through the love of God and that everyone we meet has something to teach us about that love.

Your friend, John Traveler

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JOHN'S:

TODAY

Coffee Hour to follow each service8:00 AMHoly Eucharist: Rite I9:15 AMSunday School10:15 AMHoly Eucharist: Rite II

MONDAY, APRIL 29

5:00 PM Stewardship Committee

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

1:30 PM	Martha's Ministry

2:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

12:00 PM	HEII with Healing
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MAY 2

9:00 AM	Ministers' Meeting
10:00 AM	Worship Committee
2:30 PM	Food Pantry

FRIDAY, MAY 3

Rector's Day Off

SATURDAY, MAY 4

11:00 AM Wedding of Sarah Ginolfi & Christina Sweet

SUNDAY, MAY 5

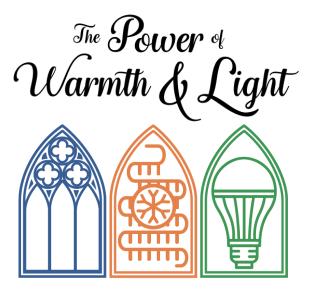
Coffee Hour to follow each service	
8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:15 AM	Sunday School
10:15 AM	Holy Eucharist: Rite II

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP FORMING!

A Bible study group will begin meeting on Mondays at 7 PM in the parish hall starting on May 6. We'll be reading Holy Imagination by Judy Fentress-Williams. The book is subtitled, A Literary and Theological Introduction to the Whole Bible. We look forward to a time of good discussion and fellowship lasting no longer than an hour and a half. If you'd like to learn more about the study group please contact Rich Garon, 703-477-5431 or rich@richgaron.com. Amazon has books on hand.

VOYAGERS: SATURDAY, MAY 11th from 9:00-11:00 AM

Mark your calendars for a very information workshop on End-of-Life Planning. This gathering is open to all. St. John's Voyagers are offering a panel of experts to encourage this discussion and provide valuable options and information in a friendly setting. You can read more about the workshop in May's Messenger!



ST. JOHN'S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: THE POWER OF WARMTH AND LIGHT

One of the things I love most about St. John's is how expansive the community is that gathers here. This sacred campus is buzzing with activity 7 days a week and numerous groups meet here for their own ministries. 7 different Support Groups gather here, 6 days a week. This is what the leader of the Saturday AA meeting had to say,

"It's ironic that your Capital Campaign is called The Power of Light and Warmth; we love the space off your courtyard – filled with light and warmth! And one of the steps in the 12-step recovery program is "being open to a higher power" – people gain power over their lives by coming to an AA meeting.

This is the 3rd location for our group, but the first time we feel like we are in a real relationship with St. John's. Thank you for offering a place of warmth and light!"

A VERY CURIOUS HISTORY

Did you know that for the first several years of St. John's history, services were held in the Undercroft and not in the church? Did you know that two of the twelve disciples are MIA in Mary's window? Wonder which two they are?

Come and join us for a guided tour of our beautiful church and campus and take a brief dip into our history as we embark on our Capital Campaign: The Power of Warmth and Light. Tours will occur TODAY between the services, and all are welcome.

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

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

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