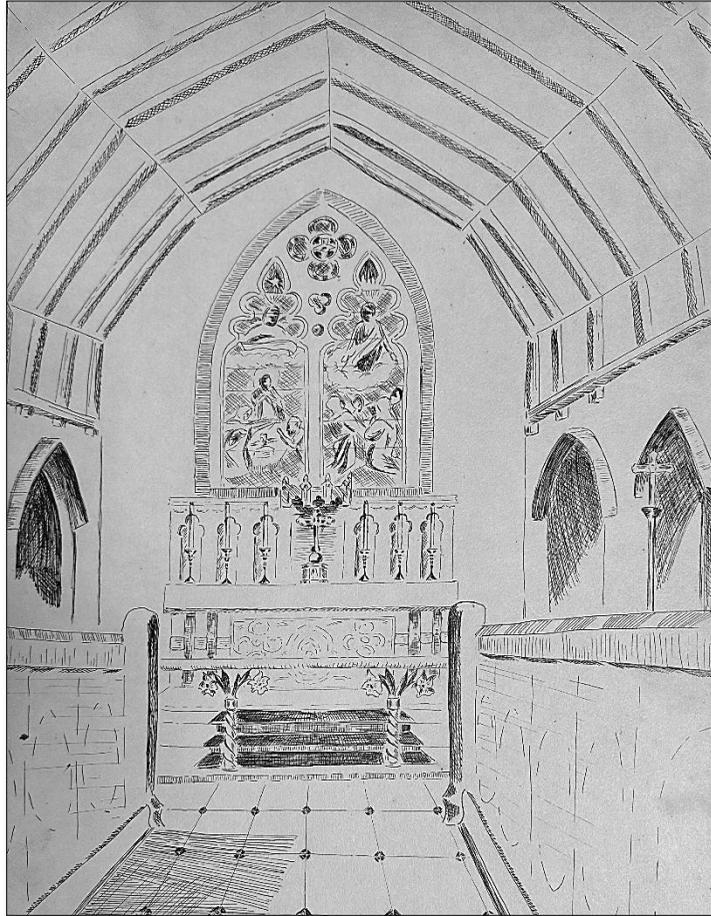


ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



Ink Drawing by Dorothea Cunningham, 1932

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
FEBRUARY 22, 2026 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. Following worship, please join us in the Parish Hall for coffee hour. Sunday School for our children and youth takes place in the Christian Education wing every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. A nursery is available for our littlest members during this service as well, however, please know children are always welcome in worship.

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.

In addition to Sunday services, we also offer a Healing service with Holy Eucharist every Wednesday at noon and on Thursday, Brother David leads Morning Prayer in the Mary Chapel. All are welcome to join!

OUR GUEST MUSICIAN

Our guest violinist today is Jane Weber. She is a graduate of Temple University with a degree in Music Education. Prior to retirement she was a music teacher and private violin instructor. Musically she is active in the Bethany UCC (Ephrata) choir, Lancaster Senior Orchestra and the Ephrata Cloister Chorus.

Our Anthem today, "Resignation" was written and composed by Florence Price as she reflected on a lifetime of struggle to be accepted and appreciated as a gifted black female musician. The words are autobiographical in nature and the Choir wanted to share part of her lyrics: *My life is a pathway of sorrow-I've struggled and toiled in the sun, with hope that the dawn of tomorrow would break on a work that is done. My Master has pointed the way, He taught me in prayer to say: "Lord give us this day and our daily bread" I hunger; yet I shall be fed.* There are additional words that you will hear. Reflect on her struggles and the struggles of Jesus as he was tempted in the wilderness.

THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

O Holy Lord

arranged by Florence Price

OPENING HYMN

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

HYMNAL 142

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

THE DECALOGUE *(please kneel as you are able)*

BCP 350

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

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

People Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant 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 KYRIE

Lord, have mercy

HYMNAL S-96

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 (*please be seated*)

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32 (*chanted by the choir*)



- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

THE EPISTLE: Romans 5:12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

Not Let Us All With One Accord

HYMNAL 147

Verses 1-3 before the Gospel Reading; verses 4&5 after the Gospel Reading

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11 *(please remain standing as you are able)*

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

SERMON

THE REV. AMANDA KNOUSE

THE NICENE CREED *(please rise in body or spirit)*

BCP 358

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)*
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.

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

BCP 389

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

For the holy Church of God, especially Trinity, Bethlehem; Mount Calvary, Camp Hill;
Retired Clergy; and The Church of Ireland, 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 Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Audrey and Kevin, our own Bishops; Amanda and Joe,
our clergy; Emma and Kim, our seminarians, 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 Donald, our President; Josh, our Governor; and Jaime, 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 for those who are absent, especially **Ellen** Keller, **Nancy** Nemith, **Ricky** Smith, **Joanna** Sweeney, **Al** Kuser, **Mary Sue** Farmer, **Ellen** Sellers, **Edith** Kane, **Merle** Schnee, **Sandy** Grove, **Peggy** Zuke, **Peggy** Buscher, **Theresa** Sullivan, and **Jim** Crothers, 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 **Judy** Modene, **Andrew** Gilpin, **Cheryl & Rhoda**, **Ted** Griswold, **Collin**, **Eileen** Waite, **Ann Marie**, **Karlah** Gibbs, **Kathy** Dodge & family, **Sandy** Patrone, **Marshall**, **Leslie** Tahsler, **Elly**, **Steve**; **Heidi**, **Danny & Kenneth**; **Janelle**, **Brisbane** Skiles, **Jane** Crawford, **Ibrahim**, **Alicia** and family, 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, especially Herbert George May Jr, 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.

Celebrant 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 *Resignation* Florence Price

PRESENTATION HYMN *O sacred head, sore wounded* **HYMN 168 (vs. 4)**

*What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever! and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never, outlive my love for thee.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

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, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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-130**

(During Lent, 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

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

BCP 365

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. Hold out your hands to receive the bread. The wine is administered in two chalices: the common cup for drinking and the intinction cup for dipping your wafer into the wine. If you do not wish to

St. John's Traveler Letter:

Did you know St. John's has pilgrims who travel to the places we pray for in the Anglican communion? Follow John as he shares about the church and places he visits:

Dear Pastors Amanda and Joe,

Beannachti Chugat. Greetings to you, Pastors Amanda and Joe. I hope you have entered a good Lent, as I have here in Ireland. It's a great week to be in this beautiful and fascinating country. Many of the sports fans have already left for London to cheer on Bundee Aki and the lads against England in the Six Nations rugby tournament. By the time you read this on Sunday you'll know who won Saturday's match but know that I will have been in a pub singing The Fields of Athenry.

The history of the Anglican Church here is intrinsically tied to the political history of Ireland's relationship with England. As the occupied and repressed people of Ireland campaigned, struggled, and fought for their independence, the Church was granted freedom to build its own traditions separate from Canterbury. The Church proudly honors its Celtic history dating back to St. Patrick.

While the island of Ireland is divided between the Republic and the North, the Province of the Church includes the entirety of Ireland. The cathedral is in Armagh, and that's where I'll be on Sunday morning. I've been given the prayers of the people for use during Lent. They truly reflect Irish care and concern for others, and I'd like to share just some of them here with you.

Give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with herself and to give more time to your mission in the world. Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and to seek peace. Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy in our families, neighborhoods and communities. 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 go into the world to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory.

May it be so with all of us. Blessings from Ireland to you at home, always,

Yours,
John Traveler

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Inquirer's Class | Sundays | 11:45 – 1:00 PM | Are you new to the Episcopal Church? Been here for a while, but would like to know more? If you answered yes then this is the course for you! Join us as we explore our history, the sacredness of scripture & sacrament, and what we believe as Episcopalians. We will be using the book, "Walk in Love" as our guide.

Soles4Souls | We are collecting shoes throughout the season of Lent! Please bring shoes to the atrium and place them in the large box. We will be packing them up and sending them out on Good Friday. Please help us spread the word!

Contemplative Prayer | Sundays | 9:15 AM | All Purpose Room | Start Sunday with intention. Our Contemplative Prayer gathering at 9:15 AM offers a calm, grounding space to reflect, reset, and reconnect.

Lenten Soup & Book Discussion | March 1, 8, 15, 22 | 5:30 – 7:00 PM | Lent isn't loud. It's steady. A warm bowl of soup. A simple supper. A table where you can exhale. Join us for a simple soup supper followed by a book study exploring, "*Sabbath as Resistance*" by Walter Brueggeman. Books can be found in the Parish Hall.

Interfaith Prayer Vigil | March 1 | 4:00 PM | There will be a one-hour Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace in our sanctuary from 4:00-5:00 pm on Sunday, March 1. It is the 2nd one in a month's long series of Interfaith Prayer Vigils for Peace being held at different places of worship throughout our county. Please come join us and spread the word. Questions? Contact the office or Sue Heilman.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: Rite I
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Holy Eucharist II with Choir
11:45 AM Inquirer's Class
1:00 AM Education for Ministry

MONDAY

5:30 PM Stewardship Committee

TUESDAY

2:00 PM Martha's Ministry
2:30 PM Food Pantry
5:30 PM Immigration Clinic

WEDNESDAY

12:00 PM Healing prayers with Holy Eucharist: Rite II
2:00 PM Weekly Bible Study
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

9:00 PM Morning Prayer (Mary Chapel)
2:30 PM Food Pantry
7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY

Rector's Day Off

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. Dr. Joe Pritchett, Assistant Rector
joe@stjohns-lancaster.org

The Rev. Rob Kazez, Ecumenical Associate

VESTRY

Drew Dorgan (*Sr. Warden*), Charles Wear (*Treasurer*), Gretchen Walden,
Penn Glazier, Mary Huber, Bruce Waskowicz, Sarah Jones,
Emma Luck, Bruce Morgan, Brad Zuke

DELEGATES REPRESENTING ST. JOHN'S AT DIOCESAN CONVENTION

John Gouveia, Wade Hinkle, Kim Bomberger, Michelle Engle

STAFF

Mark Herr, Minister of Music (*music@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
Dana Sanborn, Bookkeeper (*finance@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
John Knouse, Property Manager (*property@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
Jessica Morales, Communications Director (*Jessica@stjohns-lancaster.org*)
Stephanie Cabrera, Custodian
Danielle Hill, Nursery Attendant

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